



Resource Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (RCASD)

A comprehensive source of information for families with members who have autism spectrum disorder. RCASD offers one-to-one support, family-oriented education, referrals and various communication software assisting children with social and verbal communication.

Ability Awareness Training (AAT)

Establishing (or improving) an inclusive environment with AAT. This program teaches effective communication skills, People First language, and modifications and environmental accommodations for people with disabilities, making life and work an enriching experience for all.

Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) - Parent Liaison

Offering information, referrals, training, and one-on-one support to families enrolled in CHSH. The Parent Liaison is a parent of a child with disability – they know what you need, and they guide families through the enrollment process of the medical service provider system every step of the way.

Family-to-Family Health Information Center (F2FHIC)

Our goal is to improve access to quality care and support in the community for children and youth with special healthcare needs. Families Helping Families centers across the state will participate in F2FHIC activities to teach families advocacy for quality healthcare services. Families and professionals will have the opportunity to build relationships, share information, and support each other through:

- Training programs and technical assistance
- Public benefits information
- Guidance in navigating various health care systems and supports
- Develop an active voice in the decision making process about services

EarlySteps

EarlySteps services families with infants and toddlers aged birth to 36 months who have a medical condition likely to result in a developmental delay or who have developmental delays. In the past, this program has collaborated with other community providers to engage the public in free car seat safety checks, for caregivers of children.

Inclusive Education

Educational Support Specialist use resources, workshops, presentations as well as one-on-one support to empower parents to become effective advocates for their children receiving special education services. Our core beliefs is, Inclusive Education is the education of all students in the least restrictive environment and community settings to ensure full and valued membership in society.



FHFGBR – Our Programs

- We believe all students should have the same opportunities to be educated in neighborhood schools as their siblings and friends.
- With or without disabilities, all students should have the support system to learn together effectively using family, school, and community.
- We believe all students should have education that meets their individual needs, resulting in meaningful outcomes and prepare them for productive and enriching lives.

For more information about educating children in an inclusive and safe environment, call or email us and we'll be happy to guide you through the Inclusive Education process!

Information and Referral

[Call](#) or [email](#) us for disability specific resources and program information. We also have a lending library with books on disabilities, advocacy, education, and resources available to families. You can visit a center and browse, or we can mail information to you for your convenience.

Empowerment Program

Trainings, networking and support opportunities for families and youth affected by mental health, additive disorders and substance abuse as well as overall awareness, acceptance, and inclusion of this population. The program also provides families and youth with the education, skills and resources to increase and strengthen their ability to function successfully in their homes and communities. Statewide webinars, along with national and statewide conferences and workshops for families and youth. Topics of workshops will cover current children's mental health issues and other concerns. There will be networking meetings for parents/caregivers to increase their support network and share any successful experiences. The Empowerment Program will assist with opportunities to increase advocacy skills, and empower families to inform children's behavioral health policies, practices and services in Louisiana.

LA Council's Advocacy Network (LaCAN)

A statewide grassroots network of individuals and families that advocates for Louisiana's Community and Family Support System plan - a system that allows individuals to live at home and receive needed service instead of having to move to a facility.

Parent-2-Parent Program

Linking experienced families with new families to share information about specific disabilities and providing emotional support. If you would like to speak to a parent who has already been through the challenges you're facing, call or email us. We'll connect you with someone willing to share their knowledge, insight, and emotional support.

Transition

The transition staff work with families and professionals to help train, educate, and empower them to develop an Individualized Transition Plan that will help students reach their fullest potential.