Partner with us for Kansas families.







We share the same goal. Let's work together.

# **OUR MISSION**

To empower and strengthen families so children can remain in their family homes.

# **OUR WORK**

Special education and accessing disability services can add additional stress to families. Funded by DCF, the Family Advocacy, Support, and Training (FAST) program focuses on supporting families who have a child with an intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD) or a dual diagnosis of I/DD and mental illness.

Through intensive educational support, we help parents understand their role and rights in special education. We attend IEP meetings, and provide peer to peer support. We help families connect to resources in their communities and provide opportunities for family members to connect with one another, reducing the feeling of isolation.

Together we can help Kansas families stay together.

# FAST Family Advocacy, Support, & Training



# **REGIONAL TEAM**

The FAST program employs regional Family Resource Specialists who are familiar with the communities they serve allowing for community partnerships.



# CONNECTIONS

Community partnerships and connections with other families are fostered through FAST, so families know they aren't alone.



# **FUNDING**

The FAST program has funding available to cover additional costs that often come with raising a child with a disability. Funds are used to help cover costs to improve families' ability to care for their children.

Contact:

<u>ShelbyM@familiestogetherinc.org</u> <u>www.FamiliesTogetherInc.org</u>



Q. Does FAST cover my county?

A. FAST is a statewide program that covers all 105 counties in Kansas.

Q. Can a family participate in family preservation services and FAST at the same time?

A. Yes, we can partner with other preservation efforts to keep families together.

Q. How do I refer a family to FAST?

A. Simply complete and submit the electronic referral form, and it will be directed to the appropriate regional staff.

Q. Can a family refuse to participate in FAST?

A. Yes. The family has to agree to accept the assistance of FAST.

Q. Can FAST serve children in foster care who are working toward reintegration?

A. No, FAST is a preservation program with the goal of keeping children with their families.

Q. Can FAST serve adoptive families at risk of re-entering care?

A. Absolutely. We will serve any family that is at risk of out of home placement.

Q. Is FAST available to Spanish speaking families?

A. Yes, our staff is able to provide services in Spanish.

Q. How do I learn more about FAST?

A. Contact us! We are happy to answer your questions, provide materials, or do a presentation for your staff.

Contact: ShelbyM@familiestogetherinc.org www.FamiliesTogetherInc.org



**OUR GOAL** 

We aim to strengthen and empower families.

# **REACH OUT**

If you have concerns about your ability to care for your child's needs, education, and access to community support, you are welcome to contact us. Children must have an intellectual/developmental disability or have a dual diagnosis of I/DD and mental illness to be eligible for FAST.

#### **ABOUT OUR PROGRAM**

emotional support,

help with accessing

community resources,

and funding.

The FAST program is coordinated by Families Together, Inc., the Parent Training and Information (PTI) Center and the Family-to-Family (F2F) Health Information Center for Kansas. Funded by DCF, the FAST program serves families of children birth through 17 who have intellectual/developmental disabilities or a dual diagnosis.



# **Regional Staff**

Our regional team provides family support through person-centered planning, IEP assistance as well as meeting attendance, training, and connecting with other community providers.



#### Connections

Community partnerships and connections with other families are fostered through FAST so you know you aren't alone.



## **Funding**

Our program allows you to apply for funding to cover costs that improve your ability to care for vour child.







### **NUESTRA META**

Aspiramos fortalecer y empoderar las familias. Si tiene dudas sobre su capacidad para atender las necesidades, la educación y el acceso al apoyo comunitario de su hijo, puede comunicarse con nosotros. Los niños necesitan tener una discapacidad intelectual/del desarrollo o tener un diagnóstico dual de I/DD y enfermedad mental para ser elegibles para FAST.

#### **SOBRE NUESTRO PROGRAMA**

emocional y ayuda

para acceder a

recursos comunitarios

y financiamiento

El programa FAST está coordinado por Families Together, Inc., el Centro de Información y Capacitación para Padres (PTI) y el Centro de Información de Salud de Familia a Familia (F2F) de Kansas. Financiado por el DCF, el programa FAST atiende a familias de niños desde el nacimiento hasta los 18 años que tienen discapacidades intelectuales/del desarrollo o un diagnóstico dual.



# Personal Regional



Nuestro equipo regional brinda apoyo familiar a través de planificación centrada en la persona, asistencia IEP y asistencia a reuniones, capacitación y conexión con otros proveedores comunitarios.



#### Conexiones

A través de FAST se fomentan las asociaciones comunitarias y las conexiones con otras familias para que sepa que no está solo.



#### **Financimiento**

Nuestro programa le permite solicitar financiamento para cubrir los costos para mejorar su capacidad de cuidar a su hijo.



# **FAST Referral Form**

Family Advocacy, Support, & Training

### All fields are required



Parent/Guardian First Name MI Parent/Guardian Last Name
 Parent/Guardian Phone Number Parent/Guardian Phone Number
 Family Street Address City Zip
 Parent/Guardian Email Parent/Guardian Email

- 5. Check all boxes that apply to at least one child in the home:
  - a. I/DD diagnosis or dual diagnosis of I/DD and mental illness
  - b. Suspected I/DD or dual diagnosis
  - c. No I/DD waiver services (on waiting list or has not applied)
- 6. Additional information you feel is helpful for us to know about this family.

Submit completed form to Darla Nelson-Metzger at Darla@familiestogetherinc.org