

What Formed Families Forward Can Do for You

Who Are We?

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting foster, kinship, and adoptive families of children and youth with disabilities and other special needs. We serve families, educators and child welfare professionals in Northern Virginia

Families formed by foster care, kinship care, or adoption, especially those raising children with special needs, face unique challenges.

Formed Families Forward helps families find and navigate services here in Northern Virginia, including:

- Early intervention for infants and toddlers
- Special education and supports in school
- Mental and behavioral health services
- Juvenile justice, courts, and detention
- Health and disability services
- Social services
- Transition through middle and high school to college, job training, and employment

Consultation & Resource Navigation for Parents and Caregivers

- Free consultations, in-person and by phone
- · Assistance with navigating systems, identifying benefits, and advocating for children and youth in your care
- Lending library of books on disability and adoption, foster and kinship care topics
- Online, searchable Family Resource Directory of providers and organizations

Resources on our Website

- Current trainings and events
- Fact sheets and resource links
- Informational webpages on trauma-informed practices, kinship care, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, post-secondary transition, and other topics

Training & Family Events

- Trainings, in-person and virtual
- Online learning courses
- Annual Spring Forward Family Fun Day families share a day of learning, fun, games, food, and community connections
- Family movie and dinner nights
- Youth and parenting classes

Support Groups

- Stronger Together clinician-led peer support groups for youth ages 14-22 meet for 8 weekly sessions in Fairfax during the school year
- Formed Families Together peer-led support groups for adoptive, foster parents & kinship caregivers meet monthly



Ask us! We've been there. We are here to help. Resources, consultations, and trainings are available at no cost to families in Northern Virginia.







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