



Raising Special Kids ARIZONA FAMILY-TO-FAMILY HEALTH INFORMATION CENTER (F2F) 2016 DATA REPORT

The Arizona Family-to-Family Health Information Center is a project of Raising Special Kids, a parent-run center that provides free, confidential technical assistance to families raising CSHCN, professionals, and others. Through this project and others, health care providers, state agencies, medical residents and student nurses, and other community organizations are supported to improve outcomes for children by promoting family-centered, culturally competent and coordinated care.

2016 IMPACT on a FAMILY

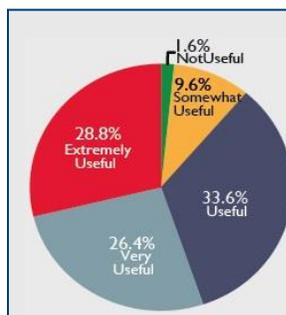
After spending a year in and out of the hospital, a 15 month old foster child cycled through an NG tube, G- tube, various medical formulas, with inability to tolerate tummy time or learning to crawl, leading to a diagnosis of failure to thrive. In February, a gastroenterologist referred him for a Multidisciplinary Team Feeding Study at a Children's Hospital and it was scheduled for October. During that 8-month period, the child's Feeding Study was denied multiple times. When the week of the Feeding Study finally arrived, the family was told that without prior authorization the hospital would cancel the appointment. F2F staff contacted the Ombudsman and Patient Advocate for the child's insurance company, explained the urgency of the situation, and requested immediate assistance of the Children's Rehabilitative Services insurance Medical Director. The Feeding Study was approved. The CRS Ombudsman thanked Raising Special Kids for bringing this issue to their attention, and contacted the Children's Hospital Feeding Clinic staff and recommended ways to improve and expedite the approval process. The foster parent said, "Thank you so much, I could not have done this without you!"

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

System Impact Raising Special Kids F2F participated in the Arizona ASD Advisory Committee and sub-committees to develop and provide recommendations on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) for the state's Medicaid program. The resulting recommendations include both system-level changes as well as short-term activities that can more quickly identify children with ASD, enhance an understanding of the current system by stakeholders, and improve access to HCBS for AHCCCS (Medicaid) members with ASD. The Executive Director of RSK served on the ASD Advisory Committee, and the State Medicaid Advisory Council, and the F2F had several staff members participating in each of the workgroups: Early Identification & Referrals; Reducing System Complexity; Evidence-Based Treatment; Building Network Capacity; & Adults with ASD.

OUTREACH²

Total Families Served: 21,634
Total Professionals Served: 18,947
Newsletter Subscribers: 11,060
Materials Disseminated: 10,315
Trainings: 157



IMPACT on Family Confidence

Families rate the usefulness of the support, information, and/or resources they received from the AZ F2F in helping them feel more confident about getting their child the health care and services that s/he needs.²

CONTACT

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¹National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs. NS-CSHCN 2009/10. Data query from the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website. Retrieved 04/03/2014 from www.childhealthdata.org.

²FY2016 F2F data represents families and professionals served through one-to-one contact, training, and broader outreach from June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016.

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