

UIC-Specialized Care for Children's **Family Advisory Council** is *Looking for New Members!*



We're here to help!

Since 1937, **Specialized Care for Children** has been helping Illinois children with special needs reach their full potential. We are proudly part of the **University of Illinois at Chicago** (UIC), an essential piece of the University's health care and public outreach mission. As a division of UIC, we have unique access to resources and research to assist Illinois families and children with special health care needs. Check out our website at: dscc.uic.edu

We want to hear from you!

We believe a big part of meeting the needs of children is meeting the needs of their families and caregivers. That's why the care we coordinate is **family-centered** — we focus on partnering with you, listening to your needs and preferences, and then tailoring a care coordination plan for how we can best help you and your family move forward with confidence.

Your voice is important to us!

Parents are experts on what works. Our families want to promote greater awareness about children with special health care needs, and connect with other families who share their challenges. To meet that need, Specialized Care for Children established the **Family Advisory Council** (FAC) in 1999. The FAC provides a way to include families' perspectives in our decision-making process.



FAC members feel their advisory role helps change peoples' attitudes about children with special health care needs. Now YOU can help, too, by offering your unique insights about Specialized Care for Children's services. As an FAC member, your input can make a difference, and broaden your own outlook and connections.

FAC member, **Gordon Jones**, says,

"We get a chance to talk and bounce issues off each other. We have seen FAC suggestions taken and implemented."

Come join us!

As partners in the decision-making process, FAC members from across the state provide ongoing and diverse family perspectives into the planning, implementation and evaluation of our care coordination activities.

- The FAC consists of at least one family member per regional office (12 offices statewide)
- FAC members attend three meetings each year (usually in July, November, and March) at the Springfield Central Office (or via conference call) from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Members are reimbursed \$100 for participating in each meeting, whether in-person or by conference call. In addition, mileage is reimbursed for those members who travel to the meetings.

If you're interested, or you know of someone who would be a good candidate for becoming a Family Advisory Council member, please call us at **1-800-322-3722**, or e-mail our Family Liaison, **Bob Cook**, at rjcook@exchange.dscc.uic.edu.