

From Fixing to Partnering

Neuroaffirmative Family & Peer Support — Handout & Resource Guide

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Core Idea: Support works best when we move from “How do we stop this behavior?” to “What is this person communicating, and what support is missing?” Declarative language, co-regulation, and skill-based thinking help peers and families respond with connection instead of control.

Recommended Reading

Declarative Language & Co-Regulation

- **Declarative Language Handbook — Linda K. Murphy, MS, CCC-SLP**
Teaches a low-demand, curious communication style that helps kids (and adults) feel competent, connected, and understood instead of commanded.
- **Co-Regulation Handbook — Linda K. Murphy, MS, CCC-SLP**
The companion book to Declarative Language Handbook. Shows how to move away from prompting and directing, and toward shared, competent roles that keep everyone positively connected during hard moments.

Skill-Based & Collaborative Problem Solving (Dr. Ross Greene)

- **The Explosive Child — Dr. Ross Greene**
The foundational book on Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (CPS): challenging behavior comes from lagging skills, not poor motivation.
- **Raising Human Beings — Dr. Ross Greene**
Applies the CPS model to everyday parenting and building a genuine partnership with a child.
- **Lost at School / Lost & Found — Dr. Ross Greene**
Extends the skill-based CPS model into classrooms and systems, with practical tools like the ALSUP (Assessment of Lagging Skills and Unsolved Problems) and Plan B.

Brain-Body & Regulation Science

- **Beyond Behaviors — Dr. Mona Delahooke**
Frames behavior as “the tip of the iceberg” — a signal of nervous-system state, not a problem to eliminate. Includes practical worksheets.

- **Brain-Body Parenting — Dr. Mona Delahooke**
Explains how self-regulation grows out of co-regulation, and how adults must regulate themselves first to support a child's nervous system.

DIR/Floortime Foundations

- **Respecting Autism — Stanley Greenspan & Gil Tippy**
A core DIR/Floortime text on relationship-based, developmentally grounded support.

Quick Reference: What Peers & Families Can Do at Home

Support Area	What It Looks Like
Declarative language	"I notice..." / "I wonder..." / "We can..." instead of commands
Co-regulation	Adult stays calm first, offers a role, does the activity with the person
Skill-based thinking	Ask "what skill is missing?" instead of "why won't they listen?"
Sensory awareness	Notice triggers (sound, light, touch, transitions) and adjust the environment, not just the person
Repair after conflict	Return later, once regulated, to talk through what happened

Resource Organizations & Websites

- **declarativelanguage.com** — Linda Murphy's hub for declarative language and co-regulation resources, articles, and trainings.
- **Lives in the Balance (livesinthebalance.org)** — Dr. Ross Greene's free CPS resources, including videos of the model in action with young children.
- **CPS Connection (cpsconnection.com)** — Training and consultation for the Collaborative & Proactive Solutions model.
- **ICDL / Home of DIRFloortime (icdl.com/dir)** — Recommended reading list and training resources for DIR/Floortime.
- **monadelahooke.com** — Articles, worksheets, and podcast appearances expanding on Beyond Behaviors and Brain-Body Parenting.

Handout prepared for the Pier Summit session "From Fixing to Partnering." Feel free to photocopy and share with families, peers, and colleagues.