

Resources

Family Involvement Project

1-888-604-2677 ext. 3

www.arcfip.org

The Arc of Virginia

804-649-8481

www.arcofva.org

The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia

1-804-786-3710

www.infantva.org

The Arc of
Virginia

Family Involvement Project



Parents Need
Providers,

Providers Need
Parents,

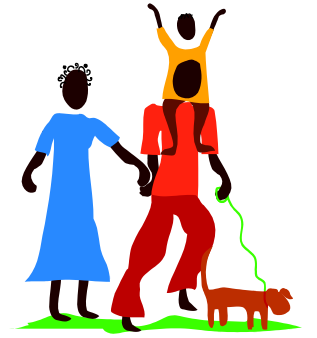
The Children Need
Us All

Family Involvement Project

The Family Involvement Project's purpose is to provide ongoing training and technical assistance to local councils, families and providers on strategies to enhance family involvement, as well as share families' perspectives on service delivery strategies in Virginia's early intervention system.

The Family Involvement Project currently focuses on four areas of Virginia's early intervention system. These areas are:

1. Strengthening and increasing diverse family involvement with the 40 local interagency coordinating councils;
2. Working to collaborate with and represent family interests, issues, perspectives and concerns.
3. Ensuring Parent To Parent support is available to all families receiving services from The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia; and
4. Working with The Infant & Toddler Connection's Monitoring and Improvement Measurement System (MIMS).



If you would like to learn more please call 1-888-604-2677 ext 3 or e-mail us at information@arcfip.org. Together we can make a good thing, The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia, better!

Encouraging Parent Involvement and Family Representation

In an effort to strengthen and increase family involvement in Virginia's early intervention system, Virginia's lead agency funds the Family Involvement Project, which is housed at the Arc of Virginia.

Project staff works to collaborate with and represent family interests issues, perspectives and concerns to the Early Inter-agency Management Team, Virginia Inter-agency Coordinating Council and other work groups.

The Family Involvement Project staff encourages and facilitates participation of families on the local level by encouraging councils to identify a Local Parent Representative. These parents are "resource parents" to families receiving services in their community. **If you are interested in becoming a Local Parent Representative please call us at 1-888-604-2677 ext 3.**

Monitoring and Improvement Measurement System

To ensure that local early intervention services are in compliance with State and Federal requirements, families and providers worked together to develop the Monitoring and Improvement Measurement System. Parents can be involved with this process either in their own locality or at the state level.

Families can be active members of their local system review teams, they can be active members of the MIMS State Review Teams, or they can agree to be interviewed by the State Review Team during local site visits.

Family Involvement Project staff work with the Part C MIMS Consultants to ensure that families are involved throughout the monitoring process. **To find out more about the MIMS process in your locality contact your local council coordinator or contact us at 1-888-604-2677 ext 3.**



Parent-to-Parent Matching Program

All of the Family Involvement Project staff are parents of children who either have received or are receiving early intervention services in Virginia. We are all aware of the importance of being able to connect with another parent in a similar situation. The Parent to Parent program has been developed to meet these needs.

When parents feel they have adjusted well to their own child's special needs, and have the capacity and willingness to help others by sharing their feelings and experiences, they can be trained to be parent partners. A parent partner is trained by the Family Involvement Project staff to be matched with a family who is entering the early intervention system. The trained parent partner is then asked to make phone contact with the new family and offer their support and advice.

If you are interested in participating in The Family Involvement Project Parent To Parent program either to become a trained Parent Partner or to be matched with a Parent Partner, please call 1-888-604-2677 ext. 5

Contact Us!

1-888-604-2677 ext. 3

The Call is Free

The Arc of Virginia

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Infant & Toddler
Connection of Virginia