

FAMILY CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS



Purpose

The Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (Family Center) is the statewide parent-directed center within Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

The Family Center is Michigan's prominent family-centered care initiative. Every state has a similar special health care program under Title V (Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant) of the Social Security Act.

The primary role of the Family Center is to offer emotional support, information and connections to community-based resources to families of children and youth with special health care needs, including all children who have, or are at an increased risk for: physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional conditions.

Children do not have to be enrolled in CSHCS to receive services from the Family Center.

The Family Center promotes coordinated systems of care that are family-centered, culturally competent and community-based by providing consultation related to programming, policies, direct family support initiatives, community education and collaborative partnerships.

Program Highlights

- Information and Referrals
- Sibling Support/Workshops
- Bereavement Support
- Support for Family/Youth Transition
- Peer Support through Family Phone Line
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Conference Scholarships
- Parent-to-Parent Support Network
- Parent Mentor Trainings
- Connect families to community-based support services and resources
- Support to Local Health Departments (LHD)
- Consultation to CSHCS
- LHD accreditation site visits
- Family and youth input and participation
- Family Advisory Workgroup
- Special grant related projects
- Collaboration to support the entire family
- Trainings on CSHCS and the Family Center for LHDs, Medicaid Health Plans, health providers and other agencies



If you have a family that is interested in becoming a Parent Mentor or would like support from a Parent Mentor, please contact:

Family Center Phone Line: 517-241-7630 or
CSHCS Family Phone Line: 800-359-3722

Parent -to-Parent Support Network

Benefits for the Parent Mentor

- Sense of giving back to the community
- New information about community services
- Membership in the Family Center's supportive parent to parent network
- Notification about state and national policies related to children with special needs
- Awareness of state and national conferences and trainings

Benefits for the Referred Parent

- Feel better able to cope with their child and their situation
- Are able to view their family and their circumstances more positively
- Feel empowered to partner in the decision making process
- Receives compassionate, non-judgmental emotional support
- Access to information and community resources

