

# PATTAN FAMILY SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

## WHO WE ARE

PaTTAN Family Support Specialists are family members of individuals with disabilities. We are trained in various aspects of special education and family-school partnerships.



## WHAT WE DO

### Family Support Specialists:

- Help families navigate the special education process (e.g., transitions, special education forms)
- Relay and explain federal and state special education laws (e.g., special education timelines, parents' rights)
- Provide resources in areas of special education
- Inform families of research-based strategies, best practices, and supports in special education

- Present information to families and community groups and provide professional development to educational staff
- Work on various initiatives, like Family Engagement, to improve the educational partnership among families, schools, and communities
- Participate in school and community resource fairs and events
- Connect families with organizations that support families and youth with special education and health concerns
- Help support the FAMILIES TO THE MAX Pennsylvania Statewide Family Network
- Lend a family perspective to the training and technical assistance provided to local educational agencies (LEAs) by PaTTAN consultants

## Contact a PaTTAN Family Support Specialist:

Eastern Pennsylvania:	800-441-3215
Central Pennsylvania:	800-360-7282
Western Pennsylvania:	800-446-5607
Deaf/Hard of Hearing Support:	800-360-7282
Blind/Visual Impairment Support:	800-441-3215
PA Deaf-Blind Project Family Engagement Support:	<a href="mailto:padbproj@pattankop.net">padbproj@pattankop.net</a>

**Note:** PaTTAN Family Support Specialists are not special education advocates. We are not permitted to review a child's IEP, attend IEP team meetings, or make recommendations on a child's educational programming.

[www.pattan.net](http://www.pattan.net)  
Family Information

**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**

Josh Shapiro, Governor

