



Parent to Parent has been supporting families who have a child with a disability, special need or health impairment for 25 years. Through a network of regional groups and trained volunteer Support Parents, Parent to Parent provides information and emotional support to these families.

There are more than 3600 different conditions covered by our service, ranging from the very common through to the most rare conditions. Our services and training courses are free to families.

IEP Seminars

Parent to Parent New Zealand are continuing to support parents through the IEP (Individual Education Plan) process. We are offering seminars via our video conferencing network to assist parents who are involved or likely to be involved in the IEP process. As a parent or caregiver of a student with special educational needs you have a very important role in your child's education. You know your child better than anybody else. A partnership between you, the school and specialists will enable your child to progress at their own pace towards agreed goals, and respond to challenges that will help them develop their potential in all areas of learning.

Seminars look at:

- An overview of Special Education 2000
- The IEP process
- The IEP meeting and document
- The parents' role

2009 Dates

Term 2

Wednesday	13 May	9:30am – 12pm
Thursday	14 May	7pm – 9:30pm

Term 3

Thursday	6 August	9:30am – 12pm
Friday	7 August	7pm – 9:30pm

Term 4

Monday	1 November	9:30am – 12pm
Tuesday	2 November	7pm – 9:30pm

Registration is essential, please phone National Office toll free: 0508 236 236 or Email: national@parent2parent.org.nz

Support Parent Training Course

Parent to Parent New Zealand are always looking for new parents who are willing to take on the role of a Support Parent. If you have first hand knowledge of what it is like living with a child with special needs then you are the expert who could provide the all important ear and friendly voice for others in the similar situation. Families looking for support are put in touch with a volunteer Support Parent, who has a son or daughter with a similar condition or who has had similar experiences, through a matching process. Support is provided over the phone, with the Support Parent controlling the contact to suit them and their commitments.

The course is free and covers, grief, support, communication skills and services available. Throughout the course you will be encouraged to improve and build on your skills.

Organisations unable to provide such quality training can encourage their volunteers to get involved helping us and them at the same time. To find out more about this please attend our free information session, specially designed for organisational staff, to provide an insight into the course, the Support Parent role and how we can work together to up skill and support our volunteers.

2009 Dates

Support Parent information session via Video Conferencing (Open to parents and organisational staff members)

Manawatu, Central Lakes, Coastal Bay of Plenty and Southland
Wednesday 18 March 10 – 12pm

Wellington and Manawatu

21, 22 and 28 March 2008

Central Lakes, Coastal Bay of Plenty and Waikato

Evening session 29 April

Weekend evening 8 – 10 May

Support with accommodation and travel may be available, please contact your regional office for more details on 0508 236 236 (toll free) or Email: national@parent2parent.org.nz

Some past participants' comments

"Come and do it! Even as a personal growth experience. I have really enjoyed the course and have met some awesome people."

"Excellent course – well worth the time – lots of information on understanding grief and communication with parents and professional people."

"Tino pai! Very informative"

"It has given me an increased confidence in listening/talking with other mums, families. Particularly with having not worked outside the home for nearly 6 years."

"What a wonderful experience. Covered so much, I felt very much appreciated with sharing experiences."

"Definably. Very informative, lots of fun, good to get together with others who 'know' exactly what you're talking about."