



Navigator Team Leader Spotlight

The Navigator Project is a leadership program that trains parents to be volunteer representatives of Parent of Parent of Georgia as well as leaders and change-makers in their communities. This project helps families develop their knowledge and skills and to influence issues which impact individuals with disabilities across Georgia and the nation. Priscilla Estes chose to step up and make a difference for her sons and the families within her community.



Priscilla Estes came to Georgia as a young widow to assist her aging mother. Priscilla is the proud parent of three sons (ages 8 to 22) -- two of whom were adopted when their biological mother (a cousin) passed away. In need of assistance in navigating Georgia's special education system, Priscilla was fortunately connected with Orfilia Iglesias, a Regional Coordinator for P2P, who Priscilla says was "wonderful!"

"I became hopeful that this organization would do what they said they would do because she did what she said she would do!"

*--Priscilla Estes, Navigator Team Leader,
Fulton County*

After connecting with P2P, Priscilla started receiving information about Regional Navigator Team meetings. She decided to take the first step, which was to complete the training to become a Supporting Parent volunteer. Then she moved on to being a Local Guide, followed by a Broker. Priscilla says the next thing she knew, she was a Navigator Team leader! As with all of our Navigator Team Leaders, they share a common love of supporting others who have been in the same shoes.

"I wanted to assist... Seeing parents achieve what they thought they couldn't as advocates for their own child is what makes this the most rewarding."

--Priscilla Estes, Navigator Team Leader, Fulton County

Her middle son "James" is now following in his mom's volunteer footsteps as a "Supporting Peer" for youth and other young adults with disabilities. He is on track to graduate with a regular education diploma and has just recently started his first job! As Priscilla is quick to point out, "He's no longer ashamed of his 'journey'. It's a process and every child is different." We are grateful to Priscilla for sharing her reflections about what it means to step up and support others when they need it the most!