



Plan a Parent Workshop Using Manifesto 2.0: The Parent Edition!

This tool provides examples of ways parent leaders or parent engagement support staff can plan an engaging workshop to introduce Manifesto 2.0: The Parent Edition to other parents. Depending on the format of your workshop, you may want to print out all or part of the Manifesto 2.0 for participants, use slides, or guide participants to the online version.

Sample Workshop Outline	60-90 minutes
Opening	5-10 minutes
Introduction to the Manifesto 2.0: The Parent Edition Resources: "Our Manifesto" definitions; "What We Believe".	15-20 minutes
Telling Your Story Resources: "Your Turn" questions	20-30 minutes
Taking Action: The Five Commitments Resources: "How to Use This Guide"; "5 Advocacy Actions"	15-20 minutes
Closing	5-10 minutes

PART 1. OPENING (5-10 MINUTES)

Welcome!

Who are we? (Facilitator introductions)

- Example: We are Shanequa and Tomarra, Parent Liaisons from the Great Start Parent Coalition in Kent County, Michigan.

Why are we here? (Goal of the workshop)

- Example: The goal of this workshop is to introduce parents to an amazing advocacy tool: Manifesto 2.0: The Parent Edition. This new version builds on the original Manifesto for Race Equity and Parent Leadership in Early Childhood Systems, published in 2019.

What are we going to do together? (Workshop agenda)

- We are going to start by connecting our own experiences to the stories shared in the Manifesto 2.0, explore some key terms, and talk about how you can take action to make your voice heard in early childhood systems.

Who's in the room? (Introductions and Icebreaker)

- Example: Go around the room and have everyone introduce themselves and answer an icebreaker question, if the group is large you can have people do this in small groups of 3-5.

PART 2. INTRODUCTION TO MANIFESTO 2.0 (15-20 MINUTES)

Facilitator tip: Break up your presentation with opportunities for interaction. For example: Ask if anyone in the room has experience with the original Manifesto.

The Manifesto 2.0: The Parent Edition is for you! (5 minutes)

- It was created by parents for parents
- It was created by a national Parent Leader Network, started in 2019 with the support of four founding parent leaders and CSSP (Center for the Study of Social Policy)
- It provides a platform for parents to talk about the role racism plays in driving poor outcomes for some young children, and to advocate for equity and parent voice in early childhood agencies and systems.
- It outlines how parent voice, engagement, and leadership can be integrated at all levels of early childhood systems and agencies, so we can create and promote equitable outcomes for the health and well-being of all children.

Why does “Race Equity and Parent Leadership in Early Childhood Systems” matter? (5-15 minutes)

- Let's look at page 4 of the Manifesto, which defines the key terms in the title. Can I get a volunteer to read the first one?
- (Pause after each one and ask if anyone has an example or question. Keep going until all of the definitions are read.)
 - End by highlighting the main points:
 - Race equity in early childhood systems means that all children can receive the support they need to reach their fullest potential, no matter their race or ethnicity.
 - When parents are recognized as experts on our children and included as partners and leaders, these systems can achieve more equitable outcomes.

PART 3. TELLING YOUR STORY USING THE FIVE COMMITMENTS (30 MINUTES)

Introduction to the activity (5 minutes)

- Why is it important to tell your story? Take a few comments and end with the following points:
 - It helps us connect to each other and to the larger story of social justice and community change
 - It is a powerful advocacy tool because it makes whatever you are advocating for relatable and authentic
- Raise your hand if you have ever been in an early childhood agency – either as a participant, volunteer, or parent leader – and experienced the following: (5 minutes)
 - You felt unwelcomed, disrespected, or discriminated against?
 - You didn't feel your voice as a parent was valued?
 - You didn't have what you needed to fully participate (for example child care, transportation, accessible language, interpretation)?
 - You didn't feel the your participation as a parent leader added to your skill set?
 - You had to jump through a lot of hoops to get what you, your child, or your family needed?

Storytelling in small groups (10-15 minutes)

- We are now going to get into groups of two or three and share a story related to the experience you identified with the most. Each person will have 4 minutes to share your experience. Use these questions as story prompts:
 - What happened?
 - How did you feel?
 - What did you do?
 - What do you wish was different?
- Let's come back to the full group and hear a few reflections (5 minutes)
 - What was it like to share your story?
 - What was it like to listen to someone else's story?
 - What did you learn?



PART 4: TAKING ACTION (15 - 20 MINUTES)

Each of the questions you responded to at the beginning of the storytelling activity is related to one of the Five Commitments of Manifesto 2.0: The Parent Edition:

(Facilitator Tip: You can list these on a slide, a sheet of easel paper, or a handout.)

- You felt unwelcomed, disrespected, or discriminated against?
Commitment 1: Challenge Racism
- You didn't feel your voice as a parent was valued?
Commitment 2: Embrace Parent Leadership
- You didn't have what you needed to fully participate (for example, child care, transportation, accessible language)?
Commitment 3: Prioritize Resources
- You didn't feel the experience or program added to your skill set?
Commitment 4: Create Career Pathways
- You had to jump through a lot of hoops to get what you, your child, or your family needed?
Commitment 5: Promote Easy Access and Equitable Outcomes

Look at the Commitment you most identified with, and review the 5 Advocacy Actions.

- Based on your experience, or what you know about others' experiences, what is a change you think is needed? (Take a few comments)
- What opportunities do you have to make your opinions known in your agency?

Looking at the page How to Advocate for the Manifesto:

- What action could you take now?
- What could you plan for the future?

Closing (5-10 minutes)

- Go around the room: What's one word that describes how you feel after learning about Manifesto 2.0: The Parent Edition?

