



Quiet Leadership

Joseph L. Badaracco, Jr., in *We Don't Need Another Hero*, writes, "The quiet approach to leadership is easy to misunderstand and mock. It doesn't inspire or thrill. It focuses on small things, careful moves, controlled and measured efforts. It doesn't provide story lines for uplifting TV shows. In contrast to heroic leadership, quiet leadership doesn't show us the heights that the human spirit can reach. What, then, do the imperfect, unglamorous, everyday efforts of quiet leaders amount to? Almost everything. The vast majority of difficult human problems are not solved by the dramatic efforts of people at the top but by the consistent striving of people working far from the limelight." There are times when we, as parent leaders, some as quiet leaders, wonder if our efforts to improve healthcare systems for children with special health care needs do make a difference. The answer is a resounding "YES!" Margaret "Meg" Wheatley, a speaker, consultant, and writer since 1973, has worked with most types of organizations and people —from Fortune 100 companies and health care organizations, to the US Army, Girl Scouts and small town churches. She has made it her life's work to examine how we, as leaders, can draw from different perspectives and disciplines to effect the change we want to see in our communities, states and in the world. For more information and inspiration, please visit Meg's website at <http://www.margaretwheatley.com>.

Bright Futures Webcast

HRSA recently hosted a webcast—**Update on Bright Futures for Infants, Children and Adolescents**— designed to help state MCH/CSHCN Directors understand, relate to and apply Bright Futures information in the work they do. Barbara Popper, FV, and Paula Minihan, Tufts School of Medicine, co-presented on the project, Family Matters: Using Bright Futures to Promote Health and Wellness for Children with Disabilities. Tufts is the research partner with Family Voices on this CDC-funded project. Bright Futures is a philosophy and approach that is dedicated to the principle that every child deserves to be healthy, and that optimal health involves a trusting relationship between the health professional, the child, the family, and the community. Watch for the archived webcast available at <http://www.mchcom.com>. For more information on Bright Futures, please visit the Family Voices Bright Futures for Families website at www.BrightFuturesforFamilies.org.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE NETWORK KASA OPPORTUNITY

Attention all youth and young adults with disabilities and persons working with them. . . the **Kids As Self Advocates Youth Information, Training and Resource Center** is writing a White Paper (position paper) on standardized testing and they'd like to hear from you. KASA will use this paper to educate lawmakers, school officials and the public about this issue from a youth/disability perspective. This is an awesome opportunity for young people across the country to share their thoughts, successes and struggles with standardized testing. Please take a few minutes to answer questions on line about your experiences by visiting www.fvkasa.org. For more information, please contact Naomi Ortiz, Project Coordinator, at naomiortiz01@msn.com, OrtizN@fvkasa.org or at 520-881-4672.



ReCap of FV Talk

This information is a summary collected from Family Voices Talk listserv

Resources, News, & Stories

- <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/01/09/AR2006010901541.html>

New technology and guidelines seek to extend reach of the 'Bionic Solution' to hearing loss through Cochlear Implants.

- <http://delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060117/NEWS/601170350/1006>

An article about the usage of chelation, or EDTA, in the treatment for Autism.

- <http://www.cbpp.org/1-5-06health.htm>

New requirement for birth certificates or passports could threaten Medicaid coverage for vulnerable beneficiaries: a state-by-state analysis.



Shop the Family Voices Store

Looking for the perfect birthday or "thank you" gift for a friend, relative, special caregiver or community partner from the perfect boutique? Look no further than the Family Voices Shop. Explore a nice selection of gift items and FV apparel by going to <http://www.familyvoices.org/shop/>

. What a great way to spread the word about Family Voices!

There is no greater power than a community discovering what it cares about. Ask "What's possible?" not "What's wrong?" Keep asking. Notice what you care about. Assume that many others share your dreams. Be brave enough to start a conversation that matters.

— Margaret Wheatley

Voices From Home

Hot off the press. . . the 2005 edition of **Voices From Home**, Family Voices' annual "state of the states" report about our children and youth with special health care needs. **Voices From Home** features information about the past year's successes, challenges, partnerships and activities of the Family Voices Network members in each state and territory as we work to help ensure family-centered, community-based, culturally competent systems of care for children and youth with special health care needs. To order copies of **Voices From Home**, *free of charge*, please visit <http://www.familyvoices.org/catalog.htm> or call 1-888-835-5669.

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