

# Parents as Teachers

*Parents as Teachers (PAT) is funded by the NJ Department of Children and Families and in partnership with South Ward Promise Neighborhood*



**family  
connections**

**WHERE HOPE MEETS POSSIBILITY**

# Who We Are

**Family Connections' Parents as Teachers (PAT)** is an evidence-based program which follows a national home visiting model. PAT provides family services, education, and peer support for parents – from pregnancy through early childhood, with the goal of nurturing children's healthy development and school readiness.

## **Parents as Teachers Program Goals:**

- Prevent child abuse and neglect
- Provide parents with the opportunity to discuss parenting challenges while also gaining an understanding of the strategies needed to find solutions
- Create healthy, strong, and resilient families through support and resources
- Provide opportunities for parents to connect with their children through play and reading time
- Increased knowledge of early childhood developmental delays and health issues



# What We Do

## Parents as Teachers Program Features:

- Personalized home visits
- Developmental screenings
- Family-centered assessments
- SMART goal planning
- Monthly group activities, including: games, free family-style dinners, raffles, prizes, and more



# Results

- Increased understanding of child's development and milestones
- Increased understanding of family dynamics and their impact on children
- Increased confidence in the role of being a parent
- Improved parenting practices and strategies
- Increased school readiness and success in children

**In October 2020,  
Family Connections'  
Parents as Teachers Program  
Earned the Blue Ribbon  
Affiliate Designation!**



Parents as Teachers.®  
*Blue Ribbon*  
**AFFILIATE**

# We Serve

**Parents as Teachers is open to all residents of Essex County who are expecting a baby or have a child under two years old.**



**To apply or refer someone to Parents as Teachers, please contact:  
Illy Valdez, Program Coordinator  
Phone: (201) 563-5026  
Email: [ivaldez@familyconnections nj.org](mailto:ivaldez@familyconnections nj.org)**

**Family Connections** is a leading New Jersey non-profit with over 30 different programs to support children, adults, and families. Far too many people in our communities face serious challenges—from trauma and mental illness to addiction, domestic violence, and child abuse. Family Connections is here to make sure no one has to face these challenges alone. Across Northern New Jersey, we deliver counseling, social and emotional skills-building, prevention and training initiatives, programs to strengthen family bonding and reunify families, and more. **Since 1879**, Family Connections has proven that communities thrive when everyone is invested in each other's wellbeing.

**Our vision:** We see a world where no one faces life's challenges alone—where we all have the opportunities, connections, and resources we need to thrive.

**Our mission:** Growth happens here every day. With our counseling, skills-building, training and prevention services, people take control of their own healing and foster connections that make our entire community stronger, safer, and healthier.

**Our Core Values:** We strive every day to be:  
Inclusive | Strengths-based | Relationship-driven  
Outcome-oriented | Collaborative

For more information about Family Connections' programs, please visit our website at **[familyconnectionsnj.org](http://familyconnectionsnj.org)**.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Family Connections at **973-675-3817** or **[hope@familyconnectionsnj.org](mailto:hope@familyconnectionsnj.org)**.



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