

BACKGROUND

The Pennsylvania Parent Panel Advisory Council (PPAC) is a parent forum operating under the administrative authority of Pennsylvania's Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP). PPAC was established in 2006 pursuant to the Pennsylvania General Assembly passage of House Resolution (HR) 585. A meeting of its founding members – the inaugural session - took place in September 2007.

As set forth in HR 585, PPAC is charged with studying and addressing family and community access to services and supports relating to substance use and substance use disorders throughout the Commonwealth. PPAC is comprised of geographically dispersed individuals, representing all regions of the Commonwealth, who have first-hand experience parenting children impacted by substance use and substance use disorders. Its purpose includes making recommendations to DDAP and the Pennsylvania Health and Human Services Committee for the enhancement of, and to facilitate access to, such services within our Pennsylvania communities. PPAC members are appointed by the Secretary of DDAP pursuant to an application process managed by DDAP.

PPAC meets three times annually in the Harrisburg area, designating one of these meetings as a joint session with the Pennsylvania Advisory Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

MISSION STATEMENT: It is the mission of the Pennsylvania Parent Panel Advisory Council, working in collaboration with the Commonwealth Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, to advocate for and promote individual and family recovery, hope and healing by improving the understanding and access to a continuum of care and supports for those who are impacted by substance use and substance use disorders throughout Pennsylvania. *10/12/18 Rev*

Application and Appointment

- PPAC members are persons who reside in Pennsylvania and who have experienced parenting a child involved in substance use.
- PPAC members are appointed by the Pennsylvania Secretary of the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs by way of an application process.
- Applicants considered for membership cannot be employed by the Commonwealth or be employed in the mental health or substance use fields.
- Persons who have previously served on PPAC are eligible to reapply.
- The PPAC member term of service is three years with successive term appointments as determined appropriate.

General Information

- PPAC meets three times per year in the Harrisburg Metro area, typically from 9am to 3:30pm, at which PPAC members are expected to be present.
- Members are volunteers who are reimbursed for approved travel expenses in accordance with the Commonwealth's current travel policies - travel accommodations are pre-arranged by DDAP.
- Additional meetings may be intermittently facilitated by conference call or video conference.
- Community engagement includes networking with others to gather local data and information in order for PPAC to collectively determine best recommendations for improvement in the service delivery system.
- Special initiatives may involve assisting, voluntarily, with various project initiatives or subcommittees outside of regular PPAC meetings, including serving as chair or secretary of PPAC subcommittees.