



## **What is Raising Special Kids?**

Raising Special Kids is an organization of families helping families. Our mission is to improve the lives of children with disabilities by providing parents with information, training, consultations, and mentoring. We serve parents of children with the full range of disabilities from birth to 26. Our services are provided to families free of charge, and in Spanish, too. Over 9,000 parents and professionals benefit from family support programs and services each year.

## **A Comprehensive Family Resource Center**

**Parent to Parent** programs provide one-to-one mentoring, emotional support and information for strengthening families and improving advocacy skills. Carefully selected and trained parents are matched with new parents who have children recently diagnosed or identified. Developing leadership skills is one of the hallmarks of a successful parent program. Raising Special Kids has an active network of over 250 active Parent Leaders, and was one of the founding members of the national network of parent centers, Parent to Parent USA. <http://www.p2pusa.org>

**Arizona's Parent Training and Information Center** provides special education training and assistance to families of children with disabilities from birth through high school and the professionals who serve them. Raising Special Kids is Arizona's PTI center funded through the U.S. Department of Education under Part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/>

**Arizona's Family-to-Family Health Information and Education Center** assists families in making informed health care choices, provides health care information and resources, assists in care coordination activities, and represents the family voice at a systems level. The project receives funding through the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal Child Health Bureau. <http://www.familyvoices.org/>

**Arizona's Chapter of Family Voices** is part of a national grassroots organization directed by parents of children and youth with special health care needs. Family Voices provides information about health care issues affecting children throughout the United States, to ensure that children's health is addressed as public and private health care systems undergo change.

**Arizona's Early Intervention Central Referral Project** assists in identifying children from birth to three who may be in need of early intervention services. The project supports families and professionals through the process of eligibility and access to early intervention providers with services to enhance the capacity of families and caregivers to support their child's development. <https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-infant>

### **Raising Special Kids**

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