

## ***Michigan Alliance- PTI Awarded Federal Grant***

The Federal Office of Special Education Program office has selected the Michigan Alliance -PTI, to receive Region 1 (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb Counties) and Region 2 (Rest of State) Parent Training and Information Center grants for the State of Michigan for the next three years beginning on October 1, 2009.

### **What is the PARENT TRAINING AND INFORMATION PROGRAM?**

The Parent Training Information Centers program is one of the primary vehicles under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) for providing information and training to parents of children with disabilities. The program supports awards to assist parents to: (a) understand their children's rights to educational and early intervention services, and procedural safeguards under IDEA; (b) understand the nature of their children's disabilities and their educational and developmental needs; and (c) communicate effectively with personnel responsible for providing special education, early intervention, and related services, and participate in the decision-making processes and development of individualized education programs and individualized family service plans.

This project will provide high quality, relevant information and training to support infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities to developmental and functional goals and grow into independent adults who lead productive lives to the maximum extent possible.

Activities of this project include: (a) providing information and training to parents and families of children with the full range of disabilities, in 30 locations including rural and urban areas; (b) combining traditional mechanisms for information and training with locally based support; (c) providing outreach by traveling to where the underserved populations are; (d) applying adult learning principles

to all training materials presented in multiple formats (including alternative, low-literacy and culturally appropriate formats); and (e) partnering with various organizations, including the Michigan Department of Education, Wayne State University- Center for Urban Studies and the Michigan Special Education Mediation Program.