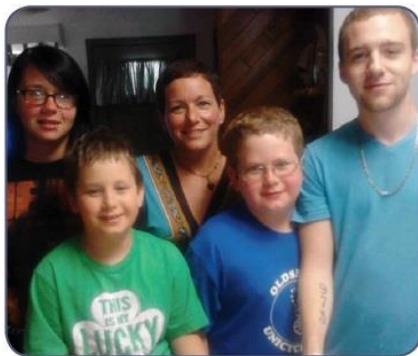
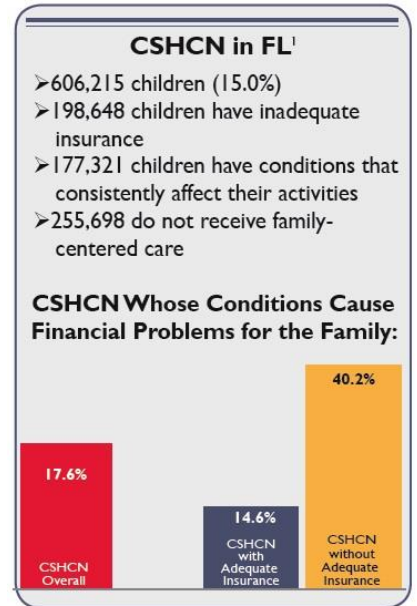


Founded in 1985 by a group of parents, the Family Network on Disabilities in Florida is a grassroots organization advocating for persons with disabilities and their families. What started as a group of parents meeting for support and to share information on their children with disabilities has now grown to a full network of families and individuals across the state of Florida. Family Support, Training, Assistance, and Resources (Family STAR) is the F2F project and has the goal to assist families of CSHCN to make informed decisions about health care for their children.

2016 IMPACT on a FAMILY

The FL F2F has worked with families throughout Florida helping them get a better understanding of the Affordable Care Act, including the positive changes in the Act and how the health care exchange works. We have worked closely with a single mother who, because of our assistance, was able to get the health care coverage she needed for her children enabling them to continue their health care services without interruption. She quotes: *“Thanks to Family STAR of FND, my family has the health care we need. Family STAR has been a blessing to my entire family.”*

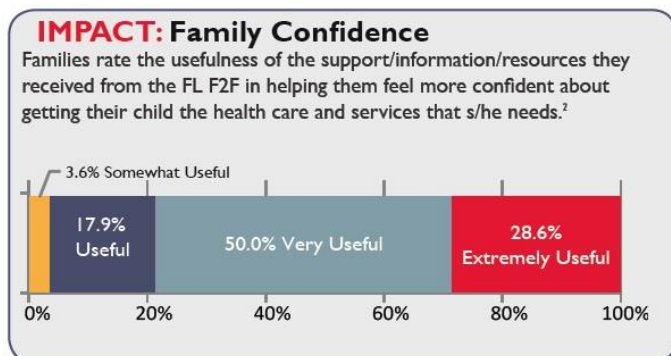
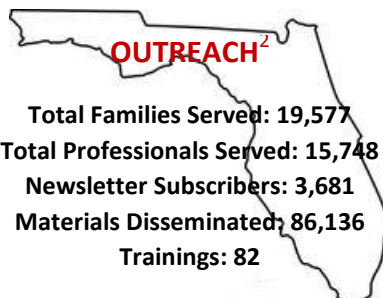


2016 HIGHLIGHTS

ZIKA Crisis The FL F2F is part of the AAP ECHO Zika Project. They have been serving as faculty for this project and will be hosting upcoming clinics.

Innovative outreach methods In order for the F2F to serve the entire state effectively, they developed a vigorous outreach plan that incorporated the use of technological resources that afforded us the ability to create great impact with minimal travel. These methods included the continual use of webinars, constant contact, and other sophisticated forms of electronic communication, such as Skype, Twitter, YouTube, downloadable phone applications, and Google drive for shared information and complete transparency. In order to serve greater populations quickly

and in a manner that was convenient to families and professionals, the FL F2F used various electronic methods that were cost effective and solved issues with travel and monetary constraints for parents and professionals that are not always able to travel. For example, they hosted a Twitter Live event in Spanish in which 1.7 million participated. Developing partnerships with other local and statewide agencies working with the target populations enabled us to serve hard-to-reach families in remote areas, such as the panhandle region.



CONTACT

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Website: <http://www.fndfl.org/> ♥ **Contact:** Marilyn Ruiz, marilyn@fndfl.org

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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