

Discussion Topics

Administrators from Maryland State departments, private agency professionals and advocates, all experts in their fields, address the FLI participants on a range of children's mental health topics, including:

- History of the mental health movement
- Understanding the system—Federal, state and local systems for children
- Understanding MEDICAID, Social Security, and private insurance
- Follow the \$\$—Understanding funding for services
- Personal Empowerment
- Cultural Competency
- Legislative Advocacy
- Educational and neuropsychological testing
- Understanding medication options and diagnosis
- Special education laws and IEPs
- Resources in Maryland
- Personal leadership styles.

Schedule for 2008 Institute

January 12, 2008, Saturday

February 2–3, 2008, Saturday & Sunday

March 1, 2008, Saturday

March 29, 2008, Saturday

April 12–13, 2008, Saturday & Sunday

April 26, 2008, Saturday

May 3, 2008, Saturday Graduation

Applications will be available online in September 2007 with a deadline of November 30, 2007.

After that date, applications will be considered if space is available.



10632 Little Patuxent Parkway
Suite 119
Columbia, MD 21044

More than 85 families have graduated from Family Leadership Institute since 2004 and are actively involved in improving services for children with mental health needs.

2008 Family Leadership Institute

MARYLAND
COALITION OF
FAMILIES FOR
CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH

Family Leadership Institute

The Family Leadership Institute (FLI) is an intensive leadership program sponsored by the Maryland Coalition of Families for Children's Mental Health. FLI provides education and training about leadership, collaboration, and advocacy. Sessions are held on weekends.

Why Participate?

The Family Leadership Institute is designed to provide information, training, resources and skills-building to families with children who have mental health needs, so that they become leaders in building a better system of care in the State of Maryland. Participants will meet and learn from many dedicated leaders and professionals who work in the children's mental health field.

Who Should Apply?

FLI is recruiting families from all parts of Maryland who are caring for a child with mental health needs. The program is enriched through a mixture of backgrounds and experiences: families with private insurance or medical assistance and families whose children are in regular education, special education, residential treatment, juvenile justice, or foster care are encouraged to apply. The common threads are their child's mental health needs and the desire to improve services for all children.

Criteria for Consideration

1. Family member caring for a child under 18 years with mental health needs
2. Family member's child is, has been, or may be served through special education or a 504 plan; has received mental health services privately or through the public mental health system; may be in foster care or involved with the juvenile justice system
3. Family member has demonstrated an interest in becoming involved with helping others and improving the system of care for children with mental health needs.
4. Family member's home jurisdiction
5. Ability to attend all six training sessions

As a graduate of FLI, you will have the knowledge, tools, and training to advocate for a better system of care for Maryland's children with mental health needs and their families.

Your Commitment

This program is able to accept a limited number of participants. If selected, the Family Leadership Institute will pay for all lodging, meals and materials. Some funds are available for child care reimbursement and transportation for families who are in need of assistance for these expenses. Participants will:

- Make a commitment to attend and participate in six all-day and two half-day training seminars (two weekends are overnight—all day Saturday, and half-day Sunday)
- Complete all assignments and one major project
- Keep time records which describe briefly activities related to FLI for each month
- Commit to using your skills to advocate for children with mental health needs beyond the needs of your child.

FUNDED BY:

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES
MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
VILLA MARIA CONTINUUM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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2008 CLASSES WILL BE HELD IN TIMONIUM, MARYLAND.