The WY F2F HIC at the Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND, University of Wyoming) is a statewide, family-led initiative that provides information, education, training, outreach, and peer support to families of children with special health care needs (CSHCN) and the professionals who serve them. WIND partners with UPLIFT (WY’s Federation of Families and Family Voices of WY), WY families and health professionals, the WY Department of Health’s Maternal and Child Health Section and Office of Multicultural Health, and University of Wyoming faculty members to develop and provide health care information. The F2F HIC is staffed by trained family leaders who have children with special health care needs (CSHCN) and expertise in navigating federal, state, and local public and private health care systems.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

- WY F2F maintained a collaborative state network to deliver information, training, and support to families of children with special health care needs that included the state Title V, Department of Family Services, Multicultural Health, Public Health Nursing, family and children-focused non-profits, and other professionals serving CYSHCN.
- WY F2F established a workgroup to develop information about financial planning, guardianship, and medical directives for families with transition-aged children.
- WY F2F worked to increase ability of families to make good health care decisions by developing, producing and disseminating informational products to families of CYSHCN in areas such as oral health and family support.
- WY F2F was able to leverage a contract with the Wyoming Department of Health to begin work in sexual and reproductive health training for youth with intellectual disabilities.
- Additionally, WY cultivated partnerships with JFK Partners at the University of Colorado to translate a family mentorship program in Autism to Wyoming and work toward increasing and strengthening the family network in Wyoming for all families of CYSHCN.

IMPACT on a FAMILY

WY F2F has provided multiple trainings, information and resources to WY families. One mother of a teenage daughter with Autism said “I have appreciated the tools that have been given to me. I am now more confident in discussing issues with my daughter’s support team. I am also thankful for being paired with the Children’s Mental Health Waiver.”

CONTACT

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OUTREACH

- Total Families Served: 1490
- Total Professionals Served: 1660
- Newsletter Subscribers: 292
- Materials Disseminated: 263
- Trainings: 196

IMPACT

Families rate the usefulness of the support, information, and/or resources they received from the WY F2F in increasing their ability to partner with their child’s provider, navigate services, and feel more confident.

CSHCN in WY:
- 18,194 children (14.1%) 1
- 5,750 children have inadequate insurance
- 5,071 children have conditions that consistently affect their activities
- 5,711 do not receive family-centered care

2016 DATA REPORT

CSHCN Whose Conditions Cause Financial Problems for the Family:

- 23.3% uninsured
- 11.0% high deductible insurance
- 45.2% moderate deductible insurance

OUTREACH

- Total Families Served: 1490
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IMPACT:

- 76% somewhat useful
- 73% useful
- 71% very useful
- 24% not useful
- 27% navigate services
- 29% feel more confident

Citations:


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.