



SPOTLIGHT ON THE NETWORK: FAMILY VOICES' REGIONAL MEETINGS ARE UNDERWAY

Family Voices **Region 4** recently hosted an information-packed regional meeting in Atlanta, GA, February 9-11, 2006. "Getting to the Heart of the Matter: Strengthening Connections in Our States" was designed to help FV Network members in AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC & TN focus on enhancing opportunities for family leadership through partnerships with local primary care providers and tertiary care centers in their states. Dr. Leslie Rubin, developmental pediatrician and President, Institute for the Study of Disadvantage and Disability, and faculty of the Department of Pediatrics at Morehouse School of Medicine shared his experiences of working with family leaders through Project DOCC, including Rachel Wittenburg who joined him for the presentation. Dr. Rubin was also joined by Fozia Eskew, from the GAAAP chapter, who shared information about their specific projects and some ideas that could be replicated in other states. Suzanne Respass, Director of Government Relations, Children's Health System, AL, gave an interactive presentation detailing who children's hospitals are, what NACHRI does, and how all of us can utilize our partnerships to maintain a strong system of care for CYSHCN. She challenged us to develop dialog with state partners such as the AAP, NACHRI, Title V, pediatric sub-specialists and others to design a vision for a regional system of care. Stay tuned for more information on upcoming regional meetings—

Region 7 in Kansas City, MO, February 24-26, 2006; **Regions 8 & 5** in Minneapolis, MN, March 30-April 1, 2006; **Region 6** in Little Rock, AR April 13-16, 2006; **Region 1** in Ashford, CT, April 25-27, 2006; **Region 9** in San Francisco, CA April 27-29, 2006; **Region X** in Lincoln City, Oregon May 9-12, 2006; and **Regions 2 & 3** in Secaucus, NJ, May 30-June 1, 2006.

Welcome

News Flash! We have a new Network Member in Rhode Island—Barbara Torres. She has been married for twelve years and has four beautiful children, three of whom have special needs. Barbara is not new to Family Voices but is new to being a Network Member. She currently holds the title of Intake/Outreach Coordinator for RI Family Voices. She sits on various committees that include the neighborhood Health Plan CNS Advisory Committee, RIPIN Policy Team and CAC RIte Care Transportation Sub-Committee just to name a few. Please join us in welcoming Barbara to Family Voices!

Website

Family Voices continues to host topical calls for our Network members and funded Family to Family Health Information Centers on a variety of subjects, the most recent being TITLE V 5-YEAR NEEDS ASSESSMENTS: What can we learn from them? How can families be part of the solutions? (February 7, 2006) and "Disability History and Culture and What Allies Need to Know About It" (February 16, 2006). Transcripts of these and other topical calls are available. Please contact Karen, at kanzola@familyvoices.org or Leau, at leau@familyvoices.org for more information.



ReCap of FV Talk

This information is a summary collected from Family Voices Talk listserv

Resources, News, & Stories

- http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_CSHCN.html

This knowledge path has been compiled by the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Library at Georgetown University. It points to recent, high-quality resources for health professionals and families about caring for children and adolescents with special health care needs.

- http://www.boston.com/news/local/maine/articles/2006/01/31/federal_judge_rules_that_aspergers_syndrome_is_a_disability

A new ruling on Aspergers that could have an affect on special education.

- <http://ecrp.uiuc.edu/v7n2/forman.html>

An abstract which asserts that through the process of observation, documentation, and interpretation of children's goals, strategies, and theories, teachers gain insight into children's thinking.

- <http://www.nschdata.org/DesktopDefault.aspx>

A report that provides an overview of broad health characteristics for children, bringing together first-ever available national and state-level data from the National Survey of Children's Health.

- <http://www.familiesusa.org/resources/tools-for-advocates/kits/health-action-2006-tool-kit-4.html>

A new resource with other tools that explain the basics of public programs and provide tips for effective advocacy in the realm of minority health.

- <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/02/10/health/policy/10drug.html?ex=1140325200&en=fe56dc4469d9f7bc&ei=5070>

Warning urged on stimulants like Ritalin based on side effects to the heart

- <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=36339>

Autism Speaks makes major funding commitment, supporting the development of a national autism database.

- <http://www.concordmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060122/REPOSITORY/601220331/1001/NEWS01>

The Concord Monitor spotlights a program at Concord High School that aims to build relationships between students with special needs and their peers who are on the traditional track.

When you want something you
have never had, you have got to
do something you have never
done.

--Mike Murdock

To receive "Friday's Child" on e-mail:

Send an email to

fridayschildnews-subscribe@yahoo.com

To become a member of our family and for more information
please visit our website: www.familyvoices.org



2340 Alamo SE, Ste. 102 Albuquerque, NM 87106

Phone: 505-872-4774 Fax: 505-872-4780

Toll-Free: 1-888-835-5669

Email: kidshealth@familyvoices.org