



Announcing Alabama's Family-to-Family Health Information Center (F2F HIC)

Family Voices of Alabama has been awarded a grant from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau to increase our services to the families in Alabama by establishing a Family-to-Family Health Information Center (F2F HIC). F2F HICs are family-led organizations that help families of Children/Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) and the professionals who serve them. Because the health care needs of CYSHCN are chronic and complex, parents and caregivers are often challenged with finding the resources to provide and finance health care for their children.

How is the F2F HIC staffed?

Our F2F HIC is staffed by three parents who each have children/youth with special health needs. As parents, they have traveled through the maze of services and programs designed to help CYSHCN, so they understand the issues that families face. They will provide advice, offer a multitude of resources, and tap into a network of other families and professionals for support and information. Family Voices, through the National Center for Family / Professional Partnerships, provides technical assistance, training, and connections to other F2F HICs and partnering organizations.

What does the F2F HIC actually do?

Through this grant, Family Voices of Alabama will:

- Present information, training, technical assistance and peer support to families of CYSHCN as well as those who serve them.
- Mentor families via one-to-one contact via **toll free phone (877-771-FVOA (877-771-3862))**.
- Provide information and resources to families via our **website (www.familyvoicesal.org)**.
- Nurture collaboration between families and professional in the state.
- Assist families to make more informed decisions about their children's health care and be better able to participate in systems building activities in their communities and states.
- Offer training for families on advocacy and family/professional partnerships.
- Distribute tip sheets highlighting strategies for collaboration between families and professional in the state.
- Integrate the philosophy of Family Centered Care, Family Professional Partnership, and Cultural Competence throughout all activities.

How can I get more information? Contact us:

By Phone: **877-771-FVOA (877-771-3862)**

Visit our developing website at www.familyvoicesal.org

By Mail: 1050 Government Street, Mobile, AL 36604-2404