



Family Voices Inc.

Family Voices in Russia for G8 Education discussions

The dead of winter in Moscow. Temperatures way below zero for weeks on end. Snow covering the ground. Meanwhile, the sun is shining, the skies are blue, and we're in the middle of a drought in New Mexico, so chances are we'll keep having nice weather. I have speeches to write and trips to make all over the country, from Hawaii to Washington, DC, to Florida. I have jobs at home. I am a very busy lady here in sunny New Mexico.

All of a sudden, an email comes from Denise Roza of Perspektiva, the national disability advocacy organization in Russia. How would I like to come to Russia for a meeting about Inclusive Education (IE) for the G8? It will be a short trip—just two days of meetings in Moscow, which someone from the G8 will pay for, Denise promises. I have less than two weeks to alter my schedule, say yes or no, get a visa, make plane reservations, and hope that some Russian government official will actually pay my way. I am not very familiar with the G8, except as a rallying point for street riots in Seattle several years back. But, what the heck, I strongly believe in Inclusive Education (IE), so I fly to Moscow.

[To read the rest of the article](#)

Website

The Association of Hole in the Wall Gang Camps, founded by actor Paul Newman, is a not-for-profit umbrella organization that serves existing Hole in the Wall Camps as well as camps in formation. The association assists member camps in extending unique recreational and therapeutic camping experiences to children with serious illness throughout the world free of charge. For links to the individual camps located throughout the country and overseas, please visit: www.holeinthewallcamps.org

Network News

Sharing the Family Voices Wealth of Information with Arkansas Families

Every state—NM, TX, OK, AR and LA—was represented at the recent Region 6 Regional Meeting in Little Rock, AR. Partners from the AR Parent Advisory Council to Title V/Children with Special Health Care Needs joined FV Network members for discussions on the good work happening in the states. We heard about the Early Intervention program in LA and the Pueblo Connection project in NM as well as Project DOCC in AR. A “Share the Wealth” session featured tip sheets on transition issues, self-centered transition planning, and non-profit management. Another session included a presentation on building Partnerships that work and last. We also had a lively discussion and presentation on the Perspective of Poverty and learned if we could survive in poverty, middle class and wealth. The hidden rules among classes were examined and we talked extensively about the language of poverty and how it affects the world view of a person. It gave us all new insights into how we view the world and the people around us.

Finding the Right Formula

The evaluations are in and it looks as if the New England Family Voices network members received an A+ for their Region I Conference **“The Geometry of Parent Leadership: Finding the Right Formula.”** Forty-three family leaders from CT, MA, ME, NH, RI and VT, and National FV representatives, recently convened at the lovely Paul Newman Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, CT. The goal was to provide an opportunity for family leaders to learn strategies to support veteran family leaders and mentor new family leaders. Participants attended workshops about: managing non-profit advocacy organizations; grassroots organizing; developing and sustaining family/professional partnerships; mentoring new parent leaders; sustaining veteran parent leaders and learning about various parent-to-parent programs throughout the country. State teams also met separately to discuss ways to work together to create a shared agenda to support families of children and youth with special health care needs.



ReCap of FV Talk

Resources, News, & Stories

- <http://www.tacinc.org/Docs/HH/OpeningDoors/ODIssue28.pdf>

The latest issue of *Opening Doors* with an article on the Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Program: Creating New Housing Opportunities for People with Disabilities

- <http://nationalchildrensstudy.gov/>

The National Children's Study will examine the effects of environmental influences on the health and development of more than 100,000 children across the United States, following them from before birth until age 21. The goal of the study is to improve the health and well-being of children.

- http://www.chicagotribune.com/features/health/chi-0605020089may02_1_1809607_story?ctrack=1&cset=true

Disadvantaged kids get sick more often, study reports As trying conditions add up, health risks multiply, data show.

- <http://www.mchpolicy.org/documents/InterfacePromisingPracticesReport.pdf>

Promising approaches for improving the interface between primary and specialty pediatric care.

- http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/files/products_publications/TACenter/bestbeginfinal.pdf

The best beginning: partnerships between primary health care and mental health and substance abuse services for Young children and their families.

- http://www.cdl.org/resource-library/articles/memory_strategies_May06.php?type=recent&id=Yes

10 strategies to enhance memory.

- <http://covertheuninsured.org/materials/files/2006/CampaignOverview.pdf>

Nearly twenty percent of uninsured Americans –8.3 million individuals¹–are children.

- <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/%7Eimages/pdfs/snapshots/Snap29.pdf>

How do parents of children with suspected or known genetic disorders find and use this information? The Culture and Family Interpretations of Genetic Disorder Project (an ethnographic study of 106 families referred to a pediatric genetic counseling and evaluation clinic) attempts to answer this question. The study examines parents' use of online resources and notes implications for early interventionists.

**Unless commitment is made,
there are only promises and
hopes... but no plans**

-- Peter F. Drucker

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Send an email to

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To become a member of our family and for more information

please visit our website: www.familyvoices.org



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