

FAMILY MATTERS PARENT TRAINING & INFORMATION CENTER



**IMPACT REPORT
OCTOBER 1, 2022 -
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**



A NOTE FROM FAMILY MATTERS PTIC

2023 brought many changes to Family Matters Parent Training and Information Center. In September we said goodbye to our program founder and longtime Executive Director, Debbie Einhorn. Many of you know Debbie and the incredible advocacy work that she has done for families across Illinois. Family Matters PTIC remains endlessly grateful for her vision and leadership. Simply put, Family Matters PTIC would not exist without Debbie's tireless advocacy.

The challenges for families that we serve continue. Families reach out for support and guidance in the special education process, IEP development, seeking access to community resources, struggling with mental health and behavioral support needs within the classroom, and looking for assistance with transitioning to adulthood. Families of young children connect with our coaches to discuss inclusion, extended school year, and partnering effectively with educators. Each day presents new challenges and needs.

We have embraced growth and change over the last several months, including the onboarding of a new Director, Megan Mutti, and the development and implementation of both a new website and data system. Throughout the changes, our small team kept pace with providing individualized family and self-advocate support and provided engaging and relevant training for families seeking support in navigating the disability and special education systems.

We are tremendously grateful for the engagement and support of our Board of Directors and community partners. We look forward to 2024 with a focus on the needs of families across the state. We welcome your involvement. If you would like to join us as a volunteer, have interest in becoming a Board member, would like to provide a donation, or would like to participate in a training, please reach out!

Megan Mutti
Executive Director

FMPTIC Mission

We build upon families' strengths, to empower parents and professionals to achieve the strongest possible outcomes for students with disabilities and to enhance the quality of life for children and young adults with disabilities.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Kellie Call, President, Ogle County**
- **Rob McClain, Richland County**
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- **Viabhav Shah, Peoria County**
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- **Christy Graklanoff, Madison County**
- **Ann Oswald, Crawford County**
- **Melanie Stith, St. Clair County**
- **Lindsey Sadler, Union County**

FAMILY MATTERS STAFF

- Megan Mutti, MA, Executive Director
- Rachel Watkins, Data Manager
- Karrie Potter, Educational Support Coach
- Abbi Mars, Educational Support Coach

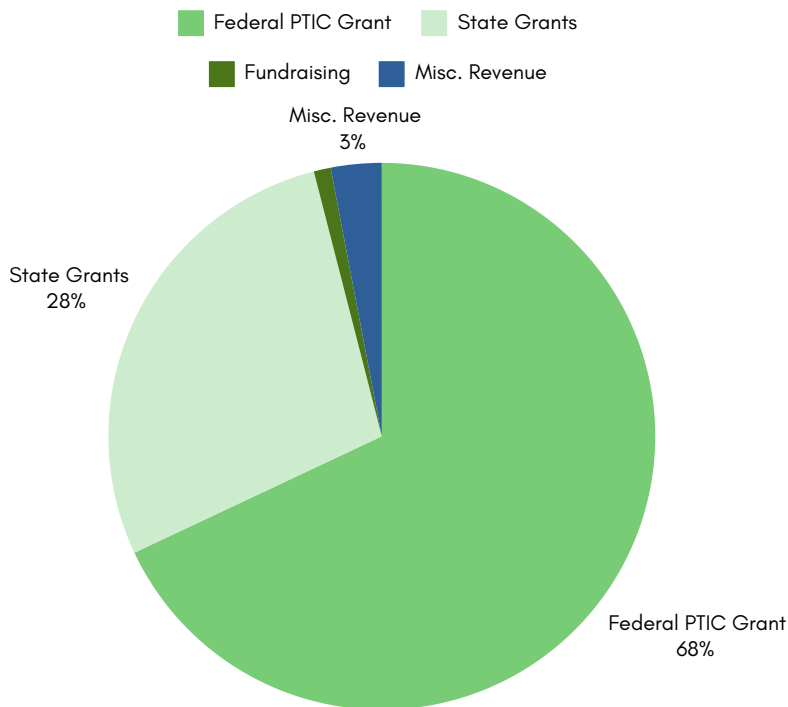


Family Matters PTIC Core Services

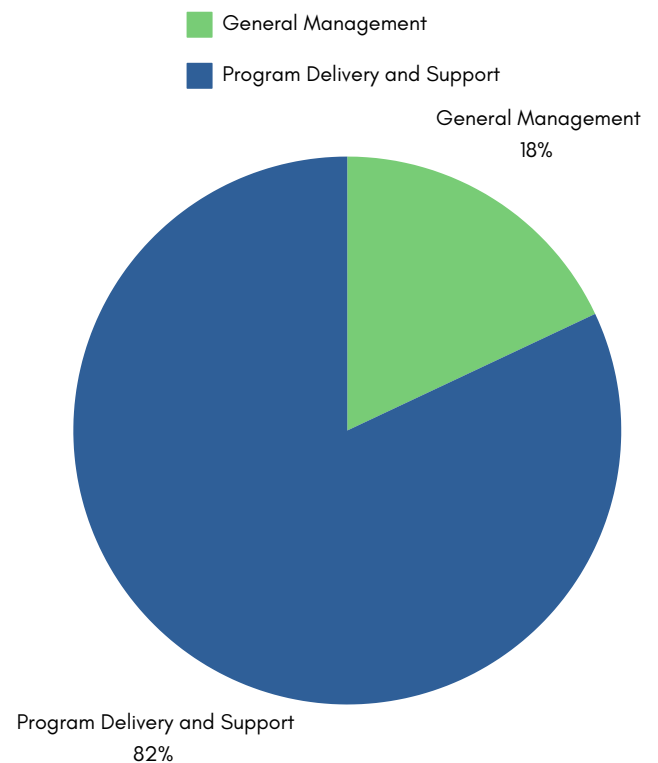
- Educational Coaching Helpline/Individual Assistance
- Educational Document Reviews & Meeting Preparation
- Webinars & In-person Trainings
- COMPASS: Coaching Others and Mentoring Parents about School Services
- Educational Surrogate Parent Training Program in partnership with the Illinois State Board of Education
- Social Skills to Success In-school Advocacy Training

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Revenue Sources



Fund Usage



Link to IRS 990 Form:

[990 Form FMPTIC](#)

We are tremendously thankful to our funders:

- United States Department of Education/OSEP
- Illinois State Board of Education (Educational Surrogate Parent Program)
- Illinois Elevating Special Educators
- Project Launch - PACER
- WI-FACETS

"I so appreciate that their Educational Support Coaches are parents of students with disabilities. It makes talking to them so much easier." Parent, 2023



2023 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed & launched an upgraded website - check it out at www.fmptic.org
- Expanded curriculum availability on key educational topics
- Transitioned to a new Parent Center Data System
- Began planning for a 2024 Podcast Launch
- Significantly increased the number of trained Educational Surrogate Parents in Illinois
- Provided more than 100 webinars and community trainings
- Welcomed a new Director & Data Manager
- Provided coaching on hundreds of Individual Assistance requests per month
- Cheered on second staff member to participate in Illinois Partners in Policymaking Program
- Work collaboratively with a incredible group of Self-Advocates
- Facilitated School-based Social Skill & Transition groups, focused on self-advocacy and the transition to adulthood

"Family Matters has an outstanding program where social skills are brought to the classroom. This allows for organic conversations about real-life situations where individual students need the most support!" Educator, 2023



Family Matters PTIC At-a-Glance 2023

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6

Total Number of Educational Webinars & In-person Trainings

TOTAL PARENT/GUARDIANS TRAINED, CHILDREN UNDER 14, (DUPLICATED) = 2,269

Total number of Educational Surrogate Parents Trained = 82

Total FMPTIC Reach (Newsletter, Website, Social Media, Exhibits/Resource Fairs) = **59,661**

284

Total Transition-Age Youth Trained (duplicated)

Total Parents & Guardians of youth 14 & older trained. (duplicated) = 1,637

Total Professionals Trained (duplicated) =

932

TOTAL PARENTS & GUARDIANS OF YOUNG CHILDREN (EARLY CHILDHOOD) RECEIVING ASSISTANCE, (DUPLICATED) =

422

Most common call topics:
Review of IEP document, assistance with letter writing, behavioral supports, IEP goal writing assistance, meeting advocacy



"Family Matters helped our family navigate the IEP process and advocate for appropriate accommodations for our son and daughter. With the help of our wonderful advocate, we were able to craft IEP's that addressed our children's needs and helped them be more successful in school. This had a positive impact on them not only academically, but also socially, emotionally and for the rest of our family. I learned so much from working with our advocate and I will forever be grateful for her support." August, 2023

FMPTIC Guiding Principles:

- Parents have comprehensive knowledge of their children.
- Parents who know their children's rights can be better advocates.
- The home, school and community are all vital components when developing an educational program.
- All children are capable of learning and good behavior with appropriate support.
- Students are entitled to appropriate technology and access to **all** buildings & programs.
- All school districts and parents are capable of cooperative relationships.

Contact us:

Email: info@fmptic.org

Website: www.fmptic.org

Facebook: [com/FamilyMattersPTIC](https://www.facebook.com/FamilyMattersPTIC)

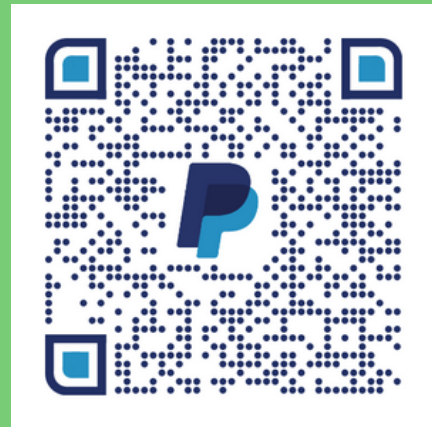
1-866-436-7842

Family Matters PTIC is not a legal services agency and cannot provide legal advice or legal representation. Information received from Family Matters PTIC is not intended as legal advice and should not be used as a substitution for legal advice

Your donation MATTERS.

Please consider donating at the link below. Your donations go directly to supporting & educating parents, families, self-advocates and professionals on special education, IDEA, rights and responsibilities in the school system, strategies for problem solving and collaboration, and conflict resolution.

Together we can make a difference for students with disabilities across the state.



The content of this annual report was developed under a grant from the US Department of Education, #H328M200072. However, the content does not necessarily represent the policy of the US Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the federal government. Project Officer, David Emenheiser

Family Matters PTIC receives \$227,148 or 97% of its funding from the US Department of Education IDEA funds, and \$6,489 or 3% of its funding from Community Support Systems.

