



FAMILY TO FAMILY
Connecting Families in Community

Family Resources Available

*“Because few things are stronger or more supportive than **FAMILY to FAMILY.**”*

Indiana Family to Family (INF2F) is devoted to linking families to people, information, and resources within their own communities. INF2F brings together parents of young children with disabilities, developmental delays or special health care needs so that they can share their knowledge, concerns, and experiences with each other. INF2F provides a variety of initiatives to accommodate the diverse needs of families!



The INF2F website houses information, resources and links to all F2F services. Visit our website at www.inf2f.org and listen to a podcast about F2F resources and the role of parent liaisons, access free online training modules and the online newsletter *First Words*, join the F2F listserv, or read the guidelines for the Family Involvement Fund and apply online.

INF2F provides families with two ways to connect with one another. Parents on *Yahoo! Groups* @ is an online community of families who exchange information, resources, and family to family support and encouragement. A second way for families to connect is to check us out on *Facebook*. Visit the website to sign up!



Our First Words Online Newsletter contains information for parents, including upcoming trainings, new resources, and articles and is published bi-monthly.

- Read *First Words* online at the INF2F website
- Subscribe to *First Words* and receive your copy via email

Parent Liaisons and Parent Mentors are trained, experienced parents of children with special needs who can offer peer support for First Steps families raising children, birth to three, with special needs. They can share materials and information on a variety of topics of interest to families. Parent liaisons and parent mentors are available in all First Steps Clusters. For more information contact About Special Kids at familynetw@abouthepecialkids.org or 1-800-964-4746.



The INF2F Training Series consists of free interactive webinars, low-cost CDs, and free online training modules housed on the INF2F website. Check our website for upcoming webinars for 2010! There are currently 10 training sessions available online 24/7:



- Introduction to Special Education •Locating Resources •Medicaid Waivers
- Strengthening Relationships •Building Skills • Behavior/Communication •Advocacy
- Transition •Futures Planning •Support Groups

The Family Involvement Fund (FIF) provides financial reimbursement for eligible families of children with disabilities, ages birth through five, to attend approved events, participate on local councils and purchase materials to help them learn more about their child’s disability and the systems that provide services. Find the guidelines and apply online from the INF2F website.



If you have questions about any of the resources provided by the Indiana Family to Family project, please contact Cathy Beard, Family Support Specialist, at the Early Childhood Center. You may reach Cathy at 1-800-825-4733 or email beardc@indiana.edu.

Indiana Family to Family (INF2F) is a project of the Early Childhood Center, Indiana Institute on Disability and Community (IIDC), Indiana University-Bloomington. Parent Liaisons and Parent Mentors are provided through a subcontract with About Special Kids (ASK). INF2F is an initiative of the Unified Training System (UTS), a statewide coordination of training and resources for parents and professionals serving young children with special needs. First Steps, Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services, Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) fund the Indiana Family to Family project.



Your local Parent Liaison contact is: