Brown Bag Lunch Webinar

Learning About Leadership

Leading to help other families and change systems
How to Participate

**CHAT**
To communicate with the hosts or the other participants, you can type your comments in the CHAT area.

**NETWORKS**
To share this webinar on Facebook or Twitter, you can click your favorite one and invite people to join in!

**QUESTIONS**
If at any time you have a question, you can type it in this box and we will answer it when questions are taken.
How to Participate

FULL SCREEN MODE

To enter full screen mode, click on the icon in the corner of the webinar that says “Full Screen.” You can quickly exit Full Screen Mode by hitting the ESCAPE key on your keyboard.

Please note: If you are in full screen mode, you will not be able to view the tabs you need to interact with us.
Voice line

- The voice line for today's call is (800) 444-8652 (or 816-235-6400 locally).
- You can dial in with meeting ID: 663373.
Learning about Family Leadership:
Leading to help other families and change systems

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UMKC-Institute for Human Development, UCEDD
April 25, 2012
Outcomes

• Explore the role of the family throughout the history of social services and family-centered practices

• Describe different levels of family leadership and skills for each

• Discover how to improve and enhance your leadership skills!
Why are we here today talking about Family Leaders?
# History of Services and the Family

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Family Leadership: Who Supports It?

- Written into federal and state policy
- National professional organizations promoted
- Grants and funding requirement
- Data and research supports
- Professional and individual belief
Family-Centered

• Family-centered care ensures the health and well-being of children and their families through a respectful family-professional partnership that includes shared decision making. It honors the strengths, cultures, traditions, and expertise that everyone brings to the relationship.

*Maternal Child Health Bureau, 2011*
Family Professional Partnerships mean: shared decision making at all levels
Roles or Terms for Family Leaders

- Family Professional Partnerships
- Family Leaders, Youth Leaders
- Family Advisors, Youth Advisors
- Family Advocates, Self-Advocates
Family Leadership: What does that mean?
What is a Leader?

• One who influences, advocates, inspires, encourages, guides, impacts, effects.
What is Family?

• Parent
  – Biological parent
  – Step-parent
  – Foster parent
  – Adoptive parent

• Grandparent

• Sibling

• Foster parent

• Other – any other person who plays an important role in a child’s life (aunt, uncle, neighbor, etc.)
WHY Family Leaders are important

• Families bring their real life, unique experiences to the table
• Families keep it REAL (keep the focus on what’s important)
• Families can point out what’s missing or not quite right
• Families can suggest possible solutions
• Family Leaders are vital contributors at all levels of policy development
• When the voice of the family is heard and valued, organizations and communities are strengthened
Families provide SAND to make the PEARL
WHY be a Family Leader?

• To make the journey easier for other families
• To learn knowledge and skills to help with future challenges
• It’s empowering to reach back and help a system that helped you
• To improve services for children and families
• It’s a chance to be a part of bringing about real change
Family Leadership:
Levels for Families to be Involved
Family Leadership “Levels”

1. Your own family
2. Other families
3. Within organizations to improve how direct services are provided
4. Partnering to improve policies & systems that support children and families
Leadership Levels

- Policy & Systems
- Organizations and Service Providers
- Your Own and Other Families, Friends, Community
Your Own Family

• Making sure your family gets what it needs
• Speaking up when things aren’t right
• Getting involved (joining the PTA, Booster Club, coaching t-ball)
• Building positive relationships with the professionals in your family’s life
Helping Other Families

• Peer mentoring (e.g., Parent to Parent)
  – Help another family learn the ropes; how to get what their family needs
  – Share your experiences with another family
  – Help other families learn to problem solve

• Start or lead a support group
• Host an online group or chat room
Partnering Within Organizations to Improve How Services are Provided

• Participate in focus groups
• Share family experiences with an organization
• Satisfaction surveys
• Review products or information
• Serve on boards or councils
• Staff roles
Partnering for Systems Change to Improve Policies & Systems

• Sharing family experiences with legislators, statewide policy makers
• Providing testimony
• Participating in the legislative process
• Serving in advisory roles
• Running for office
Everyone is a Leader!!

- Everyone has experiences and ideas!!!
- Everyone can learn how to tell their story
  - to different people
  - for different reasons

Family leadership is sharing your experiences at ALL LEVELS!!!
“Be the change you want to see in the world.”

~Mahatma Gandhi
Ways to Get Involved

• Partners in Policymaking Training Program
• MPACT- Missouri (Advocacy in Education)
• Advisory Councils and Organizations
  – First Steps
  – Head Start
  – Disability/SHCN Specific
Missouri Family to Family
Connects Family Leaders to Training and Leadership Opportunities

• Missouri Family to Family Leadership Network

• Family Leadership Certificate Series
  – FREE Interactive Webinar Series beginning May 17
  – Local host sites - “Live” or via archived webinar

• To Register:
  – HOST SITES: http://conta.cc/hostsites
  – FAMILY LEADERS: http://conta.cc/familyleaders
Contact Information

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Questions?

START YOUR WEBCAM

My question is....
Survey

Please take the time to visit our surveymonkey evaluation of this webinar and tell us what you thought!

http://surveymonkey.com/s/brownbagapril
Special Thanks

• MODHSS Bureau of Special Healthcare Needs
• Miller County Health Department
• Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities
• DMH Regional Offices and Family Support Coordinators
For more information

Contact the
Missouri Family to Family Resource Center
800-444-0821
http://mofamilytofamily.org

UMKC-Institute for Human Development
http://www.ihd.umkc.edu