

CSHCS INFO #1-2017 - Michigan Family Connections seeking stories!

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Michigan Family Connections newsletter (a joint publication from the Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Michigan Family to Family) is seeking personal stories and/or poems from families of children and youth with special health care needs.

Six stories or poems will be featured in the February 2017 "Sharing our Stories" newsletter.* The authors of the stories featured in the newsletter will receive a \$50 Visa gift card for their submission.** Please share this opportunity with other families by forwarding this email.

We are looking for stories of emotion, courage and lessons learned. Stories that highlight the experience of living with all abilities, including your joys, your sorrows and your pride. You may submit your original, unpublished personal story or poem. Below are a few suggested topics:

- Grief and acceptance
- Youth or young adult living with a disability
- Insurance issues
- Inclusion
- Transition
- Sibling or family relationships
- Family-centered care
- Newborn screening
- Mental health
- Peer-to-peer support

These are just suggestions, please feel free to choose your own topic or submit your own idea. We ask that you please be respectful of others and be sure all opinions and beliefs are stated as your own. If you cite facts within your story, please provide a link to a credible source.

To submit your story, use the link below:

<https://f2fmichigan.org/family-stories/>

Just click on the "Share Your Family Story" link about halfway down the page.

We would love to hear from you. We are inspired by the families we serve. Your story can motivate, encourage and inspire others. Share your family's challenges and successes. Let us know what's worked

for you, and what hasn't worked for you. Share your tips and what you would like other families to know.

*Depending on the number of stories received, not all submissions will be used for the special edition. All stories submitted will be shared on the MI F2F Website. **By submitting your story you are agreeing to have it published in the newsletter without additional financial compensation. Your story may be edited as necessary for length and content.