

PICture This

Programs and Policies
Affecting Today's Families

Title V... what does it mean for families? Title V of the Social Security Act is federal legislation whose mission is to improve the health of the nation's mothers and children including children with special health care needs. Through this legislation, state health departments provide services and programs to mothers and children in states and communities. Families have much to contribute to help shape programs and policies to best serve their children.

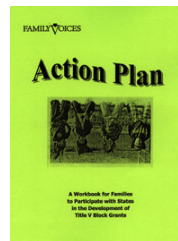
Family Voices has developed several materials to help families better understand Title V and how they can become active partners. To get a copy of these materials or if you have ideas or questions or want to discuss workshop opportunities email Kathy Cruz at kcruz@fcsn.org

Families & Title V Materials, Resources and Workshops

Families and Title V booklet and PowerPoint Presentation - can be used to offer families history and background on Title V. These materials set the stage for families to become active partners with Title V staff to ensure quality health for all children in states and communities.



Block Grant Training Workshops for Families - a workshop for families to provide background information on the Block Grant and the Block Grant Review Process. This training supplies the needed information to participate in future Block Grant Reviews. Each year states submit Block Grant applications to the federal Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Bureau, outlining the goals, objectives and programs to meet the needs of families in their states. Each state application is reviewed by a review group of professionals and parents.



Action Plan: A Workbook for Families to Participate with States in the Development of Title V Block Grants -

It's likely that parents will work with staff of their State Title V program in maternal and child health Block Grant activities. This booklet offers background information, questions, and ideas to get parents started in their roles as partners in this process.

The Title V Information System (Title V IS)

www.mchdata.net - is a web-based database developed by the MCH Bureau. It electronically captures data from annual Title V Block Grant applications and reports submitted by all 59 U.S. States, Territories, and Jurisdictions. It provides information on key measures of maternal and child health (MCH) in the United States. This data shows how states are measuring up to national and state performance measures.

MCH Data Tools - Available soon, step by step guides to help families access and use MCH data and information found on the Title V IS. ■

Family Voices is a national grassroots network of families and friends speaking on behalf of children with special health needs. Our children are also part of the wider world of children. With a Partners in Information and Communication (PIC) Grant from the MCH Bureau - Department of Health and Human Services, Family Voices is working to encourage partnerships between families and professionals for children's good health.

PICture This is a digest of articles and news clips to share with families, family organizations, and our professional partners to offer them a flavor of activities going on in the maternal and child health (mch) community and opportunities to become a part of it. We hope to encourage flourishing partnerships! ■

Partners...

(Family and professional partners)

La Leche League (LLL) International



Since 1956 this international network of mothers and professionals has been providing support and sharing breastfeeding and mothering experiences with others. Today LLL hold monthly meetings, educational seminars, and trainings, produces materials and publications on breastfeeding. Major or current interests include encouraging mothers to be and mothers from underserved populations to breastfeed.

Visit their web site (www.lalecheleague.org) to access breastfeeding information in English, Spanish and Italian. They also cover topics such as breastfeeding legislation and support for breastfeeding mothers in the work place.

There are 71,000 active La Leche League group leaders reaching out to mothers. For a state or local chapter near you or if you are interested in receiving their newsletter or participating on their Listserv, contact them at La Leche League International 1400 N. Meacham Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60168-4079 ❖ (800) 525-3243 ❖ (847) 519-7730 ❖ LLLHQ@Illi.org ❖ www.lalecheleague.org ■

Family Resource Corner

* June is Fireworks Safety Month

With the Fourth of July around the corner, state are getting ready to celebrate. Although the sparkles and blasts are exciting and fun to watch, they can also be dangerous.

Fireworks should be left up to professionals.

If fireworks are legal in your state check out the safety tips that U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission offers. <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSC/PUBS/july4/millin.pdf>

* **National Safety Month** For safety tips for your home and family visit <http://www.safekids.org>. To download the Summer Safety Checklist for Parents see http://www.safekids.org/content_documents/ACF64.pdf En español vaya a http://www.safekids.org/content_documents/ACF66.pdf

* **Activities and Tips for Fathers** The National Center for Fathering offers insights and information for fathers. For articles and tips for dads, visit <http://www.fathers.com/articles/cats.asp>

* **Access to computers** Connectnet.org helps youth find a place near them where they can use a computer, get on the Internet, and possibly get help learning about technology -- usually for free! Visit www.connectnet.org for more information En español vaya a <http://www.conectado.org/spanish/> ■



What's new in research?

Breastfeeding may lower the risk of adolescent obesity

Two studies published by the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) discuss the links between breastfeeding and a reduced risk of being overweight in late childhood and adolescence. See 1) Gillman MW, Rifas-Shiman SL, Camargo, CA, et al. 2001. Risk of overweight among adolescents who were breastfed as infants. JAMA 285(19) 2461-2467. 2) Hediger ML, Overpeck MD, Kuczmariski RJ, et al. 2001. Association between infant breastfeeding in young children. JAMA 285(19):2453-2460. ■



Tidbits for the Month

AAP Recommendations for Adolescent Mothers

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) issued a policy statement offering

recommendations on how to improve health care services for adolescent mothers and their children. Recommendations include: encouragement to breastfeed, contraceptive counseling, and multidisciplinary and comprehensive care for parenting adolescents. For more information visit <http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/febadol.htm>

National Policy Center for CSHCN redesigns their web site.

The National Policy Center for Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) redesigned their web site for families, advocates, and professionals with an interest in cshcn. The site includes information on current activities, publications and materials. Visit <http://www.jhsph.edu/centers.cshcn>

State Report Card for Newborn Hearing Screening.

The National Campaign of Hearing Health released its second annual state-by-state report card that looks into how states are screening newborns for hearing impairments. Currently, 34 out of 50 states have adopted or mandated policies supporting universal newborn hearing screening tests. For more information visit <http://www.hearinghealth.net/pages/babies/index.html> ■



Highlights for the next PICTURE This...

- Multicultural resources
- Oral health issues

Share your news with others!

We're always looking for news and activities about family organization and programs to post in our digest. Share exciting events and activities about your organization that others may find interesting. Email Kathy Cruz kcruz@fcsn.org or fax her at (617) 572-2094 with your tidbits. ■

