PTI Nebraska, the Family-to-Family Health Information Center, is a statewide resource for families of children with disabilities and special health care needs. The F2F provides one-to-one assistance to parents and professionals on services and disability specific information; conduct relevant, no-cost workshops statewide; disseminate printed and electronic resources; and encourage and support parents in leadership roles.

2016 Family Impacts

- Participation in the F2F/PTI webinars has increased this year. Because families are very busy working 2, 3 or more jobs in a household, many do not have time to attend in person scheduled trainings despite desperately needing the information and training. The webinars have been the perfect bridge between busy family life, information and empowerment.

- This year the F2F was able to add a Spanish speaking staff-person for 5 hours a week. This has made a difference for Spanish speaking families needing information about medical and health services.

- We took a call from a parent who couldn’t pay $100 a month for child’s ADHD medication. Staff looked the medication up on Goodrx and discovered the medication could be purchased at the local Sam’s pharmacy for $10. Parent was very happy to know this and that she could purchase a medication from Sam’s without a membership.

- “Contact PTI--great resource for information and support and assistance with advocacy. I learned a lot about PTI and we shared information and common interests regarding children with behavioral health issues and what awareness and education opportunities there might be to collaborate--particularly in partnership with NAMI-NE and including the use of IEPs and 504 Plans for children in elementary and secondary school. This idea is coming to fruition now as a partnership is underway between PTI and NAMI-NE to do a webinar on this very topic! I participated both as parent and as a professional. I am able to inform others about PTI and have it added as a resource to and referral site for appropriate families encountered through the organizations I’m affiliated with.”

Systems and Process Impact The F2F participated in state Health and Human Services meeting to facilitate the accessibility and function of the application for Developmental Disability Services. The F2Fs work on this, as part of a large statewide group, reduced the application for services from 24 pages to 3 pages and the entire eligibility process is now taking 14 - 21 days in place of more than 90 days. Not only did this F2F work facilitate service acquisition, but it also improved state efficiency and cost spending.