



ABOUT THE FAMILY SUPPORT INSTITUTE OF BC

The Family Support Institute of BC (FSI) is a provincial not for profit society committed to supporting families who have a family member with a disability - diagnosed or not. FSI is unique in Canada and the only grass roots family-to-family organization with a broad volunteer base. FSI's supports and services are FREE to any family.

OUR BELIEFS

We honour that the Family Support Institute of BC grew out of an era that did not value the pivotal role of families.

Therefore, we believe:

- Families are the best voice to speak for their unique circumstances
- Families have a critical role in shaping the future for their family members
- Families are the best resource to support one another
- Informed families are more empowered to speak for themselves when needed
- Informed, involved and confident families are the most effective agents for creating social change



OUR FAMILY SUPPORT MODEL

The Family Support Institute of BC has trained volunteers throughout the province. These volunteers are referred to as "Resource Parents" (RPs) and "Resource Family Members" (RFMs). They all have a family member with a disability. This network supports and connects families by sharing experiences, expertise, and guidance.

OUR VOLUNTEERS WILL

- Connect by phone, email or in person
- Guide families to community resources
- Attend meetings; take notes; debrief
- Mentor and coach
- Listen and learn
- Share successes and celebrate families!

CHECK OUT FSI PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES:

- [Find Support BC](#)
- [Transition Timeline](#)
- [MyBookletBC](#)
- [Support Worker Central](#)
- [Wayfinders](#)
- [BC Summer Institute for Inclusive Learning](#)



WE OFFER

- Family support for anyone, any age, with any disability
- Connection to other families
- Encouragement and guidance
- Networking opportunities
- Information sharing and referral
- Workshops and training

OUR VISION

To strengthen, connect and build communities and resources with families of people with disabilities in B.C.

OUR MISSION

All individuals and families are supported, connected and fully valued in their communities.

