



**ACT Parent Project Training is Expanded Statewide:  
*ACT Participants who are Parents: Strategies for Assessment and Collaboration***



*Guest Presenters from May 4, 2018 Lisa Gilbert, Ricardo Artis & Celia Brown*

The ACT Parent Project training is the culmination of a year-long research and training development collaboration between the ACT Institute and Columbia School of Social Work, funded by a grant from the New York Community Trust. This training, consisting of three online modules and a day-long, in-person session, was offered in Spring 2018 to ACT providers in NYC and focused on the needs and assets of ACT participants who are also parents. The online modules aimed to build skills in understanding parent's perspectives and specific challenges and sources of resilience parents experience. The in-person training on May 4<sup>th</sup> brought together presenters with lived experience and field experts to reinforce the parent's perspective and provide expertise on pregnancy, family court and ACS; concrete tools were also provided during the training. After receiving positive feedback about the online modules and a successful training on May

4<sup>th</sup>, the ACT Institute and Columbia School of Social Work are excited to announce the expansion of the Parent Project training to ACT Providers statewide.

The online modules will become available in the LMS in late summer 2018 for ACT providers statewide. In addition to the three online modules, we will also offer concrete tools with corresponding brief instructional modules. The archived training will introduce ACT Providers to: 1) the challenges and strengths of parents served by ACT Teams from the Parent's perspective, 2) the communities and systems that affect ACT Participants who are parents, and 3) the family lifecycle, recovery and resilience. The tools provided in this curriculum aim to facilitate discussions around parenting roles and goals, including engagement of natural supports, development of a narrative of parenting capacity and parenting goals and creation of a wellness plan for parents. The curriculum is recommended for all ACT Family Specialists. CEUs are pending and will be available for full completion of the curriculum.

We are delighted to offer this training to ACT Teams throughout the state and look forward to hearing your feedback. Please be on the lookout for an announcement when this training is available in the LMS.

*For more details on the research and training development processes see the News Briefs published on 8/3/17 and 3/23/18!*

*For information about the ACT Institute or the ACT Parent Project, please contact Helle Thorning at [helle.thorning@nyspi.columbia.edu](mailto:helle.thorning@nyspi.columbia.edu) or Ellen Lukens at [el19@columbia.edu](mailto:el19@columbia.edu)*