

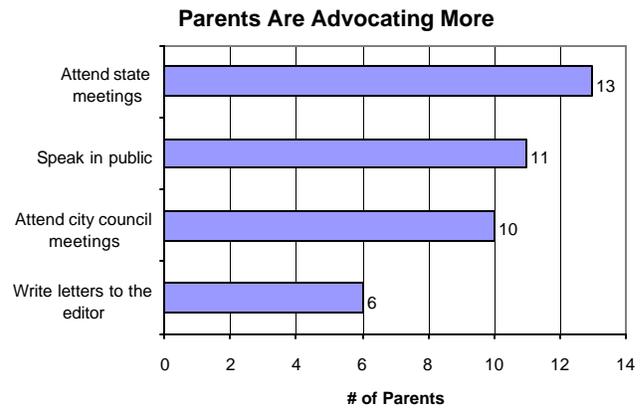
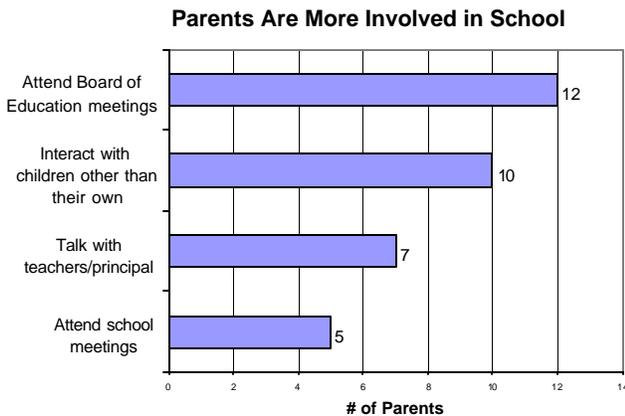
Meriden Parent Leadership Training Institute Survey of Past Participants

Background:

The Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI), developed by the State’s Commission on Children, teaches democracy skills so parents can understand and impact decisions made within the public policy and budget domains. Since 1997, **48 Meriden parents have graduated from PLTI**. In 2000, these parents were surveyed to evaluate the impacts of the program, with 33 of the 48 Meriden graduates completing surveys (a 69% response, 6 parents are no longer in Meriden and/or Connecticut).

PLTI Impacts:

Parents reported that after PLTI, they were **more involved** in participating in the children’s education and advocating on issues that matter to them.



PLTI Practicums:

Each PLTI participant is required to complete a project, called a practicum. Examples of practicums include:

- One parent started a group for graduates of PLTI. The group meets monthly, has fifteen active members, and has raised and addressed several policy issues through research and communicating with elected officials.
- One parent researched pros and cons of seat belts on school buses, and produced a three-page final report that was distributed to 100 parents and a dozen administrators.
- A parent arranged a one-day workshop for professionals on children’s behaviors. Twenty-five teachers and administrators participated and learned about temperament and effective strategies for dealing with traits.
- Responding to safety concerns raised by parents at a PTO meeting, a PLTI graduate painted a crosswalk at a busy intersection in Meriden.
- A parent researched and created a brochure on what is asthma that was distributed to 250 parents in Meriden.

PLTI Impacts: Meriden’s Liz Cross

A single mother and high school graduate, Liz Cross has always worked hard to provide for her children. Over the years she has at times been very frustrated at how hard it is to make ends meet.

Through a friend, Liz heard about Meriden’s Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI). ‘When I learned about PLTI, I wanted to get involved right away because I wanted a better life for me, my family, and community’.

Since graduating from PLTI Liz has made significant advances towards her goal of becoming a stronger leader for herself and for her children. She credits the PLTI experience and the support from her peers as key in her successful efforts to **renew her driver’s license, and begin working as an assistant teacher at a local childcare center**. She has also joined the parent group LI ON (Leaders in Our Neighborhood) to help address the many public issues facing the young people she raises and teaches.

“PLTI gave me a better perspective and awareness on how to get things done,” says Liz, “I really encourage other parents to take PLTI.”

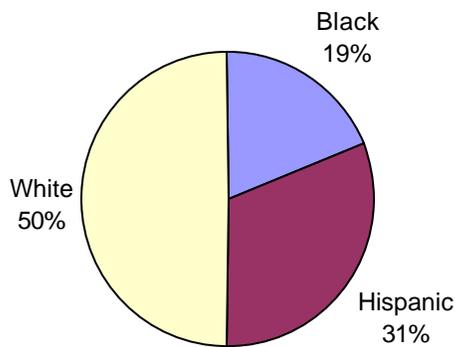
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Parent Satisfaction with PLTI Training:

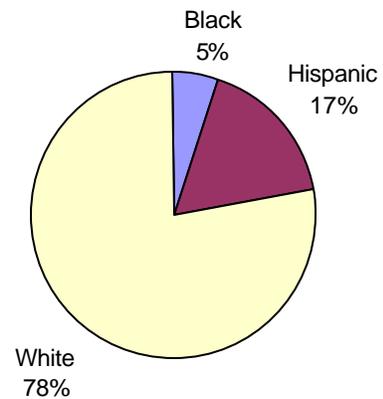
- 94% were satisfied with PLTI
- 94% would recommend PLTI to a friend or family member

Profile of PLTI Participants:

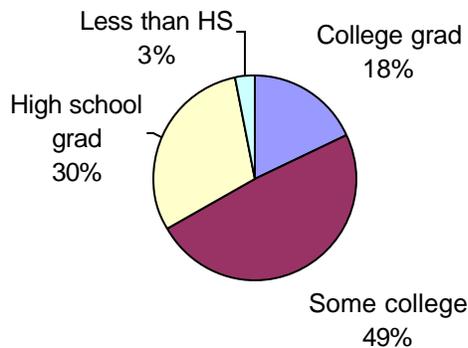
Ethnicity of PLTI Participants



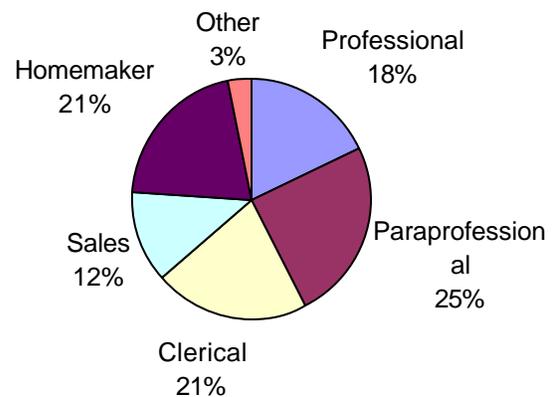
Ethnicity of Meriden Population



Education Level of Participants ESTIMATED



Occupations of Participants



**For more information about PLTI in Meriden, call the
Commission on Children at 860-240-0290, or Meriden Children First at 203-630-3566.**