



Changing Lives by Making Connections, Raising Awareness, and Promoting Inclusion



Making **Connections**

Parent-to-parent support is the heart of Family Connection of South Carolina. Each year, we connect hundreds of families in our state to “mentor parents” who have had similar, shared experiences.

“ My Family Connection support parent has helped me through the toughest year of my life by offering support, hope and encouragement. ”

Raising **Awareness**

Family Connection of South Carolina offers programs and services to ensure that parents, professionals, and caregivers have access to available resources to help their children reach their full potential. Community events are held statewide to raise awareness of the strength and determination of our children and to help others see that they are living rich, full lives.



Promoting **Inclusion**

We believe all children deserve appropriate accommodation and support to meet their individual needs. We help promote inclusion practices and culture in settings from early childhood to classroom to early adult life. We also focus on ensuring that parents and those with disabilities or special healthcare needs have the information and support needed to effectively advocate for themselves.

One Stop for Families

Family Connection staff are trained to help parents of children with disabilities or special health care needs navigate each stage of their child’s journey and chart a course for success.

State Office: 1800 Saint Julian Place, Suite 104, Columbia SC 29204

Phone: 1.800.578.8750 Para Español: 1.888.808.7462 www.FamilyConnectionSC.org Info@familyconnections.org



Our work focuses on **five key areas:**

Family Support:

One-on-one support for parents and caregivers of children with disabilities by trained parent navigators.

Healthcare:

Assistance from a staff expert for families and professionals who are navigating health care systems, such as Medicaid, TEFRA, appeals and managed care information.

Education:

One-on-one training and consultation to help families navigate the special education system, empower parents to effectively problem-solve, and connect families to community resources that address their needs.

Training:

Learning opportunities for family members, professionals, and self-advocates throughout the state.

Advocacy:

Empower parents to be advocates for their child and teach children to be self-advocates.

Call our **Family Information Center**

Our Family Information Center serves as the central point of intake for Family Connection and **allows our team to connect you with the best resources.** The FIC is staffed Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., by professionals, the majority of whom are parents themselves.

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