## Kentucky Family to Family Health Information Centers

## **Statement of Diversity**

The Kentucky Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs Family to Family Health Information Centers (KY F2F HI Centers) values the diversity of the many individuals who strive for quality health care for children and youth with special health care needs. It is only by drawing from the experiences and diversity of our families, friends and partners that the KY F2F HI Centers will be able to provide opportunities for family to family mentoring. Mentoring that will assist families to increase their ability to access services and supports, be more self-assured as they participate in decision-making and make informed choices about health care that promotes good treatment decisions, cost effectiveness and improve health outcomes for children throughout their lives. The KY F2F HI Centers would like to outline their commitment to provide services to all families, children and youth with special health care needs.

KY F2F HI Centers believe that health care services for children and youth with special health care needs should be family-centered, community-based, comprehensive, coordinated and culturally competent;

KY F2F HI Centers promotes the inclusion of all families and/or youth as decision makers at all levels of health care to make sure they receive the provision of quality care and improvement of care outcomes that are beneficial to the child, youth and his/her family;

KY F2F HI Centers supports the exploration, development and maintenance of essential and supportive partnerships between children, youth, families and professionals;

KY F2F HI Centers believes in the principles that family-centered health care benefits and services for children and youth should be flexible, guided by need, and within geographic reach;

The KY F2F HI Centers believes by including cultural and ethnic diversity it improves the quality of outcomes, products, services for which it as an organization is responsible;

Therefore, the KY F2F HI Centers are committed to making every effort to understand value, include considerations related to diversity and cultural competence into its work and operational structure.

Kentucky Family to Family Health Information Centers are committed to providing the necessary training and resources to its network to develop attitudes, knowledge and skills to enable staff to provide culturally competent services to families of children and youth with special health care needs.

Kentucky Family to Family Health Information Centers defines "Diversity" as valued differences based on ethnicity, age, socio-economic status, religion, language, national origin, political belief, creed, race, color, sex, height, weight, geographic location, disability, gender identity, marital status, and veteran status; and "Cultural Competency" as a fluid, ongoing life-long process that involves the individuals within the network's ability to think, feel, and act in ways that acknowledge, respect and build upon ethnic, sociocultural, and linguistic diversity allowing individuals to work effectively cross-culturally.



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