



- Position:** Parent Ambassadors Program – Parent Coordinator
- Rate of Pay:** This is a paid position – amount to be determined
- Closing Date:** Monday, January 12th, 2009, Noon.
- How to Apply:** Send a resume or a short bio describing your relevant experience and one page cover letter describing your relevant experience to Joel Ryan at wsaparents@yahoo.com. Decisions will be made Friday, January 16th.
- Questions:** Please call Joel at (253)373-9100 or via e-mail at wsaparents@yahoo.com.

Program Overview

WSA was fortunate enough to receive a grant from the Peppercorn Foundation to support a new advocacy training program called the “**Parent Ambassadors Program**.” The Parent Ambassadors Program is a year long peer to peer training program for ECEAP and Head Start parents. Parent Ambassadors will go through an extensive year long high-quality advocacy training program. Parents can be expected to learn the basics of government, about specific pieces of legislation, how to contact their lawmakers, how to provide effective testimony, and how to effectively engage parents in their community.

After several trainings, Ambassadors will be expected to take what they have learned and educate, train, and mobilize parents back at their local programs and in their communities. Ambassadors will be the crucial link to their communities. WSA will develop a Parent Newsletter for Ambassadors to use to communicate the latest legislative information and updates. Ambassadors will be expected to provide grassroots trainings at parent policy council meetings in their area and will teach parents about pending legislation. They will provide frequent updates to parents in their local programs about legislative issues directly affecting their families and strategic opportunities to weigh in with both state and federal elected officials. Ambassadors will also serve as lead organizers for WSA advocacy campaign activities.

Position Description

We are looking for a high level parent to serve as a **Parent Coordinator**. The parent coordinator will serve as a mentor and coach to parent ambassadors. We would expect the parent coordinator to serve about 2 to 3 hours a week.

Responsibilities include:

- Working with the project manager to develop the advocacy training program;
- Staying in weekly contact with Ambassadors and hosting monthly conference calls;
- Training and facilitating at training events/opportunities;
- Organizing grassroots advocacy campaigns in concert with WSA;
- Participating in direct lobbying and education work in Olympia and in DC.

A successful applicant will be a current or former ECEAP or Head Start parent who has a background in advocacy, good communication and conflict resolution skills, knowledge of the legislative process at both the state and federal level, and a demonstrated commitment to organizing parents.