

Families Helped ✧ Lives Enhanced

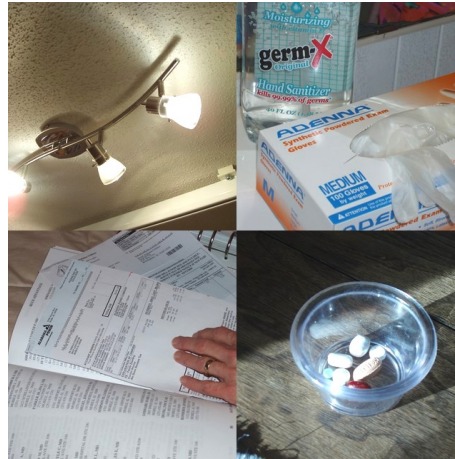
At any point a family can be faced with unexpected challenges when a family member has a disability. The need for support is a community affair.

Corssica needed a ramp, her family could not afford the work. Without a way to leave the house she was trapped, separated from her neighborhood. Help from volunteers provided a ramp and brought freedom to this young lady and her family.



Volunteer and Corssica communicate.

Enhancing the lives of Alabamians with disabilities



Utilities, medical supplies, and medicines are all needs that can challenge the family budget. Family Support provides assistance for area families that are facing major hardships while caring for a family member. In addition, the individual with disabilities who is living independently may also receive assistance.

Family Support

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Created in 1993 by the Alabama Legislature, **Family Support** was the result of a grass-roots movement of families and adults with disabilities. By providing assistance through the Individual & Family Support Program we are improving the quality of life of individuals with disabilities.

"Whatever is needed," is provided within available funds, and may include information and referrals, home modifications, food, clothing, therapy, prescription drugs, utilities assistance, childcare, and special holiday assistance.



Volunteer youth help build ramps, modify homes, and make repairs for families unable to get this work done with their limited resources.

Our Vision



Providing holiday assistance brings joy to children who face great challenges.

Families face many conditions that reduce their quality of life. Isolation from the community resulting from caregiving responsibilities, financial hardships, lack of supports, and limited accessibility within the community makes a difficult situation even more challenging.

Family Support envisions a day when every family receives the respect and support that will allow them to fully participate in community life and share in the opportunities that can lead to a secure, quality lifestyle. This will make Alabama's communities stronger.

What needs to be done?

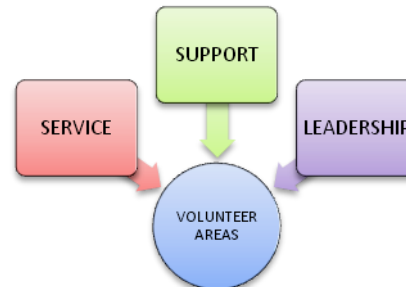
There are many unmet needs in communities all across Alabama. Some areas that need our focus are as follows:

- ★ Employment opportunities
- ★ Accessible housing
- ★ Medical/assistive equipment
- ★ Long-term care planning
- ★ Social/recreational opportunities
- ★ Personal care services
- ★ Respite/child care
- ★ Summer camp programs
- ★ Medical care/ prescription drugs
- ★ Resource information

To address these needs Family Support utilizes volunteers with a wide variety of skills. Donations, grants, service contracts, and partnerships with other social service agencies and organizations provide critical resources. Needs, however, surpass our ability to help.



Your support is needed. Donations of time as well as financial gifts will help get the job done. Volunteer activities fall into three areas:



Service—this area deals with direct contact with citizens receiving help and may include working on a ramp or other home modification, collecting, organizing, or packaging food for distribution around Thanksgiving, or holiday assistance activities such as seeking donated toys, purchasing requested gifts, or delivering presents to families.

Support—this area deals with resource development such as fundraising, grant writing and supervision/training/coordination of volunteers. A wide variety of activities are designed to provide critical resources to our organization.

Leadership—this area deals with our internal management systems. It involves participation in the organizational structure, and may involve being a member of the Board of Trustees, a board committee, or organizational committee. Work in our leadership area provides our organization with the wide range of skills necessary to move Family Support forward as it accomplishes its goals to expand services, raise public awareness of key issues facing families, and secures the necessary resources to fulfill its mission in the community.

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