



Preserve the Louisiana Network of Family-Directed Resources Centers

FY14 Impact of FHF

- **Over 25,000 individuals with disabilities and their family members sought and received help with navigating the disability service system**
- **5,188 referrals provided**
- **5,637 individuals attended 237 trainings on various disability related topics**
- **30,134 instances of peer-to-peer support**
- **FHF Centers are the ONLY “one-stop shops” in Louisiana representing ALL disabilities and disability related issues**

What Legislators Can Do?

Restore funding for Families Helping Families (FHF) Centers so they can continue to provide vital services to individuals with disabilities and their families.

Why Do This?

Every DD Council state dollar goes directly to FHF Centers. The Council's state funds were reduced by **\$170,000 (34% decrease)** during FY09-FY14. The legislature restored this funding during the 2014 Legislative Session for FY15. However, the \$170,000 was cut in the Governor's Executive Budget for FY16.

With these cuts, the FHF Centers have not been able to maintain the same level of service and some are in jeopardy of closing.

FHF Centers are family-directed with a majority of Center staff being parents or family members of children with disabilities or individuals with disabilities. FHF Centers share experience and information from someone “who has been there.”

The information, referral, trainings, and peer support provided by FHF Centers are not replicated by any other organization in the state, leaving families nowhere else to turn, particularly while waiting years for other services.