The Association for Special Children and Families

Is a 37 year old not-for profit family support organization of parents who have children with disabilities.
Our Purpose

- Is to help children with disabilities develop to their full potential, to inform, educate and support parents in achieving this, to educate the general public about the disabilities, and to communicate with legislative bodies to protect their rights.
Our Mission

- Is to empower and support families to raise all their children to reach their full potential.
Our Vision

- Is that all individuals, those with and without disabilities, are included in their communities to the greatest degree possible.
We Encourage

- Families of special children, professionals and paraprofessionals, agencies, neighbors and friends to join us to make this vision a reality.
Our Services

Emotional Support
Trainings
Advocacy
Parent Leadership
Family to Family Support
Community Education
Information and Referral
Children's Programs
Funded by

- OSEP (Office of Special Education Programs, US Department of Education)
- Private donations
- Fundraising activities
Highlands Community Advisory Council

Community Collaborations

Partnerships with agencies with a shared vision of serving children and families

For more information contact us
Communities Served

- Bloomingdale
- Clifton
- Hamburg
- Jefferson
- Little Falls
- Pompton Lakes
- Ringwood
- Totowa
- Vernon
- Wanaque
- Wayne
- West Milford
Annual Activities Report Facts

The Numbers

What our small staff of 1 fulltime and 4 part time dedicated individuals were able to accomplish in 2014.

We handled over 1300 phone and email contacts with families and professionals.

We trained 275 families and professionals at our workshops.

We gave individualized intensive supports to 15 parents.

We provided advocacy support with IEP meetings to 70 parents.

35 parents attended our parenting programs.

60 parents participated in our advocacy skill building trainings.

160 family members attended one of our 5 support groups.

There were over 3,000 readers to our newsletters.

We distributed nearly 250 packets of information.

There were 7500 visits to our website.

More Numbers

70 youngsters had fun at our recreational activities.

15 youngsters improved their academics at Boost.

24 toddlers attended HELPS and became prepared for preschool.

12 preschoolers became buddies at Computer Buddies.

More parent comments:
“I feel more confident in speaking to my child study team.”

“My case manager commented on how prepared I was. It made the meeting more productive.”

Assessing Our Impact

In follow-up surveys

95% of families said the information they received was useful and provided them with relevant information to make decisions about their child’s education.
Mental Health Awareness Walk
KIDS CLUB - PARENT TRAININGS

Some Examples:

- Basic Rights in Special Education
- Parent Professional Collaboration
- Binder Preparation Training
- Developing an IEP for Achievement

Other parent trainings available based on parent requests!!!
PARENT TRAININGS

INCLUSION
- The opportunity for all children regardless of disability, to be included, accepted and valued:
  - In age-appropriate settings
  - In their community
  - In natural proportions with their non-disabled peers
  - With all necessary supports and services

What is a IEP Team?

The bottom line…..
Parental passion can help you sometimes it can overtake you.

YOU ARE ONLY HUMAN…. & IT CAN HAPPEN TO THE BEST OF US !!!
Community Fairs

We participate in community fairs and outreach activities with other agencies,
Support Groups

Getting Started

- Your parental role is unique.
- NO ONE can know and love your child in the way that YOU do.
- YOU ARE THE EXPERT when it comes to your child.

Strategies

- Listen
- Pay attention
- Be available
- Explain
- Provide other outlets
- Admit mistakes
- Don’t overreact

“Seek first to understand, then to be understood.”

Stephen Covey, “Habit 5”
Seven Habits of Highly Effective People
Kids Club
Day at Camp Hope
Kids Club

Day at Camp Hope
Kids Club
Horse Back Riding
Kids Club
Horse Back Riding
Kids Club - K-9 Unit Visit
ASCF Family Picnic
Helping Early Learning and Play Skills (HELPS) for toddler with special needs
FAMILY NEEDS SURVEY

We want to hear from you.....
Please complete our survey by going to our website www.ascfamily.org
Thanks for taking the time to learn about us.

Hope to talk to you, or see you soon.