

## **CSHCS INFO #22-2020 - Virtual Sibshop Training September 15-18, 2020**

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The Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (Family Center) is excited to host a Virtual Introduction to Sibshops and Sibshop Facilitator Training from Tuesday September 15 through Friday September 18, 2020.

Emily Holl, Director of the Sibling Support Project will lead the training!

### **What are Sibshops?**

Sibshops are celebrations of the many contributions made by siblings of kids with special needs. Sibshops acknowledge that being the sibling of a person with special needs is for some a good thing, others a not-so-good thing, and for many, somewhere in between. They reflect a belief that siblings have much to offer one another – if they are given a chance. Sibshops are a spirited mix of new games, new friends and discussion activities.

### **Who Should Attend?**

**Facilitator Training** – Anyone interested in sibling issues, who would like to learn how to run a Sibshop of their own. Attendees interested in becoming a facilitator must attend all 4 days of the Sibshop training (Tuesday September 15 through Friday September 18).

**Introduction to Sibshops** – Parents, caregivers, service providers, educators, community partners, Local Health Department staff, etc. Attendees who would like to know more about Sibshops and sibling issues, but not interested in how to run a Sibshop would attend this training, the first 3 days (Tuesday September 15 through Thursday September 17).

**Unique Concerns-Day 1:** Participants will learn about many characteristics of brothers and sisters of people with special needs, including their unique concerns and opportunities.

This will help participants obtain a well-rounded understanding of what it's like being a sibling of someone with special needs across the lifespan.

**Unique Opportunities-Day 2:** This session presents the many opportunities siblings experience. There will be a discussion of what parents and professionals can do to minimize sibs' concerns and maximize opportunities.

**Panel of Adult Siblings-Day 3:** A powerful way to learn about sibling issues is to hear from the "real experts". A panel of adult brothers and sisters will share their experiences, insights, and suggestions for parents and providers.

**All About Sibshops-Day 4:** Sibshops are kid-friendly workshops as rewarding to run as they are to attend. Participants will learn the logistics of planning and implementing a local Sibshop, and Sibshop goals and related recreational, discussion, and educational activities. Trainees will observe online Demonstration Sibshop activities with young brothers and sisters, and receive the materials and know-how to start, plan, and facilitate Sibshops.

**For additional details and registration, please click the link below or contact the Family Center at 800-359-3722.**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/michigan-introduction-to-sibshops-and-sibshop-facilitator-training-tickets-115761346303>

Thank you,

Candi Bush

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