In your application we asked you to think about what issue you wanted to impact and ideas you had for a personal project. This worksheet can begin to refine that idea and turn into an action plan.

**What is the issue or problem you want to impact in your community (local, state, national)?**
My school district is not responsive to the needs of families who have kids with IEPs. There are ways to deal with individual concerns, but when there are problems that affect several children, especially when they might be in different schools, the school district does not have an organized way for families to get this information to key administrators who can change policies and procedures.

**List people or groups that have power to impact this issue?**
School superintendent  
Director of Special Education for the school district  
School board  
Building principals

**What are 3-5 things you might do to impact this? These are possible projects.**
Make a presentation to the school board  
Set up meetings with the key administrators  
Develop a family group who have kids in special ed  
Request the formation of an advisory group for the district  
Join an existing advisory group
Choose one idea from above and describe it more. This is your project!

Develop a family group for families who have children in special education. This group will meet monthly at a local coffee shop or library. Work might include:

- Presenting at a school board meeting on concerns in special ed, and provide information and resource packet to school board members
- Set up an email group and/or Facebook page that families throughout the district can join
- Meeting regularly with Superintendent and Director of Special Education to talk about concerns and see if family members can

Who else cares about this issue that might give you information or work with you? This might be organizations or individuals.

Family members, including youth in special education programs
School board members
Teachers
Principals
Mayor’s office – are there people there who are liaisons to the school district?

What are the first 2-3 steps to accomplish your project?

1) Identify three or four other family members who might be interested in starting a group.
2) Find a date, time and place for your first meeting
3) Plan an agenda for the meeting to include developing a work plan: what do you want to accomplish in the long term and in the short terms? Break down these objectives into small steps and set a timeline. The very first meeting might have to be just a meet and greet and venting about concerns. Then you can set a second meeting to start planning a work plan and setting a timeline.