



Register at  
[www.FormedFamiliesForward.org](http://www.FormedFamiliesForward.org)

August

**29**

7 - 8 PM

### Starting the School Year Strong: Strategies for Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Families **webinar**

In this webinar, we will examine unique challenges faced by formed families as they navigate new academic, social, and behavioral expectations and establish new relationships with educators and peers. Gain strategies for creating effective routines, managing anxiety, helping children regulate, and building effective working relationships with school staff.

September

**27**

7 - 8 PM

### From Referral to Special Education Eligibility: What It Takes to Get Through the Door **webinar**

In this presentation, we will focus on the initial evaluation for special education services and address how to initiate an evaluation; what the evaluation entails; the timelines to conduct an evaluation; and concerns about labeling a child who has been evaluated. We will cover when reevaluation must and can happen; explore strategies for making the most of the reevaluation process; and examine options for transitioning from eligibility under the developmental delay category to other categories.

October

**4**

7 - 8 PM

### Special Education for Formed Families: Making It Work! **webinar**

This webinar will address some strategies for smoothing the rough edges of the process for our 'formed' families. We will identify who can request and provide consent for reevaluation; identify disability categories under which children and youth in foster, adoptive and kinship families may be eligible; distinguish the impact of pre-placement developmental delays and challenges from disabilities requiring special education and related services; and explore trauma-sensitive assessment and evaluation approaches that result in stronger, more accurate identification of disabilities for children and youth in foster, adoptive and kinship families.

October

**11**

7 - 8 PM

### Communication, Collaboration, and What to Do When You Just Can't Agree **webinar**

In this session, we will examine the rights of foster, adoptive, and kinship caregivers when they do not agree with the school's decision regarding their child's eligibility, evaluation, educational placement, or services. We will identify the different informal and formal dispute resolution options available; learn what is required to request each of the options; explore the pros and cons of each option; and receive helpful hints for preparing for dispute resolution.

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November

**15**

7 - 8 PM

**Sexualized Behaviors in Children and Teens: When Should Caregivers Be Concerned** webinar presented by **Jessica Laurent, LPC, CSOTP, BCN**

This webinar covers typical sexual knowledge and behavior in preschool and school-age children and teens as well as problematic sexualized behaviors (PSB) at the developmental stages. It also includes an overview of therapeutic interventions for PSB.

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**8 Weekly Sessions:**

Sept. 28  
Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26  
Nov. 2, 9, 16

6:30 - 8 PM

**Stronger Together Peer Support Group for Youth and Young Adults, in-person in Fairfax area**

This support group is designed for teens and young adults age 14-22 who have lived experiences in one or more service systems.

Groups are facilitated by professional clinicians. Stronger Together will introduce tools that can be used to navigate everyday challenges, including interpersonal effectiveness, conflict resolution, self-determination and self-efficacy with an emphasis on positive peer supports as a context for strengths-based growth. A light dinner will be served each evening. Regular weekly attendance is expected.

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We continue to host our **Formed Families Together Peer Support Group** for parents and caregivers.

Please see our website for details: [www.FormedFamiliesForward.org](http://www.FormedFamiliesForward.org)

Trainings are free of charge and open to all parents, caregivers, and professionals, though content will address issues of specific relevance to foster, adoptive and kinship families.

Register at [www.FormedFamiliesForward.org](http://www.FormedFamiliesForward.org), or call 703-539-2904. NOTE that EACH event has its own registration.

RECORDED WEBINARS will be available on  
[www.FormedFamiliesForward.org](http://www.FormedFamiliesForward.org)

Formed Families Forward is a nonprofit family-led organization dedicated to supporting foster, adoptive and kinship families raising children and youth with special needs.