



WHO WE ARE

Too many hardworking families in New Jersey know what future they imagine for themselves but are unsure of how to get there. Faced with mounting debt, limited employment opportunities or broken relationships, many families feel trapped in their current conditions.

Since 2013, the Family Strengthening Network (FSN) has **empowered families to achieve their dreams and establish stability in all areas of life.** Through free, personal and confidential sessions with a trained Family Advocate, families develop a clear plan to accomplish their goals and are linked with the tools, resources and opportunities necessary to complete their plans.

Our collaborative brings together the strengths of four nonprofits to connect families with a full range of services: United Advocacy Group, Court Appointed Special Advocates, Center for Family Services, and Volunteer Center of South Jersey.

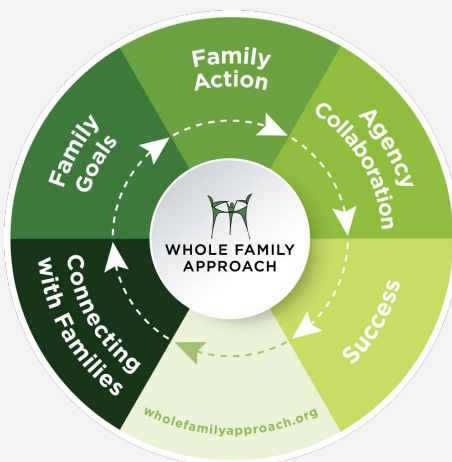


THE WHOLE FAMILY APPROACH

While families are made up of individuals, their challenges and successes are interdependent.

Our work is guided by the Whole Family Approach, a family-led strategy which equips adults and children with the tools and social support to set, plan for, and achieve their goals together. When the whole family works together to support each other's goals, long-term change and stability become a reality.

Each family is paired with one of our Family Advocates who act as a trusted entry point for all family members to access the services we offer to achieve their goals ranging from financial fitness, to career advancement, healthy relationship and child well-being. Seamless collaboration between nonprofits in our collaborative yields better access to services, ensures a coordinated effort to track families' progress and improves well-being for the entire family.



BUILDING FAMILY STABILITY AND WELL-BEING

We recognize that all areas of life are interconnected. Families cannot address one area without factoring in another. Findings from seven years of research conducted by the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs among eight nonprofit collaboratives implementing the Whole Family Approach in Southern New Jersey, including FSN, show positive changes for families with two caregivers:

- Primary caregivers report a significant improvement in children's educational outcomes.
- Both caregivers feel a significant increase in the help given and received in their relationship.
- Secondary caregivers report significantly reduced financial stress.

These findings reinforce the positive impact of the holistic services we offer including: family coaching, educational workshops, community events, volunteering opportunities, and social support network building.



OUR IMPACT

Working with our team of experts, families learn to reach their goals:

75%

OF FAMILIES
REDUCE
THEIR DEBT

82%

OF FAMILIES
STRENGTHEN
COMMUNICATION &
RELATIONSHIPS

68%

OF FAMILIES SEE
IMPROVED CHILD
BEHAVIOR AT HOME
& SCHOOL



REACHING LIFE'S FULL POTENTIAL

Randy and Lenore Locke came to FSN facing a variety of challenges — the bank was threatening a foreclosure on their home, Lenore was facing cognitive challenges from a fall, and their son, Travis, was struggling in school. Working with their coach, the family identified their financial, health and education goals and set a plan to achieve them. FSN connected the Lockes to Cash for Keys, earning money to move out of their home and in with friends as they began saving to move into a new apartment. Once FSN linked Travis and his parents to stronger academic and social support networks, Travis' grades and positive behavior vastly improved. With coaching, the Locke family learned to better utilize the resources in their community to reach their goals.

OUR RESILIENCE

The COVID-19 pandemic severely impacted our families' well-being and long-term goals. Our staff quickly adapted to maintain ongoing support to families including:

- Cover household bills to alleviate financial stress
- Lend laptops to support online learning, job searches and connecting to resources
- Online coaching

TAKE ACTION

Join us in building stronger, thriving families. Just as one person cannot do it alone, one agency cannot do it alone, either. Become a donor, partner or volunteer today!

EVALUATION PARTNER



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