

# MPC Credentials

Two horizontal teal lines of varying lengths are positioned below the title, with the longer line on top and a shorter one below it, both starting from the left and extending towards the right.

## **Step 2: Sixty Hours of Field experiences**

- CBOs or government agency
- Supervised Practical Leadership

## **Step 3: Ten Hours of Additional Training**

- Topics (advocacy, public speaking, community organization, system navigation)

## **Step 4: Capstone Project**

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- **Phase 1:**

- **Parent Leadership Credential**
- **Evaluation**
- **Policy & Advocacy**
- **Marketing**

- **Phase 2:**

- **Alumni Support**
- **Networking**

# **MPC Credential Pathway**

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- **Step 1: Leadership College Course 2 credits**
- **Step 2: Sixty Hours of Field Experience**
- **Step 3: Ten Hours of Additional Training  
(advocacy, public speaking, project  
management,**
- **Step 4: Capstone Project**

# Overview

Stakeholders

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Parent Leaders



## How to get started:

- Operating model for pilot
- Governance and key roles
- Funding

## Frame our Vision...

- Where we are now?
- Where we might go?



...And then help identify what we need to get there

# Highlights from Stakeholders

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Stakeholder Meetings: EEC, Boston Opportunity Agenda, DESE, NY Metro Center, MSPCC, Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges, The Boston Foundation

- Strong commitment to parent leadership development
- Parent leaders' contributions are highly valued
- Shared agreement on structured leadership, educational and career pathways
- Substantial work already underway can be built upon
- Start simple – 1 small cohort, 1 community college, not for credit, nest within existing enterprise

# What We're Learning from Parents

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- Parent focus groups, referred to by five pioneering parent leadership leaders, offer a meaningfully representative snapshot of parent leadership in its most advanced form
- Many strengths and successes were evident, reflecting the strong work of sponsoring CBOs
- In addition, a number of gaps, barriers, and opportunities for improvement were identified



# How did they describe their roles

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**Clearly defined but diverse parent leadership roles, common themes:**

- Advisory Board Member
- Parent Ambassador
- Family Advocate
- Playgroup Facilitator
- Community Organizer
- Parent Partner
- Health Care Navigator
- Family Engagement Coordinator





# How Parent Leaders Described their Skills and Barriers

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## Skills Learned in Current Roles

- Effective Communication
- Public Speaking
- Advocacy
- Leadership Development
- Confidence Speaking Up
- Facilitation & Group Management
- Relationship Building
- Understanding and Navigating systems
- Problem Solving

## Skills Missing/First Years

- Confidence
- Public Speaking
- Advocacy
- Leadership
- Understanding System & Policies
- Time Management

## Barriers

- Language Barriers
- Lack of Time (Balancing Work and Family Responsibilities)
- Inconsistent Communication
- Limited Financial Compensation

# Areas for Improvement

- Inconsistent pathways for growth beyond initial leadership roles
- Limited access to credentials, compensation, or career-aligned opportunities
- Variation across CBOs in structure, support, and sustainability
- Strong desire for clearer pathways and **shared standards** across organizations while accommodating different needs

# Key Takeaways

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- Strong excitement for a statewide parent leadership model
- Interest in shared learning, credentials, and workforce alignment
- Opportunities to strengthen—not replace—existing CBO-led leadership models
- Access to resources
- Equity & opportunity
- Recognition of parent leadership

# Strategy Moving Forward

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- Parent leadership courses with community-based practicum opportunities
- Co-design with participating CBOs, parent leaders and community colleges
- Small, intentional pilot cohort with 20-25 emerging parent leaders
- Flexible structure with room for learning and iteration
- Clear evaluation plan

## Next Steps for CBOs

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- Participate in Steering Committee – March – April
  - 3-4 meetings
  - \$5000 stipends will be distributed by the end of February (\$1000 stipend for parent leader)
- Contact Don and Magda if want to be part of the pilot design working group
- Nominate emerging parent leaders to be part of the pilot

# Timeline

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- February:
  - ✓ Steering Committee/Theory of Change Planning Meeting
  - ✓ Pilot Working Group Starts
- March
  - ✓ Steering Committee 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting
  - ✓ Website is launch
  - ✓ Pilot Working Group Meetings
  - ✓ Further fundraising for Pilot
- April
  - ✓ Steering Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting
  - ✓ Pilot Working Group Meetings
  - ✓ Parent Leadership Advisory Starts
  - ✓ Fundraising for Pilot
- May
  - ✓ Pilot Working Group Meetings