



Family Support Center of NJ

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PHONES RINGING OFF THE HOOK AT STATEWIDE RESOURCE CENTER

MANASQUAN – The Family Support Center of New Jersey (FSCNJ), an affiliate of The Family Resource Network, is the clearinghouse on information and referral for individuals and families with developmental disabilities and chronic or serious illness.

With funding from the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities, in 2006 FSCNJ provided assistance to 5,685 people and received 55,425 hits to its website. Its popularity is due in large part to its “One-Stop-Shopping” approach which provides easy access to a comprehensive array of resources for individuals seeking information on disabilities and services.

The Family Support Center of New Jersey’s Resource Database offers information on over 10,000 resources for a wide range of disabilities, diseases and disorders. By calling 1-800-FSC-NJ10, families and professionals are connected with a Resource Coordinator, trained to assist each individual on their specific needs. Ramona Carmeci, Senior Resource Coordinator explains “Many times families or professionals do not have access to the possible avenues that can be approached for assistance. Through our Resource Database, The Family Support Center is designed to assist each individualized need in a single phone call.” Resources can also be accessed via the Family Support Center of New Jersey’s website at www.fscnj.org.

Additional free services provided by FSCNJ include a comprehensive resource manual, *OPTIONS*, that offers a family-friendly guide to the New Jersey developmental disability community and a lending library with over 3,000 books, videos, newsletters and reference materials on specific disabilities, family support programs and other resources. The Center also works to connect parents of children with disabilities with other parents who have had similar experiences and are seeking mutual support.

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• www.familysupportnj.com •

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The Family Support Center of New Jersey is an affiliate of The Family Resource Network. The Family Resource Network is a family-focused, community-based organization that aims to provide individual and family support throughout the life span of people with disabilities and chronic illness. The Family Resource Network is comprised of four affiliate organizations including: Autism Family Services of New Jersey, Caregivers of New Jersey, the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey, and the Family Support Center of New Jersey. The Family Resource Network has six offices across the state to reach all New Jersey residents.

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