LACAN
LOUISIANA COUNCIL'S ADVOCACY NETWORK

Families Helping Families

A Lifeline for Louisiana Families

A Statewide Network of Family-Directed Resource Centers
Families Helping Families
Supporting All Disabilities
It's Who We Are. It's What We Do.

LOUISIANA INVESTED. FHF DELIVERED.

WHAT IS FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES?

Families Helping Families (FHF) is a network of nine family-led centers across Louisiana. They help people with all types of disabilities and their families find services and get help.

Most FHF staff have a disability or have a family member with one. They help people with disabilities and their families understand school services, home and community-based services, and ways to get involved in their communities and live more independently.



FHF SUPPORT ACROSS LOUISIANA | FY26

59,557
Information and referral contacts

28,353
Peer-to-peer supports

8,740
People who received training

736
Targeted outreach activities

These numbers show part of FHF's work, not all of it. Outreach includes visits to schools, doctors, hospitals, and service providers.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT FHF

"They don't just hand you a brochure. They walk with you. They show up."

Shaniya Hargrove, Parent, Northeast Louisiana

"They answered questions, explained options, and helped me understand how to advocate not just for my son, but effectively and confidently for other families too."

Mindy Hartzo, Mother of Conner, Northwest Louisiana

"Because of their work, I am able to attend and participate in activities that connect me to my community. … These are my opportunities to meet people, volunteer, learn, and be part of something bigger than myself."

Cierra Theriot, Self-Advocate, Southwest Louisiana

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HOW THE COUNCIL FUNDS FHF

LEGISLATURE

Provides State General Fund dollars to the Council

→

DD COUNCIL

Contracts with all nine regional FHF Centers

→

9 FHF CENTERS

Provide regional disability resource services

The FHF network began more than 30 years ago to help families navigate disability services. Today, the Council contracts with all nine Centers to ensure people across Louisiana have a local place to turn for help.

All of the Council's State General Fund dollars support these Centers. Keeping this funding in place helps families across Louisiana continue to get local support when they need it the most.

LOUISIANA'S INVESTMENT IN FHF

$1,007,517

Current FY27 Council State General Fund funding for all nine FHF Centers.

WHAT COULD A CUT MEAN?

A reduction in Council funding could mean fewer staff hours, fewer visits to rural areas, fewer trainings, longer waits and less one-on-one help for people with disabilities and their families.



WHY STABLE FUNDING MATTERS

Council funding has helped Centers improve technology, expand outreach, make trainings more accessible, and connect people to more services and supports. Keeping this funding in place would help protect these improvements and the services families rely on.

Sources: FY26 Council contract results; FHF regional impact statements; Council FY27 budget figures. Potential effects are estimates.