

Medina County Parent Mentor Cheryl Mendel



J.D., DePaul University, College of Law
B.A., University of Michigan

My experiences as a parent of children with special needs, my training as a Parent Mentor, and my involvement with the schools and community as a volunteer, substitute teacher and paraprofessional enable me to provide quality and knowledgeable support to families and serve as a liaison and partner between families, school staff and the community.

I look forward to being a resource for you. I am always happy to help!

Cheryl Mendel, Parent Mentor
ESC Medina County
Direct: (330) 421-1475
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For More Information

Rachel Krauss, Director
ESC Medina County
Student Services
330.723.6393 ext. 137
rkrauss@medinaesc.org

Office of Exceptional Children
Ohio Department of Education
ParentMentors@education.ohio.gov

To Find a Parent Mentor Near You:
<https://parentmentor.osu.edu>



Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

Parent Mentors are trained to help

We are guides, collaborators, and we are peers.

Ohio Parent Mentors are parents of children with disabilities. We provide support to families using our firsthand experiences, training and knowledge of special education laws and practices.

Parent Mentors are a resource and liaison between families, school staff and the community.

The Parent Mentor Program is funded through a grant with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). All Parent Mentor services are free of charge to families.

Finding Solutions that work best for families

Ohio Parent Mentors provide families, students and schools to assist with the following:

- Provide information, support and resources on education laws, district programs and services, and community resources.
- Help parents understand their rights and responsibilities related to Special Education.
- Guide parents through the Special Education process.
- Attend meetings as requested by parent/school.
- Provide individual support to families.
- Provide resources to assist parents and professionals
- Host Parent to Parent Support Groups
- Provide on-demand resources: Website & Facebook page

<https://sites.google.com/medinaesc.org/parentmentor>

 @parentmentormedina

Medina County Parent Mentor serves families with home school districts of: Medina City Schools, Buckeye Local Schools, Cloverleaf Local Schools, Wadsworth City Schools, Highland Local Schools, Black River Local Schools.





Medina County Parent Mentor

September 2022

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Facebook @parentmentormedina

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Literacy Corner

Sept 6th – National Read A Book Day

Medina County Library Early Literacy Resources

<https://mccl.info/earlyliteracy>

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Children birth to age 5 can enroll to receive a free book from the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library every month.



Virtual Ask the Parent Mentor (Zoom) – Sept 20 @12pm

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74788071607?pwd=tGX3qJYSjZDNiX7D0aGzMTdp7gSj9D.1>

Learning Opportunities

September 19, 2022 @ Noon (Free): Top 10 Back to School Tips by Tammie Sebastian at OCECD

For further information and to sign up for the Legal Clinic or workshops, please click here:

<https://lawyers4students.com/legalclinic>

9/21/2022 at 1:00 PM (Virtual, Free), Helping students with learning and thinking differences

For more information go to <https://www.ocecd.org/protected/EventView.aspx?id=9G0A0AII9Y>

September 28, 2022, 9:30am-Noon (Summit ESC Bldg, Free) - What do the County Boards Do?

Join Medina, Portage & Summit County DD Boards as they provide an overview of the services they provide and how to access them. Our own, Jen Call, from MCBDD will be one of the presenters!

To register go to <https://www.sst8.org/protected/EventRegistration.aspx?rCode=40GUI>

Surrogate Parent Training available (Virtual, Free) This is a great free online training for parents that want to learn more about the special education process to better support their own child.

The training is available at <https://ohiosurrogateparent.org/>

OCALICON, Nov 2022 (Registration Fee \$50), premier autism and disabilities conference.

For more information, <https://conference.ocali.org/>



September 29th is National Coffee Day

Enjoy a delicious cup of coffee while also supporting an organization that employs individuals with disabilities in our community!

The Grande Café & Roastery ~ 4080 Creative Living Way, Medina, OH
Spokes Cafe ~ 406 S Broadway St., Medina & 5741 River Styx Rd. Medina



Things to do in the Community

Lego Club for ages 7-12 sponsored by the Autism Society, Registration Required

<https://autismakron.org/index.php/lego-club>

Trekking Through Autumn is a self-guided hiking program in Medina County

<https://medinacountyparks.com/index.php/programs/trekking-through-autumn>

Medina County District Library hosts many activities. Stop by your local branch to pick of their Fall Newsletter or go their website and click on the events tab.

Special Education - Acronyms

AAC | Alternative Augmentative Communication
ABA | Applied Behavioral Analysis
ABC | Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence
ADA | Americans with Disabilities Act
ADHD | Attention Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ASD | Autism Spectrum Disorders
AT | Assistive Technology
BIP | Behavioral Intervention Plan
DIBELS | Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy
ED | Emotional Disturbance
ESY | Extended School Year or Extended Year Services
FAPE | Free Appropriate Public Education
FBA | Functional Behavioral Assessment
IEE | Independent Educational Evaluation

IEP | Individualized Education Program
LEA | Local Education Agency
LRE | Least Restrictive Environment
OCECD | Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities
ODD | Oppositional Defiant Disorder
ODE | **Ohio Department of Education**
OHI | Other Health Impairment
OT | Occupational Therapy
PBIS | Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports
PT | Physical Therapy
RS | Related Services
RTI | Response to Intervention
SLD | Specific Learning Disability
SLP | Speech/Language Pathologist