

# Family Support Partners

Families Empowering Families

## Overview

Family Support Partners are parents who've experienced first-hand what it's like to have a child struggling with mental, emotional or behavioral health challenges.

**By providing emotional support, advocacy, and education, Family Support Partners:**

- Establish a rapport with families by sharing lived experiences
- Assist families with identifying their strengths and needs
- Ensure the youth and family's voice and choice are heard
- Reconnect with or establish natural supports
- Connect families with resources in their community

UMFS is an essential agency and services are still available during the COVID-19 physical distancing restrictions. Family Support Partners connect with families over the phone, online, and through secure video conferencing, although they are not meeting in person at this time.

For more information please contact:  
Laura Giunta at [lg Giunta@UMFS.org](mailto:lg Giunta@UMFS.org) or  
703.941.9008 x302



# Collaboration

## Multiplies

## Impact

## What to Expect

Family Support Partner services can be paired with Intensive Care Coordination or used as a standalone support service.

**Some of the benefits of FSPs include:**

- Reduced inpatient psychiatric hospitalizations
- Reduced ER visits for mental health reasons
- Fewer residential placements
- Fewer missed work days for caregivers
- Families become more self-sufficient

## Our Approach

UMFS' Family Support Partners receive training in the High Fidelity Wraparound model, which is utilized in all forms of the FSP service.

120 YEARS  CUMFS