

Families at all stages of the journey of raising children with disabilities and special health care needs encounter a complex maze of systems and services. Systems are undergoing frequent changes, and new policies and programs, new procedures for enrollment and re-determination, changes in eligibility requirements and program coverage are providing even more challenges to families seeking care for their children. Developing and supporting family leaders as partners at all levels allows systems to better understand family needs and helps families to better navigate and influence the process. It is the mission of FV Indiana to fill the information needs of families while developing family leaders to be sure that a strong family voice is available to help systems to meet needs.

**CSHCN in IN<sup>1</sup>**

- 268,717 children (17.0%)
- 90,466 children have inadequate insurance
- 74,372 children have conditions that consistently affect their activities
- 79,784 do not receive family-centered care

### IMPACT on a FAMILY

We were contacted by the grandmother of child with significant health care needs who had been referred by the National Center for Family/Professional Partnerships. She was seeking assistance in finding resources to better support her granddaughter's needs. Our specialist explained various programs that might be appropriate and the grandmother decided to pursue our Medicaid waiver program. The form is often confusing for families and our specialist assisted the grandmother in understanding the program and in completing the necessary paperwork. *"I am willing to do the 'leg work' but am not always clear as to what 'leg work' I should be doing. This is where Family Voices Indiana has been a tremendous help. I truly am overjoyed with the help provided by Family Voices Indiana."* - Nancy L.

### 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

**Mental Health Crisis Impact** The F2F is actively working with the Department of Mental Health and Systems of Care to address a mental health crisis. Children are being turned away from community mental health centers if they have a dual-diagnosis and therefore can't access Medicaid MRO services. The F2F is partnering with other organizations to discuss the issue with DMHA and OMPP.

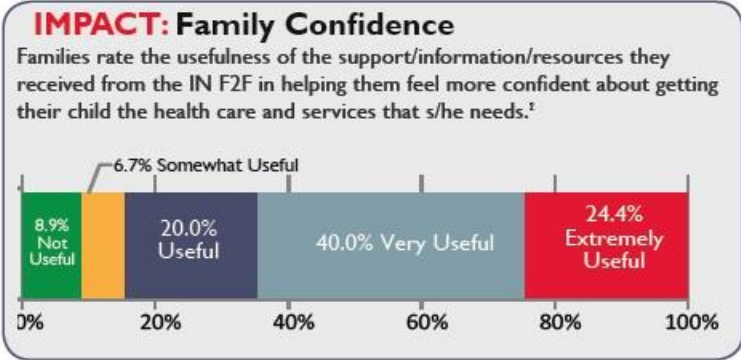
**Response to Medicaid Changes** Indiana Medicaid issued new guidance surrounding ABA coverage. The F2F fielded many calls from families, professionals and ABA centers in regards to this new component within the EPSDT portion of Medicaid. In response, the F2F issued informational alerts and conducted trainings.

**Training Impact** Family Voices Indiana F2F is a Community Outreach Collaborative to support individuals with disabilities in accessing the Affordable Care Act. As a result, the F2F co-presented with Karl Cooper of the National Disability Navigator Resource Collaborative at the national Alliance of Information and Referral Systems Conference in May 2016.

**Innovative Intercultural Project Impact** Family Voices Indiana F2F partnered with The Indiana Center for Intercultural Communication to pilot a program teaching English for a Specific Purpose to Spanish speaking Latino mothers with children in the NICU. Feedback from the mothers has been very positive and there are plans to expand the program in the future.

### OUTREACH<sup>2</sup>

**Total Families Served: 31,258**  
**Total Professionals Served: 5,162**  
**Newsletter Subscribers: 439**  
**Materials Disseminated: 27,783**  
**Trainings: 231**



**CONTACT**

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<sup>1</sup>National 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](http://www.childhealthdata.org).

<sup>2</sup>FY2016 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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