

The Navigator

Losing Julie Beckett; Champion of Children with Disabilities

Julie Beckett, the determined mother of a disabled child, fought the federal bureaucracy for coverage of her daughter’s in-home medical costs; a victory that has helped hundreds of thousands of children grow up with their families rather than in hospitals and institutions, died on May 13 at her home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa at the age of 72.

Just four months into her life as a mother, her infant daughter, Katie, contracted viral encephalitis. The disease, left Katie in a coma for days. When she awoke, she was partially paralyzed and required a ventilator to breathe. Physicians predicted that she would not live past age 10. But Katie’s condition eventually improved, enough that Ms. Beckett became convinced that she could safely be taken to home to grow up there with proper medical care. But according to the terms of her Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income benefits, Katie’s medical costs would be covered only if she remained in the hospital.

Julie and Katie’s father, could not afford to pay out of pocket for Katie's care if she came home. The irony was that, by all accounts, it cost far more to care for Katie in the hospital than it did to attend to her needs at home. Julie told her story, which caught the attention of President Ronald Reagan. In November 1981, at a media conference President Regan said, “By what sense do we have a regulation in government that says we’ll pay \$6,000 a month to keep someone in a hospital that we believe would be better off at home, but the family cannot afford one-sixth of that amount to keep them at home?” In short order, Reagan’s health and human services secretary, issued a waiver, later dubbed the Katie Beckett waiver, that allowed Katie to leave the hospital and still receive government benefits.

Julie eventually left her teaching job to care for her daughter, who continued to require daily use of a ventilator, and devoted herself to activism. Julie became nationally known as an advocate for children with disabilities and their families and helped found Family Voices. Because of her “tireless advocacy” Medicaid policy fundamentally shifted to allow people with significant health-care needs and disabilities to receive care at home.

“Being a mother, has been one of the most gratifying roles of my life.”- Julie Beckett

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“The Looks”; A communication journey with my Rett Syndrome sister...



My name is Allie, and my sister is Emma. I am 18, and Emma is 22. Emma is nonverbal, but that does not stop us from doing all the things that sisters do; we still bond, and occasionally we fight, just like typical sisters! One day we may sit on each other and argue, but then the next day we are plotting against our parents. Being Emma’s sister has been exciting, challenging, and everything in between, but she has taught me so many things (responsibility, compassion, and the joy of helping others), and I feel blessed to have learned so much from her. In fact, our journey together has inspired me to major in Elementary/Special Education.

Like typical sisters, Emma and I have experienced many things together, including events like runDisney and various Rett Syndrome benefits. Emma has always loved Rett Syndrome events where she is able to meet new people, interact with her family and friends, and listening to the band! Although Emma cannot communicate verbally, we have found many alternative ways to communicate. I recognize and understand “the looks” I get. There is the “get away from me” face (which I get quite often, considering we are sisters), and the “I am about to laugh so loud” face when she is ready to just have some fun. These are the same looks that all sisters have... the looks that only they know and share together.

Of course, we also have cards that say “yes” and “no” for simple and quick questions, but in my opinion, the coolest form of communication we have is Emma’s eye gaze system. Like many Rett girls, Emma utilizes an eye gaze computer to scan icons and “click” on them with her eyes. When clicking on the icon with her focused gaze, it is highlighted and “speaks” the letter, word, or phrase. It is an amazing technology and a blessing that we are able to communicate with her through a computer using her eyes.

Having eye gaze technology has been incredibly useful. It provides a reliable way to communicate so that Emma does not have to struggle to make her needs and opinions known. There is even a setting to modify her “voice” to sound similar to her natural voice... so Emma can now feel that she is being well represented. She shares her needs, her thoughts, and her emotions with us.

Having access to this type of device is extremely helpful for not only her but our family too. We can be confident to meet her needs, but also enjoy and interact with her through games and other “fun” conversations. While the quick and easy forms of communication (yes/no cards) give her options to choose from, it is so beneficial for all of us to have this more sophisticated form of communication. Not everything can be shared with just “a look” or a yes/no. The eye gaze system gives Emma broader opportunities to share everything she has to say!



*Blog taken from Girl Power 2 Cure is a non-profit organization supporting families dealing with Rett Syndrome; a severe neurological disorder that affects children.
Jun 10, 2021 | Rett Community Blog*



North Dakota Department of Health, Oral Health Program (OHP)

The North Dakota Department of Health, Oral Health Program (OHP) is working on several initiatives to help improve the oral health of North Dakotans. One of the projects is working with the University of North Dakota Center for Family Medicine (UND CFM) in Bismarck, North Dakota, on a Medical Dental Integration project. This project promotes oral health screenings and administration of topical fluoride varnish applications to all interested individuals.

What is fluoride varnish? Fluoride varnish is a topical fluoride painted on the teeth to help protect the teeth from cavities and can prevent the need for dental fillings. This service can also be offered by dental professionals, but if you are without a dental home, a fluoride varnish treatment from your medical provider could be a great benefit to you.

Why? If you or your child has a cavity in the early stages, the fluoride can slow or even stop the cavity process which can save time, money and the discomfort that is sometimes associated with a filling. The entire process is fast, painless and takes less than one minute to apply.

Another project helping to improve the oral health of students in North Dakota is through the OHP SEAL!ND school-based fluoride varnish and dental sealant program. This program started about 10 years ago and continues to administer services utilizing dollars from both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) grants. SEAL!ND prioritizes providing oral health care services to low-income and underserved students by targeting schools with 45% or greater of their students enrolled in the free and reduced-fee school lunch program and those without a dental home.

Services provided to all students with signed consent forms include dental screenings, fluoride varnish application, dental sealant application, oral health education and referrals for students identified as needing additional oral healthcare treatment. Public health dental hygienists employed by the OHP along with partner dental providers from private dental practices, Federally Qualified Health Centers and tribal health organizations visit the schools two times a year (fall and spring) to provide these on-site preventive services.

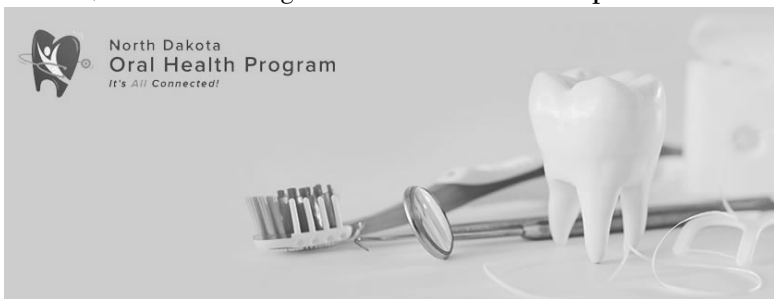
Oral health is an important part of overall health, so whether you are planning your next routine check-up or your families' back to school appointments ask your primary care provider if they offer fluoride varnish treatments. Also, check with your child's school to see if they participate in the SEAL!ND program.

Taking advantage of these programs is a great way to take steps towards bettering your overall health, but don't stop there. The amount of added sugar in your daily drinks is the leading source of added sugar in the American diet. When reading the nutrition labels, you may be surprised by the amount of added sugar in some drinks.

Instead of grabbing sweetened beverages like regular soda, fruit drinks, sports drinks, energy drinks and sweetened waters; consider filling a water bottle with tap water that has been optimally fluoridated to benefit your oral

health, has no sugar and is free. For more information and other oral health resources you may contact the Oral Health Program at 701-328-2356 or visit the OHP webpage at:

<https://www.health.nd.gov/prevention/oral-health-program>.



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Helpful Ways to Make the Switch From Summer to School

Transitioning back into the school year can be difficult for everyone, try these helpful tips to help your child prepare for the new school year:

Ease into routine: Transitioning from summer to a school schedule can be challenging. It can be helpful to start getting into a routine a few weeks to days before school starts. Practice by setting the alarm clock, going through the morning routine, and even walking to school or the bus stop. Going to bed earlier can help your child too!

Stock up: Taking your child school supply shopping can be a fun and exciting way for your child to eliminate any stressors that come with entering a new classroom. Have fun shopping by following the list, but also allow for a few fun items if you are able, like a unique notebook or set of colored pens. Make it a fun experience for your child.

Get acquainted: For kids, one of the biggest back-to-school stressors is fear of whether they will like their teacher. Another is being late or not knowing where to go. To help alleviate stress, take advantage of back-to-school night or set an appointment to meet your child's teachers. Find the different classrooms, or if your child is in middle or high school, walk through their class schedule room by room. Some of our kids maybe in a different "level" according to their IEP. For example, if your child is in a level C setting, ask to have a tour in the sped room.

Encourage involvement: Encourage your child to participate in structured after-school routines and programs such as sports, scouts, music, and dance. Activities like this will provide them an opportunity to meet other kids with similar interests and gain self-confidence by developing skills and talents. If sports or music isn't something your child would be involved in, try something that that they can still be active in the community; a volunteer opportunity, a social club or just simply being with peers and friends.

Connect with friends (and their parents): Whether your child has the same friends year after year, or is making many new ones, make an effort to get to know them and their parents. It's a great way to gain insight as to whether they'll remain safe when you're not around. Discuss ways to handle peer pressure should your child encounter an uncomfortable situation. It's important our kids stay connected and are able to be with their peers.

Set limits: The new school year is a great time to remind your child of your household rules, expectations, and consequences for school, friends, and/or risky behaviors. Discuss phone limits, social media expectations and how to be responsible with electronics at school, as many of our kids get personal learning devices sent home.

Stay engaged: The support you provide in your child's life is crucial to keeping them safe and confident. Participate in school events, support your child in their extracurricular activities, or simply sit down with them while they're doing homework. This engagement can make a big impact in their overall well-being and knowing you are active with their teachers will help you know how things are going at school. Many of our students have communication books, logs, or other forms of communication sent back and forth. Request this so you can ensure they are having "good days" and are not struggling in the classroom.

Educate yourself: Educate yourself about the signs and symptoms of substance use or mental health concerns. To learn more read, "*What are the laws in ND? and Is My Son/Daughter Using?*"

Keep talking: No matter how hard it might be to get the details, keep talking to your child about school, friends, and activities. Keep asking questions, listen without judgement, and provide information along the way. This consistency is key to ensuring your child knows you love and support them no matter what.

Visit www.parentslead.org for more information on supporting your child's behavioral health. Parents Lead, a North Dakota program administered by the Department of Human Services' Behavioral Health Division, provides parents and caregivers a variety of tools and resources to support them in creating a safe environment for their children that promotes behavioral health. C O N T A C T : Sara Kapp | 701-328-4763 skapp@nd.gov for more information.

There's an APP for THAT!



SPEECH BLURBS

For children who need help speaking, Speech Blurbs is a speech-therapist-approved app that gives them practice with first sounds, words, and sentences to improve their skills and confidence. It can be used by any child who needs assistance but was initially developed with children with Down syndrome, articulation issues, or with Autism Spectrum Disorder in mind. It consistently ranks as one of the best apps for special education.



CHOICEWORKS

The Choiceworks app is an essential learning tool that helps children complete daily routines (morning, day, & night), understand & manage feelings and improve waiting skills (taking turns and not interrupting). Choiceworks is designed for caregivers to provide clear and consistent support to foster a child's independence, positive behavior, and emotional regulation at home and in the community. It can also be customized for teachers in a school setting.

You can purchase Speech Blubs: Language Therapy in the Apple and Google Play stores for a monthly fee and Choiceworks in the Apple Store for iPhone and iPad for \$22.99. Both offers In-App Purchases.



Our Mission:

Family Voices of North Dakota (FVND) aims to achieve family-centered care for all children and youth with special health care needs and/or disabilities. Through our national network, Family Voices provides families tools to make informed decisions, advocates for improved public and private policies, builds partnerships among professionals and families and serves as a trusted resource on health care.

Our Vision:

Every child and youth with special needs receives family-centered care.

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THANK YOU!!

To our Board Members

"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."

- William James

North Dakota Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program

Launched in 2018, the Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Programs are supporting behavioral health integration in primary care through new and expanding telehealth access programs – including screening, providing clinical behavioral health consultation, care coordination support, and training – with a focus on rural and underserved areas.

The North Dakota Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program (PMHCA) strives to increase the capacity of primary care providers to assess and provide treatment to children and adolescents who have behavioral/mental health conditions by linking them to child and adolescent psychiatry providers and other behavioral health professionals.



North Dakota PMHCA Goals:

- ◆ Increase telehealth behavioral health services to children and adolescents in underserved areas of the state
- ◆ Extend knowledge to and capacity of pediatric primary care professionals across the state for the early identification, diagnosis, treatment, and referral of mental health disorders
- ◆ Include direct school-based delivery of telehealth services due to the shortage of healthcare providers and to provide care closer to the child's home

There are many service options within the PMHCA programs which include;

Peer Consultation: Collaborating child and adolescent psychiatrists are available for various behavioral health questions, including screening and diagnosis, medication management, and treatment planning.

Care Coordination: Family Voices is our partnering agency providing care coordination for consultations and referrals to behavioral health providers in the patient's home community or by telehealth. Family Voices care coordination offers a host of services connecting youth and their families to many needed services throughout the state.

Training & Educational Opportunities: Project ECHO aims to increase workforce capacity by sharing knowledge. Project ECHO does not provide direct patient care. It does, however, provide healthcare professionals in the primary care section with expertise and support to care for their patients' complex behavioral healthcare needs. It also increases access to behavioral healthcare in or near the patient's home community.

Annual Symposia: This event will share information relevant to integrated behavioral healthcare and pediatric mental health needs.

Direct Client Consultation: (This service is only available to enrolled providers.)

Direct client consultation for patients and families needing diagnostic clarification or treatment recommendations. This service is only performed as a one-time consultation for the patient, who then continues treatment with the primary care provider. In order to have a direct client consultation, the primary care provider needs to first complete a peer-to-peer consultation with a child adolescent psychiatrist on the PMHCA team. This helps ensure the referred is necessary and coordinates record requests to aid in a complete review and comprehensive psychiatric consultation.

Partners: The North Dakota PMHCA program was created in partnership between the North Dakota Department of Health and Sanford Research North. Services provided within the program are by collaborative agreements between the Sanford Behavioral Health Department, Family Voices of ND, and the Heartview Foundation.

© Copyright North Dakota Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program

For more information about the NDPMHCA visit: <https://ndpmhca.org/our-services/> or call: (888) 522-9654

North Dakota Brain Injury Network offers info on Juvenile Brain Injuries

Did you know the North Dakota Brain Injury Network (NDBIN) offers a variety of information on juvenile brain injuries? If you are not familiar with NDBIN, we are the resource center for brain injury for the state of North Dakota. Brain injury is the leading cause of death and disability amongst children and teens. At NDBIN we offer brain injury screenings, symptom inventories along with tip sheets with ideas to implement in your day to day life to help alleviate symptoms.

A brain injury is often called a silent epidemic because many of the problems that result from a brain injury are not always readily apparent and frequently not identified. NDBIN really wants the general public to understand that Traumatic Brain Injury's (TBIs) at the doctor's office are typically assessed by LOC or loss of consciousness. Children are less likely to lose consciousness during an event so they should still be evaluated even if they did not lose consciousness. Another thing we like people to be aware of is if an injury occurs before the age of 15 that individual has a much higher likelihood of needing behavioral health type interventions. Many that sustain injury younger in life end up in the criminal justice system, utilizing substance abuse programs and becoming homeless. A child often "appears" fine for several years following an injury but once they hit an age where more of their executive functioning skills come in to play, typically middle school-early high school. This is when we tend to see a gap between them and their peers. We like to say "time reveals rather than heals."

We take referrals from anyone involved with the student-parent, school staff, self referrals, doctor referrals, etc. Our referral form is available on our website at: <https://www.ndbin.org/assets/3016-16584/referral-form.pdf>. Something unique about NDBIN is that we offer individualized support. So, if a child is struggling at home or school, we can become involved and assist with the school team and home support system to see what can be done from a brain injury perspective. Most of all, our resource facilitators listen. They will listen to your unique story and help identify services and supports.

There are many brain injury support groups throughout North Dakota. Each group has developed its own unique style based on the needs and interests of its participants. Support groups provide the opportunity to:

1. Gather information and news
2. Share common needs and strengths
3. Express any type of view without being judged
4. Socialize with people who have common experiences
5. Meet new friends and find new connections in the community
6. Find courage and take risks in a safe place

It is important to remember that many survivors lead full, independent lives following their injuries they often just need some compensatory strategies/ accommodations and a good support network to make that happen. NDBIN is happy to help you navigate this process. Contact us today! All of our services are FREE!

How to Connect:

1. Survivors can sign up through the NDBIN referral form or contact NDBIN for more information.
2. An experienced survivor and Nickie Livedalen, NDBIN's resource facilitator, will make monthly calls to the new survivor. You can call Nickie at 1-855-866-1884 to get connected or visit the web page: www.ndbin.org
3. The new survivor receives support, resources, and education to aid in their successful recovery.

*Article submitted by: Carly Endres, MS, CBIST
Senior Project Coordinator, North Dakota Brain Injury Network
Center for Rural Health, University of North Dakota
School of Medicine & Health Sciences*



Parent Leadership Institute slated for October

Through grant funding from the North Dakota Department of Health, Title V Special Health Services and the Department of Human Services Children and Family Division, the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and personal donations, Family Voices of North Dakota is able to offer their Parent Leadership Institute and we are inviting you to attend! This will be the 15th year this has been offered.

Is this for you? YES—WHY!? Because as families, we need to be able to first speak on behalf of our own children, and second because there are many issues we as families face on behalf of our children. The Parent Leadership Institute will bring together 25 to 30 family members of individuals with chronic health conditions, developmental disabilities and medically complex children from across the state of North Dakota for a weekend retreat.

The purpose of the Parent Leadership Institute is to provide family members with the tools to expand their grass-roots advocacy efforts through coalition building and mentoring activities.

Learning Objectives:

1. State leadership --increase capacity and knowledge for family leaders regarding health policy in order to strengthen partnerships and policy development.
2. Individual families - increase awareness and understanding of impact of health issues and services for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and disabilities.
3. Promote and support family/professional partnerships.
4. Increase the families' ability to navigate the complex service system and access needed services.
5. Provide families with access to information and the opportunities for training.
6. Provide skills necessary for family support and leadership development by bringing together community resources based upon identified family needs.

This year's Parent Leadership Institute is planned for **October 7-9 and is held in Edgeley, ND**. It will start at 12p on the 7th and end at noon on the 9th to allow time for participants to travel home. All applicants must commit to the full weekend in order to be selected for the Institute. Applicants will receive recognition of graduating from the Parent Leadership Institute, and the cost of motel, food and travel will be covered for the two day retreat! Upon completion, you will join at least 350 other families who have attended over the years. *We are not able to offer childcare at this time.* Watch for the registration soon through our list serv or contact Donene Feist: donene@fvnd.org for more information.

A Donation from our Friends at ABATE

ABATE (American Bikers Aimed Toward Education) is a motorcycle rights organization that brings attention to issues affecting riders. Members are involved in safety training and charity work. Our friends at ABATE of ND (District 5) held it's 5th Annual Autism Awareness Ride in July. They were able to donate more than \$1600 to Family Voices! We are grateful and humbled that we received this special gift. This donation will assist Family Voices with helping a family who may have just received an Autism diagnosis, connecting families with another family who has a child with autism and linking families to those much needed services in our state. Marg is a joy to work and we appreciate our continued partnership!

THANK YOU for your generous donation!



Moving from Power & Control to Collaboration & Problem Solving

The North Dakota Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program Presents: Dr. Ross Greene, Ph.D., the originator of the paradigm shifting, evidence-based intervention model called Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (CPS) and the bestselling author of the influential books *The Explosive Child*, *Lost at School*, *Lost & Found*, and *Raising Human Beings*. He is the founding director of the nonprofit *Lives in the Balance* (www.livesinthebalance.org), which provides a vast array of web-based resources on the CPS model. Dr. Greene is also an adjunct professor who lectures and consults widely throughout the world. With *Collaborative & Proactive Solutions: Moving from Power & Control to Collaboration & Problem Solving*.



This is a FREE Virtual two-day training with continuing education. The event will be held on August 18 and 19, 2022 from 8:30 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.

Don't miss this thought-provoking event intended for educators, parents, primary care providers and clinicians of all levels. Discover how the Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (CPS) model of care has transformed thinking and practices in countless families, schools, inpatient psychiatry units, and residential and juvenile detention facilities, resulting in dramatic reductions in adult-child conflict, concerning behaviors, disciplinary referrals, detentions, suspensions, restraints, and seclusions.



Visit ndpmhca.org
or scan the QR
code now to
register for this
free event.



North Dakota Guardianship

Guardianship is the legal process when a person can no longer make or communicate safe or sound decisions about themselves. The question of guardianship is an important topic with your family, your support team or anyone else you choose to involve. The decision should be based on what is important to you. Your goals, wants and needs are at the center of the decision. When choosing how you want to make decisions about your life, there is no one size that fits all approach. It is the intent of the legislature to protect the liberty and autonomy of all people of this state, and to enable them to exercise their rights under the law to the maximum extent, consistent with the capacity of each person. It is the intent of the legislature to protect the liberty and autonomy of all people of this state, and to enable them to exercise their rights under the law to the maximum extent, consistent with the capacity of each person.

The Appointment of a Guardian is done by a Court Order after a hearing. The hearing is to determine whether the individual lacks the ability to make responsible decisions concerning legal affairs, medical treatments, financial affairs, housing, and/or also concerning their safety or health. Courts will always look at the least restrictive for that individual.

There are many processes and alternatives to the guardianship process as well. If you are a youth wanting to know more about your choices and/or if you are a family member with questions, please contact Family Voices and we can provide you with more resources regarding this important topic! Please call **888-522-9654** for your FREE resource guide today!



Trunk or Treat is Back!

Join us once again for Trunk or Treat across the state!! Family Voices is very excited to be bringing back this fun, fall event! KIDS of ALL Abilities are welcome, along with their families and friends! Businesses, organizations, families, and individuals are invited to have a trunk at the event.

Please see the following event details for a Trunk or Treat in your area!

Spooktacular Halloween Town

Bismarck; Old Sears Building; Gateway Mall

Saturday October 22, 2022; 12pm-5:00pm

Contact Rita for more info: rita@fvnd.org

Trunk or Treat

Fargo; Dakota Medical Foundation Parking Lot

Sunday, October 23, 2022; 1pm-3:00pm

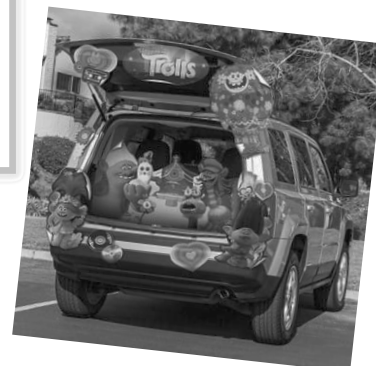
Contact Tonya for more info: tonya@fvnd.org

Trunk or Treat

Grand Forks; Alerus Center Parking Lot

Sunday, October 23, 2022; 1pm-3:00pm

Contact Joan for more info: joan@fvnd.org



Busy in Bismarck

Hello from Bismarck! This is Vicki Peterson, Family Consultant in Bismarck-Minot regional area. It was a long school year with many meetings attended and summer gives most of us a little break! In the Bismarck-Mandan area we are planning a Back-to School event later this summer along with the return of Family Voices Halloween event!

For this article, I would like to give focus and shout out to such a brave and sweet little girl named Kenadi. She has Shaken Baby Syndrome and was honored in June as a Home Run Hero for Life at a Larks Baseball game! It was such a great night of celebration for Kenadi, her family and friends. Kenadi faces many challenges including hydrocephalus, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, cortical visual impairments and other complications. Kenadi is just 5-years old and has had 13 major brain surgeries amongst many other procedures. This was one of the best nights as I watched Kenadi enjoy herself and everyone around her. I have been very lucky to support Kenadi and her family— all who are brave heroes! Kenadi—this shout out is to you and your family, and all of us at Family Voices who love you so much. Continue to be BRAVE! ♥



Greater Grand Forks

Hello from Grand Forks! We were fortunate to have the 2022 Regional Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) conference in Grand Forks July 21 and 22nd at the Alerus Conference Center. Do you know that Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are common disorders, and 1 of every 20 school aged children have an FASD. The disorder is expensive for families and service providers. The focus of the conference is to help people with FASD, their families and service providers to improve understanding of FASD and to help develop individualized services for people who are impacted by FASD. Speakers discussed diagnosis, service needs and prevention strategies for FASD. Multiple service providers attended to discussion needs, strategies to obtain services and methods to meet the individual needs of people with FASD and their care providers. It was so enjoyable to attend in person and visit with so many wonderful parents and providers.



If you are need of assistance in the Grand Forks and surrounding area, please contact Joan Karpenko at joan@fvnd.org or 701-330-8641.

Dedicated in Dickinson

Hello from out West! Friendship Park is under construction! Ground work began in July and the build is expected to finish early winter of 2022, or early spring of 2023 at the latest. Friendship Park is an inclusive playground being built in Dickinson to provide a play space that welcomes everyone and provides adaptive equipment to meet the needs of kids who use wheels, kids with hearing or vision impairment, kids with sensory needs, and other disabilities.

If you would like to help support the new park, The Friendship Park committee is selling T-shirt's for \$20 if anyone is interested or would like to make a donation— Contact Sarah at 515-450-7378 or at sarah@fvnd.org for more information.



Fun in Fargo

Did you know that 1 in 5 children has a special health care need or disability? Care coordination is a core element of efforts to strengthen systems of care and improve health outcomes for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN). Family-centered care coordination is designed to facilitate the provision of services to address the multi-faceted, interrelated needs of CYSHCN and children with medical complexity. State health officials are exploring innovative approaches to improve health care delivery systems for pediatric populations.

Would you like to learn more about Care Coordination and how you can use this model/system in your own home with your child? Would you like your child's care team and doctors on the same page, without having to tell your "story" each doctor's visit? Are you familiar with what a medical home is? Family Voices is offering two ways to get this important information! One is an in-person, informative session where caregivers, parents, etc. will learn in a team building atmosphere with each other and the second option will be a more simplified version online. The materials will be the same, but the format is slightly different due to the interactive nature in person with others verses the online delivery. For more information, email Tonya at tonya@fvnd.org and stay tuned for these upcoming dates this fall!

Donene Feist, Director

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Web: www.fvnd.org

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Find us on the Web!
<http://fvnd.org>

"Supporting Families having children with special health care needs and disabilities and the providers who provide care for them"

You can donate via snail mail too!

You could help us by assisting in workshops, writing articles, being a support parent and much more! You can provide a donation by making a contribution to FVND which will assist with workshops, matching parents for emotional support, regional parent navigator teams family events and so much more!

To be used where needed Endowment Events
 In honor/memory of _____
 Living Tribute for _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible to FVND

Donation of: \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$10 \$5

Please fill out this form, cut out and mail to:

Family Voices of North Dakota | PO Box 163 | Edgeley, ND 58433

We Want to Thank Our Professional Partners

This newsletter is funded in part by the ND Department of Health, Special Health Services, ND Dept. of Public Instruction, North Dakota Dept. of Human Services, and the Maternal and Child Health Bureau 1H84MC07992-01-00