## How to contact the Network in your region

CALL (877) 567-1122

VISIT <u>www.centerforfamilyinvolvement.org</u> (click on Family to Family Network tab)

Nickie Brandenburger, F2F Network Director <a href="mailto:tnbrandenburg@vcu.edu">tnbrandenburg@vcu.edu</a> (804) 827-8770

#### Statewide Liaisons & Cultural Brokers

Center for Family Involvement staff acting as

- liaisons to specific communities (autism, deaf, down syndrome, mental health, military, rural, and visual impairment);
- cultural brokers to diverse communities (African American Asian, Immigrant/Refugee, Latino)

provide support to F2F Network staff and to families calling the F2F Network.

Visit our website to learn more about their work and contact information (click on Family to Family Network tab; click on Cultural Broker Initiative link)



Dana Yarbrough, CFI Director dvyarbrough@vcu.edu (804) 828-0352

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# Family to Family Network of Virginia

Supporting families of children and young adults with disabilities and special health care needs



Because we have been where you are...

## Family to Family Network of Virginia

### What is a Family Navigator?

A Family Navigator is:

- A free resource
- A parent or primary caregiver who is or has supported a child with disabilities or special health care needs
- Trained to support other families in accessing supports and services for their child and family
- Knowledgeable about local and state resources

This support is what I really needed because I felt lost. The information given helped me feel more confident about advocating for my child.

How can a connection with a Family Navigator help your family?

A Family Navigator can provide:

- One to one emotional support
- Information, referral and linkages to services for your child
- Enhanced support and tools to help you plan for service meetings (i.e., IFSP, IEP, ISP)
- Culturally sensitive and unbiased information so you can make the best choice for your child and family
- Workshops and educational opportunities

Family Navigators provide support and information, and discuss options with families so they can make the best choices for their children. They do not provide legal advice or counseling or advise families on decisions pertaining to their children.

It makes me feel so good that there are wonderful people out there like you that are so willing and eager to help.

Family Navigators work in collaboration with local agencies and many participate on planning and advisory committees to provide a family perspective on policies and programs for all people with disabilities.



