Dear Friends, Sponsors and Supporters,

The past year has been busy and rewarding for the staff and Board of Family Voices of Minnesota.

We are so fortunate to have such a hard working, passionate and dedicated staff located around the state in Mankato, Austin, Wadena, St. Cloud and the Twin Cities.

The past year has included a wonderful series of free monthly webinars for families on topics such as: understanding financing programs; working effectively with providers and supporting siblings of children with disabilities. Our active Facebook site and our monthly electronic newsletter provides on-going information and resources for families and providers.

In May 2018 we were excited to host a day long family conference that provided information such as health care financing, special education, early childhood and inclusion in school.

It is a great privilege for Family Voices of Minnesota to be chosen to partner with the Shapland family to help implement “Mac’s Fund”. In honor of Mac, the Shapland family has established “Mac’s Fund” to provide for unique family needs not funded by other resources and beyond the financial capabilities of the family.

We very much appreciate the partnerships we have with the Minnesota Department of Health, Gillette Children’s Specialty Health Care, the Children’s Hospital Association, PACER Center and National Family Voices.

These partnerships along with your support in the past and in the year ahead allows us to offer families information and support so they are better able to care for their children and families.

Thank you for your support.
Carolyn Allshouse
Executive Director
CONNECTED Parent-to-Parent Peer Support

We Provide Unique Support Not Available Anywhere Else

When you are a parent whose child has unique needs your life is complicated and different from other families you know.

When a Family Contacts the CONNECTED Parent-to-Parent Program They Receive:

- Connection with another parent who has a child with similar needs or experiences
- Information and assistance to get needed services and supports including financial, healthcare, educational and community life
- Emotional support, understanding and acceptance so they do not feel alone
- Encouragement and education so the family feels more confident in speaking up for their child and get needed services
What Does Family Voices and the CONNECTED Program Do?

My role at Family Voices is to assist families often when they are at their lowest and feel like they are on their own. We provide them with resources, support and most importantly hope. Families of kids with special needs often feel alone and we are here to show them they are not alone.

Terri
CONNECTED Parent Support Navigator

- Provides information about partnering with doctors, nurses, therapists and other providers
- Provides information on special education services
- Provides free webinars and workshops for families
- We work to make services and systems better
- Provides information about insurance options and how to access funding for their child’s needs
- Partners with other organizations and agencies
Mac Shapland was a person who faced many physical and developmental challenges, but always kept a positive attitude and was determined to do it his way.

Mac brought joy and laughter into everything he did, helping others see the best in life and the value of all people.

Mac and his family blazed many trails that impacted other families in Minnesota and across the country.

In honor of Mac who passed away this year at the age of 43, the Shapland family has established “Mac’s Fund” to provide for unique family needs not funded by other resources and beyond the financial capabilities of the family.

It is a great privilege for Family Voices of Minnesota to be chosen to partner with the Shapland family to help implement “Mac’s Fund”.

“Mac’s Fund”
Family Voices by the Numbers

Provided support, information and training to families through more than 1,362 individual family connections

Assistance and training to over 532 professionals

4,200 educational materials disseminated to families and professionals

170 Volunteers

Provided 62 trainings for families and professionals

- 60% of families we serve are considered low income
- 76% of the children have multiple diagnoses

The families we serve live in urban, rural, small towns and suburban communities across Minnesota
Financials
October 2017 Through September 2018

Total Income
- Parent-to-Parent and Individual Assistance Program Related
- Fundraising

Total Expenses
- Parent-to-Parent and Individual Assistance Program Related
- General
- Fundraising
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE WORK OF FAMILY VOICES OF MINNESOTA THROUGH YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS *

OVER $1,500

**Individual Donors**
- Susan Wingert and Jan Mattson
- David Griffin and Margie Hogan
- Ed and Ceci Shapland

**Business Donors**
- Pediatric Home Service
- Gillette Children’s Specialty Healthcare

$1000 to $1499

- Alfredo and Nanette Beltran
- Spencer Kubo and Adele Torre
- Family Fund
- Gary DeGrande and Mary Boss
- Tricia Brisbine and Andy Phillips

$500-$999

- Brooks Donald and Karen Mackenzie
- Jane Taylor and Carl Haugen
- John Hurley
- Bob and Gail Buuck
- Mike and Jenelle Luxem
- Jim and Maryam Shapland
- Teresa and Steve Berge
- Deb Swackhamer & David DeVault
- Health Partners

$200-$499

- Jane Fethers
- Jane Hogan and Paul Johnson
- Cathy and William Dessert
- Jay and Bonnie Bellows
- Keith Leland

Thank you for being our super heroes!
$100 - $199
Brandon Doyle
Brian Gustafson
Candace Vegter
Cathy Urbain
Cliff and Jan Alferness
Erin and Jay Jurkovich
Linda Lindeke
Gala King and Dang Nguyen
Gary and Diane Goolsbee
Michelle and Nathan Kolb
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Nancy Weirens
Nikki Aliota
Sondra Schroeder
Patricia Lehman
Jane Prest
Kelly Korpela
Jessica Randall
Stephanie Metzler
Laura Cayere-King
Benjamin Odden
Charles Lobeck
Barb Haynes
Cameo Zhender

* September 2017 through September 2018
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE WORK OF FAMILY VOICES OF MINNESOTA THROUGH YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

$50-$99

Amy Olmscheid
Amy Toney
Christi and Matthew Kelleher
Corey Remlinger
Dana Frederick
Deborah Leuchovius
Debra Bennett-Leet and Jon Leet
Elray and Verdell Fertig
Jamie T. Smith
Laurie Convey

“I am deeply grateful for this organization, thank you!”
Parent of child with disabilities
Who are Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities?

This can include children with Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, Autism, Down Syndrome, Learning Disabilities, Food Allergies, Diabetes and other conditions that require the child to need services and systems beyond what children typically require.

- There are about 179,000 children and youth with special healthcare needs and disabilities in Minnesota
- 1 in 5 Minnesota families with children have at least one child with special healthcare needs

Visit our website: www.familyvoicesmn.org to learn more.
Board of Directors

John Bellows, J.D.        Margie Hogan, MD
David Griffin, MD, MBA    Ed Shapland, PhD
John Hurley, BA, MPH      Ceci Shapland, RN, MSN
Susan Wingert, RT         W. Brooks Donald, MD, MPH

Executive Director: Carolyn Allshouse
E-mail: Carolyn@familyvoicesmn.org

Visit our website to learn more about our programs and services:
www.familyvoicesmn.org

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Family Voices of Minnesota became a non-profit 501c3 organization in 2009 and is the State Affiliate Organization for: National Family Voices and Parent to Parent USA.