

# Lead the Change



## Learning Session 2: Lessons Learned from the Parent Panel

On the first day of HV CoIIN 2.0's latest learning session, teams learned from a panel of parent leaders from local home visiting programs. The panel consisted of Joslyn Ward, Rebecca King, Tommara Grice, and Bryn Fortune; together, they provided teams with insight on building capacity for parent leadership in Continuous Quality Development (CQI). We captured the main ideas, themes, and wonderings voiced by both the panel and participating teams, below:

- **Idea for parent recruitment:** Pilot project can raise interest and bring multiple parents together.
- **Idea for parent recruitment:** Leverage existing parent leaders to recruit other parents.
- **Idea for parent recruitment:** Home visiting program shares information, for example in a flyer, about childcare, transportation, and what meetings will be like, to prepare the parent.
- **Idea for parent recruitment:** Ensure there is compensation for childcare, transportation.
- **Idea for parent leadership training:** Engage parents as experts in their field and support their development as a leader. It's possible to use games and activities to kick off this engagement:
  - For example, a home visiting coordinator created a jeopardy game to teach the names of county programs and their directors; it was a fun way to get acclimated to the upcoming work.
- **Idea for parent leadership training:** Create diverse opportunities for parents to engage in trainings and meetings.
- **Idea for parent check-ins:** Do not stop checking in, even as parents grow in their capacity. As more families become involved, parent leader can mentor new parents as they start their journey.
- **Wondering:** Will I feel truly involved as a parent?
- **Relationship-building:** Strong, trusting relationships with parent leaders are built by amplifying their voice and integrating their ideas – this type of relationship is key to sustaining parent leadership in CQI, and engaging parents as true leaders of their CQI journey.