



PARENTAL READINESS AND  
EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

A PROGRAM OF  
THE LAWYERS'  
COMMITTEE FOR  
CIVIL RIGHTS

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# NEWSLETTER

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## #LightUpBlue for Autism Awareness Day

This April marks the tenth annual World Autism Awareness Day of the international campaign to raise awareness about autism. It falls on the 2nd of April each year and what is really empowering about this day is that organizations and people from all around the world work together to educate others by organizing awareness-raising events and fundraisers to raise awareness about people with autism throughout the world.

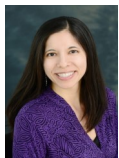


When you have additional support and collaborate with others to provide your child with the necessary tools to be successful in school, everyone benefits. This is why it is important for you to seek out additional support through educational services, social media, and teachers in order to help you feel less overwhelmed.

Additionally, it is important for you, as a parent, to advocate for your child in school. No one knows your child better than you, so it is important for you to be involved in your child's education. Again, remember that there are people and resources out there to support you and your child!



Media platforms have also started using #LightUpBlue for people to be able to share their experiences across social media. As a parent, student, or ally, help light up the world in blue this April and share your personal experiences with a group of supportive people from all around the world!



## Director's Comments

As a parent, raising a child with autism can be a challenge. Never be afraid to ask for help because there are networks of parents, professionals, teachers, and online resources to help you and your child be successful. Remember you are not alone and it is important that you, as a parent, also feel supported throughout this process.

Whatever steps you choose to take in advocating for your child's education, we at PREP are here to help. For more information on how to be the best advocate you can be for your child's education visit our website at: <https://prepparents.org/>

Lastly, the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) Conference in Austin, TX was a huge success! It was great to partner with MAEC and meet so many educators to provide them with information about the rights of English Learners. We also introduced an informational guide ADELANTE, which serves as an informational training tool for parents of English Learners in order to better advocate for their children

For more info on the Adelante Guide:  
<https://maec.org/resource/adelante/>

[www.PREPParents.org](http://www.PREPParents.org)



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## PREP Resources

### NOW PLAYING...

#### VIDEO TUTORIALS

- ♦ *Parent Advocacy*
- ♦ *Navigating the School System*
- ♦ *Special Education*
- ♦ *English Learners*

[www.youtube.com/prepparents](http://www.youtube.com/prepparents)

#### STATE-SPECIFIC PARENT GUIDES

- ♦ *On education law and policies*

[www.prepparents.org/resources/for-parents/](http://www.prepparents.org/resources/for-parents/)

#### RECORDED WEBINARS

- ♦ *Parent advocacy*
- ♦ *Mobilization*
- ♦ *Special Education Process*
- ♦ *School Discipline*
- ♦ *Bullying*

[www.prepparents.org/webinar](http://www.prepparents.org/webinar)

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

### WEBINARS

#### ***April 2, 2018 - Making the IEP work for you and your child***

- *Webinar: 6:30 p.m. EST/3:30 p.m. PST with Link: <https://zoom.us/j/314634950>*
- RSVP: [prepparents.org/webinar](http://prepparents.org/webinar)*

#### ***April 11, 2018 - Endrew F.***

- *Webinar: 6:00 p.m. EST/3:00 p.m. PST with Bazelon: implications for parents with students with disabilities*
- RSVP: [prepparents.org/webinar](http://prepparents.org/webinar)*

#### ***TBD, 2018 - School Board Advocacy***

- *Webinar: #:00 p.m. EST/#:00 p.m. PST*
- RSVP: [prepparents.org/webinar](http://prepparents.org/webinar)*



## ***Autism Awareness Tips From PREP***

*If you have a child with autism, here are some tips to better assist your child.*

### **1. Join a parent group**



- There are several parent groups out there which you can join for extra support and guidance. Also look into your school district's special education PTA. Not only will you create invaluable connections, you will also gain a tremendous body of knowledge to better assist your child.

### **2. Volunteer at school**



- If possible, try to volunteer at different school functions. By doing so, you will have the opportunity to get to better know your child's teacher and administrators as well!

### **3. Educate Others**



- Make sure to keep an open conversation with your friends and family. Help educate them on what it means to raise a child with autism and how they can serve as a support system for you and your family. Remember, you are not alone!

**#GetPREPed**

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-  Follow Us! [www.twitter.com/PREPParents](http://www.twitter.com/PREPParents)
-  Watch Us! [www.youtube.com/PREPParents](http://www.youtube.com/PREPParents)



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