

# Family Partnership for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs



## Description

The Family Partnership strives to enhance the lives of individuals and families impacted by special health care needs, providing resources and information to empower families to live a good life.

The Family Partnership hosts regional and statewide events to benefit families through development of leadership skills, networking among peers and staying current with trends and issues regarding special health care needs.

Each Family Partner is a parent of a child or youth with special health care needs and is well equipped to help you explore options and solutions in the following topic areas:

**Daily Life:** What your family members do as part of everyday life: school, employment, volunteering, communication routines, life skills

**Social and Spirituality:** Building friendships and relationships, leisure activities, personal networks and faith community

**Community Living:** Housing and living options, community access, transportation and home adaptations

**Advocacy and Self-Determination:** Developing advocacy skills, transition planning for the future, fostering independence and interdependence

**Healthy Living:** Managing health care and staying well: medical needs, exercise, therapy services, locating physicians and specialists, mental health, behavioral health, medical home

**Safety and Security:** Emergency planning, well-being, community support, guardianship options, legal concerns

**Services and Supports:** Using an array of integrated supports to achieve a good life, including mentor programs

## Objectives

- Provide families with the opportunity to offer each other support and information.
- Give families the opportunity to provide SHCN input on the needs of individuals with special health care needs.
- Build public and community awareness of the unique needs and issues facing families of individuals with special health care needs.

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