

Spanish P2P Teacher Certification Training Held

By Isabel O'Daly

CHADD HELD AN HISTORIC Spanish Parent to Parent teacher training in San Jose, California, in late September of 2012. With the help of Parents Helping Parents and Matrix Parent Network, we were able to train a group of twenty-seven teachers, who are now certified to teach the P2P program entirely in Spanish.

ADHD affects up to 9.5 percent of all children and approximately 4.5 percent of adults, and the Hispanic/Latino population is not excluded from this group. Unfortunately, not all Hispanic individuals affected by ADHD receive diagnosis or treatment. This underserved population lacks the resources and training on ADHD to understand the impact the disorder has on their lives and their families and to address and improve their situation. The desperate need for information in Spanish has been obvious. CHADD gratefully acknowledges its partners who facilitated the translation of P2P materials: Maria Elena Frade Rubio and Dr. Juan Carlos Perez Castro Vázquez from the Fundacion Cultural Federico Hoth AC in Mexico City. Their Proyectodah program provides support groups and Parent to Parent training for families in Mexico.

The training took place over two-and-a-half days and was presented by CHADD volunteers Dulce Torres, Magaly Ramos-Cartagena, and Lorena Laysen. The new P2P teachers received the appropriate training, techniques, and materials to begin the task of providing training on ADHD for Spanish-speaking parents. Registration for the training exceeded expectations—people even showed up without being registered—and we had massive assistance. The participants' energy and enthusiasm was present throughout the training, and their will to learn was constant.

Many of the participants were already involved in organizations that help members of California's Hispanic/Latino population with disabilities and were very knowledgeable about the educational laws. Such knowledge is very important when explaining to parents or caregivers the impact IDEA or Section 504 can have in the improvement of their child's lives.

More materials will be prepared before the certified teachers from this group hold P2P training programs in Spanish for parents.

Isabel O'Daly is the training coordinator for CHADD's Spanish Parent to Parent program.

This has been an important phase in CHADD's Parent to Parent Program. Spanish-speaking parents need to be served, and CHADD is working very hard to reach them. ♡

