



**Families Helping Families
of Southwest Louisiana**
324 West Hale Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601
(337) 436-2570 1-800-894-6558
Fax: (337) 436-2578
Email: info@fhfswla.org
Website: www.fhfswla.org

Let us be your “one-stop shop” for all things disability related
Serving individuals with any type of disability, any age, and their families

Information and Referral

IMCAL Developmental Disabilities Support and Information

Our Support and Information Coordinator is funded by the Developmental Disabilities Division of Imperial Calcasieu Human Services Authority to assist families to find and receive appropriate services and support in their community and facilitate the Family Empowerment Forum each year.

Information and Referral

FHF Staff provides information & referral services related to disability issues. Our quarterly email newsletter and a resource list are available online and can be printed upon request. Information on special education, disability topics, disability resources are provided in person, by phone, text, messenger, online through our website, webinars, and social media.

Individual Coaching & Peer Support

All program staff either have a child with a disability or have a disability themselves and/or some of us fit both of those criteria. Because we have unique experiences accessing services and specific training, we provide individual peer support and coaching to parents and people with disabilities.

Education and Training

Louisiana Department of Education Contract

Education Support Specialists are available to work with families of students with special education needs in the supported parishes of Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, and Cameron. They provide information, education, and support to parents of students with disabilities by answering questions, providing training and individual case conferences.

LaCAN – Louisiana Council’s Advocacy Network

LaCAN, an initiative of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council, advocates for service systems that support children and adults with disabilities to live in their own community and be fully included and participating members of their local schools and communities. LaCAN Leaders provide information and support to individuals wishing to effectively advocate for systems change in the areas of home and community-based services, education, and employment.

Peer Support

Early Steps - Community Outreach Specialist

Our Community Outreach Specialist (COS) offers parent support and community awareness and outreach for the Early Steps program. The COS is a parent of a child with a disability that has been specifically trained. The COS offers parent support and provides information and referral.

Bureau of Family Health Project - Community Resource Specialist

Our BFH Community Resource Specialist works with Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and their families to provide information, resources, and support.

Next Chapter Book Club

Next Chapter Book Club provides people with disabilities regardless of their reading skills the opportunity to read and learn to read, talk about books, and make friends in a fun, community setting.

FHF SWLA is celebrating 31 YEARS of service to individuals with disabilities and their families - 1992 - 2023

Our community includes Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron and Jefferson Davis parishes

FHF SWLA is funded by contracts, grants, fundraisers, tax deductible donations, contributions from civic/community organizations and businesses. FHF SWLA does not endorse or promote any legislation, institutions, and/or individual methods of treatment or therapy.

All services are free of charge



Our **mission** is to enable and empower individuals with disabilities and their families by providing information, referral, education, training, peer support, and advocacy skills.

Our **vision** is that all individuals with disabilities have the opportunity to attend school, live, work, and play in their own community.

