

FINfacts



A publication of the Family Information Network for families with young children with special needs.

Through the Eyes of Families

As the parent of a young child with special needs, you can sometimes feel alone, like you're the only one in the world dealing with your specific issues. Parenting is a tough job. Ask anyone with an infant, toddler, grade-schooler, pre-teen, teen or grown child. The pressures never go away - they just change.

Now add a child with a delay or disability and you have a whole host of other emotions with which parents must cope. It's easy to feel overwhelmed and alone.

The Family Information Network (FIN) is here to say, "You are not alone."

FIN is made up of parent consultants who have had a child involved in Ohio's birth to three system of supports and services. We believe a most meaningful source of support is that of other parents who have experienced family adjustments while raising a child with special needs.

Some parents recently reflected on things they wish they had known as they

entered the Help Me Grow System. Here are some responses:

"I wish someone had clarified what Part C and Help Me Grow are."

"I wish someone had reminded me

system, the aim of this newsletter is to help guide you to supports and resources we have found helpful along our journey. *FINfacts* is an award-winning, bimonthly publication of the Family Information Network (FIN) funded by the Ohio Department of Health. Each issue will reflect a different theme and highlight a region of the state, and in its eight pages you will find news, resources and tips for families related to the theme. "Point of View" features an article written by family members of a child with developmental delays or disabilities. The newsletter will focus on a highlighted region of Ohio on the "FIN in Focus" page. The Ohio Department of Health covers up-to-date articles dealing with the theme of each issue on the "News from the Bureau" page. *FINfacts* spotlights a Family Support Specialist on the "Family Support Specialists' Profile" page, and the "Diagnosis in Depth" page (typically found on page 7) features information

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Welcome to Help Me Grow!

Help Me Grow is for Ohio's expectant parents, newborns, infants and toddlers. It provides health and developmental services so that children start school healthy and ready to learn. Within Help Me Grow, infants and toddlers with delays/disabilities are eligible for services and supports through the Part C (Early Intervention) component.

about financial resources."

"I wish I had known my rights as a parent and that I could take the lead."

"I wish I had known what is available in communities for families."

"I wish I had known there are always other choices for services and resources."

"I wish I had links to other families with the same diagnosis."

As you enter the Help Me Grow

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