



Providing Advocacy to Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Non-offending Parents

Theresa Fears MSW

The Partnership 4 Safety Program

The Arc of Spokane

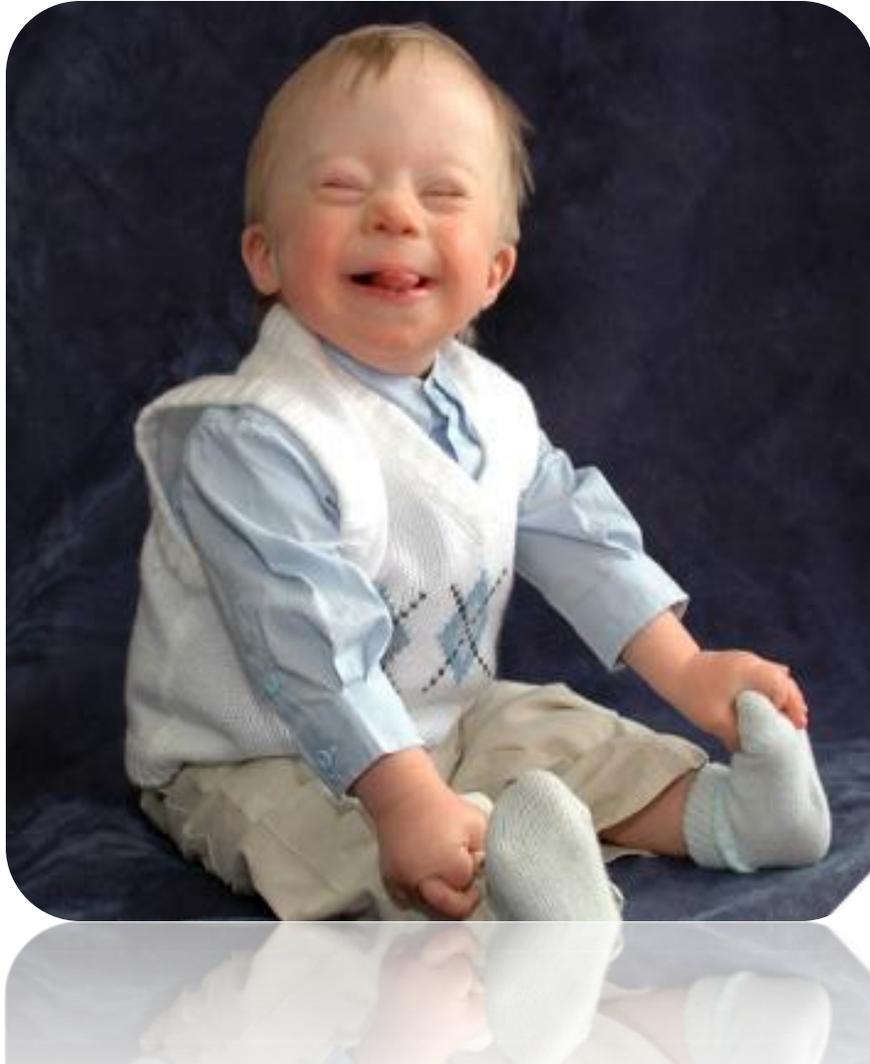


**Do you have any
experience with people
who have disabilities?**

What people think disability is



Washington State definition of Developmental Disability



Before age 18

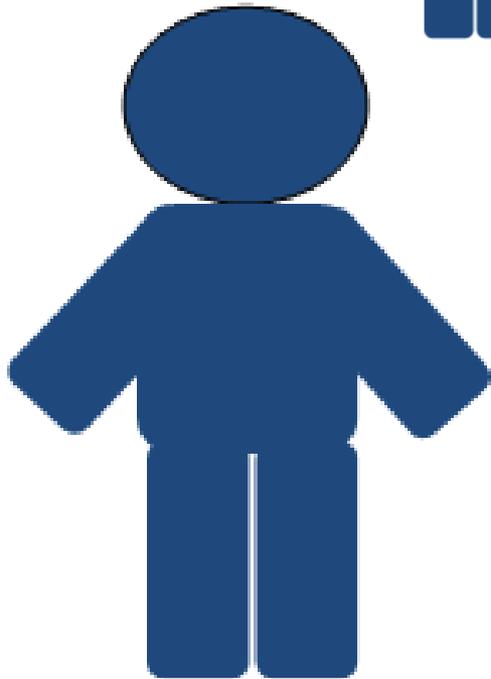
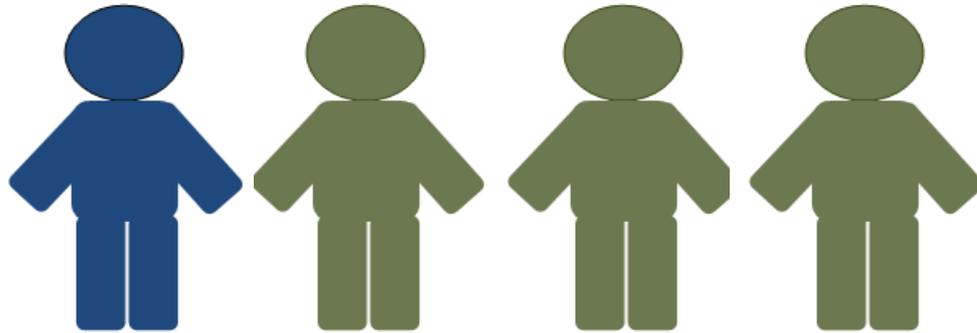
Can be expected to
continue through out
life

Results in substantial
limitations

Children with a Disability in Washington



Sexual Assault and children with IDD



**4.42 Times
Higher**

Risk Factors for Children with IDD

1. Beliefs about disability
2. Lack of Education
3. Disability



Being the Parent of a Child with Disabilities



Parental/Family Obligations

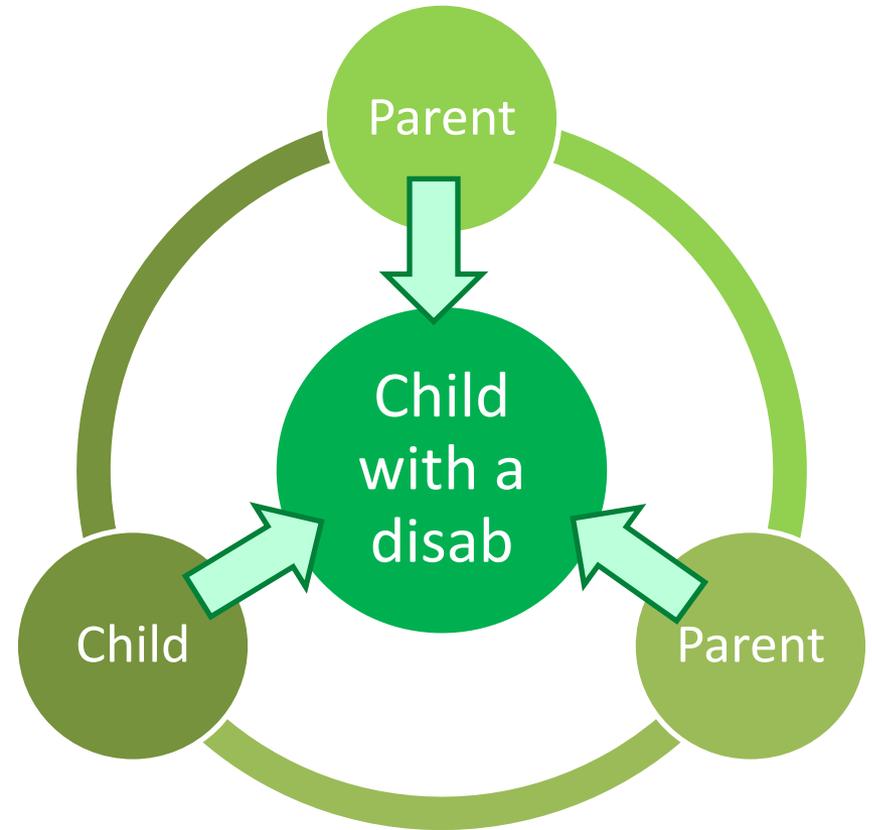
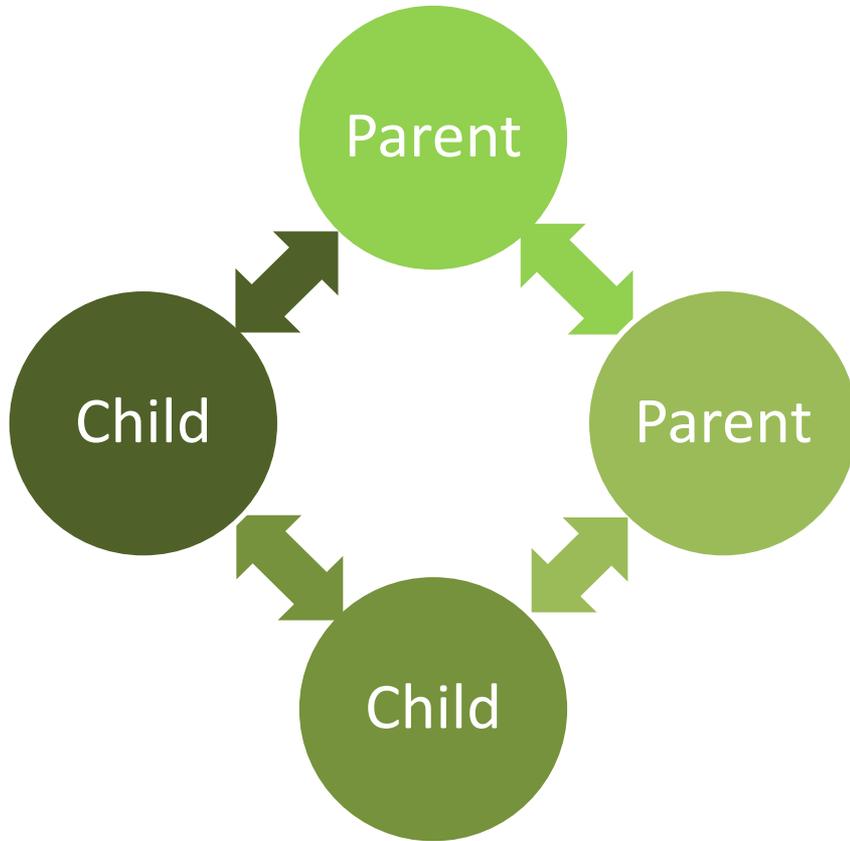
Respite Workers
Physical Therapists
DDA Case Manager
Special Education/IEP
Speech Therapy
Specialist Doctors
Occupational Therapy
Behavioral Intervention
Specialist Dentists
Mandatory Classes
Early Childhood programs

Extended Family
Friends
Church
Social Groups
Caregivers
Specialized
Occupational Therapy
Behavioral Intervention
Specialist Dentists
Mandatory Classes
Early Childhood programs

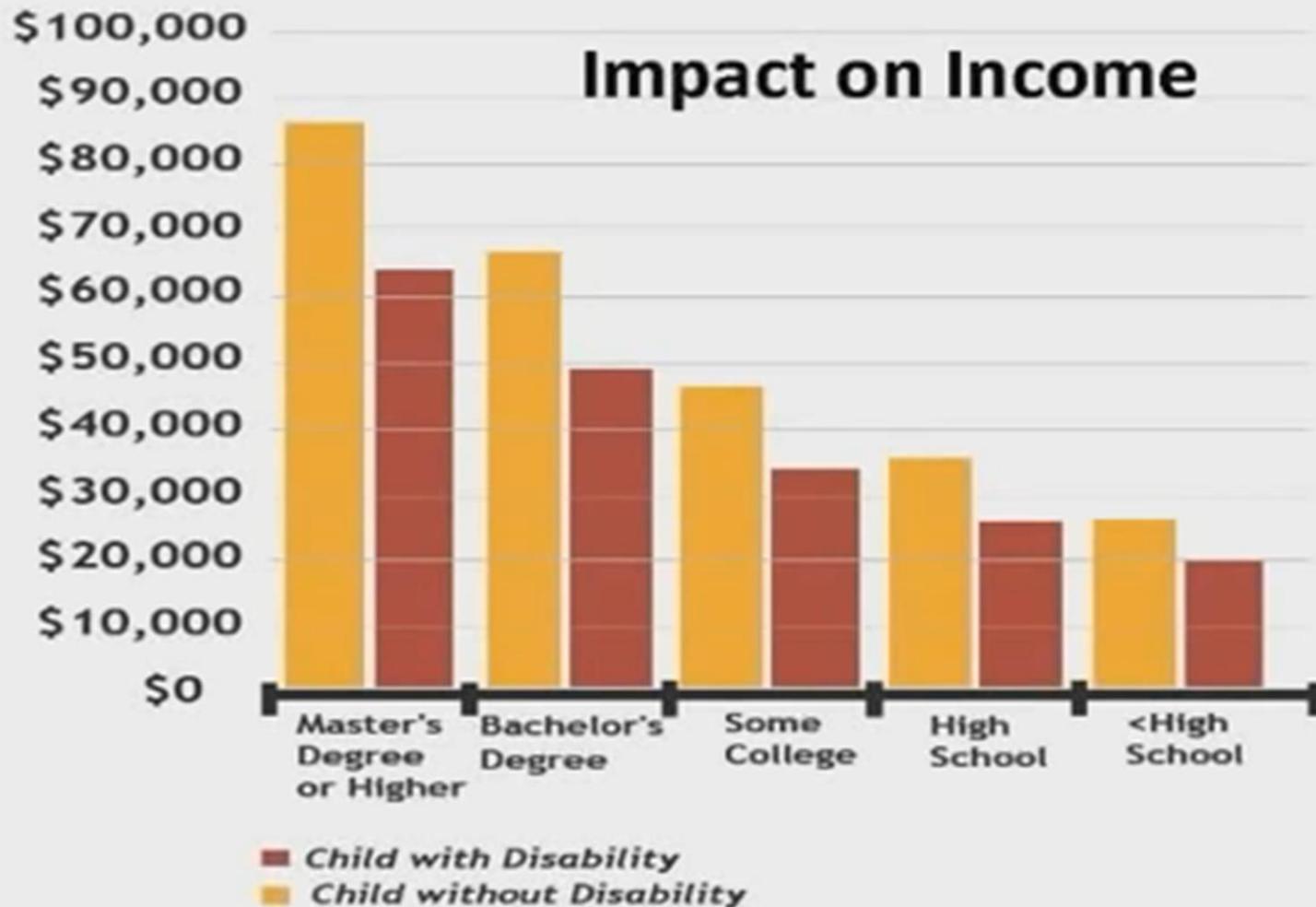
Disability Programs

Specialty Organizations
Specialist Audiologist

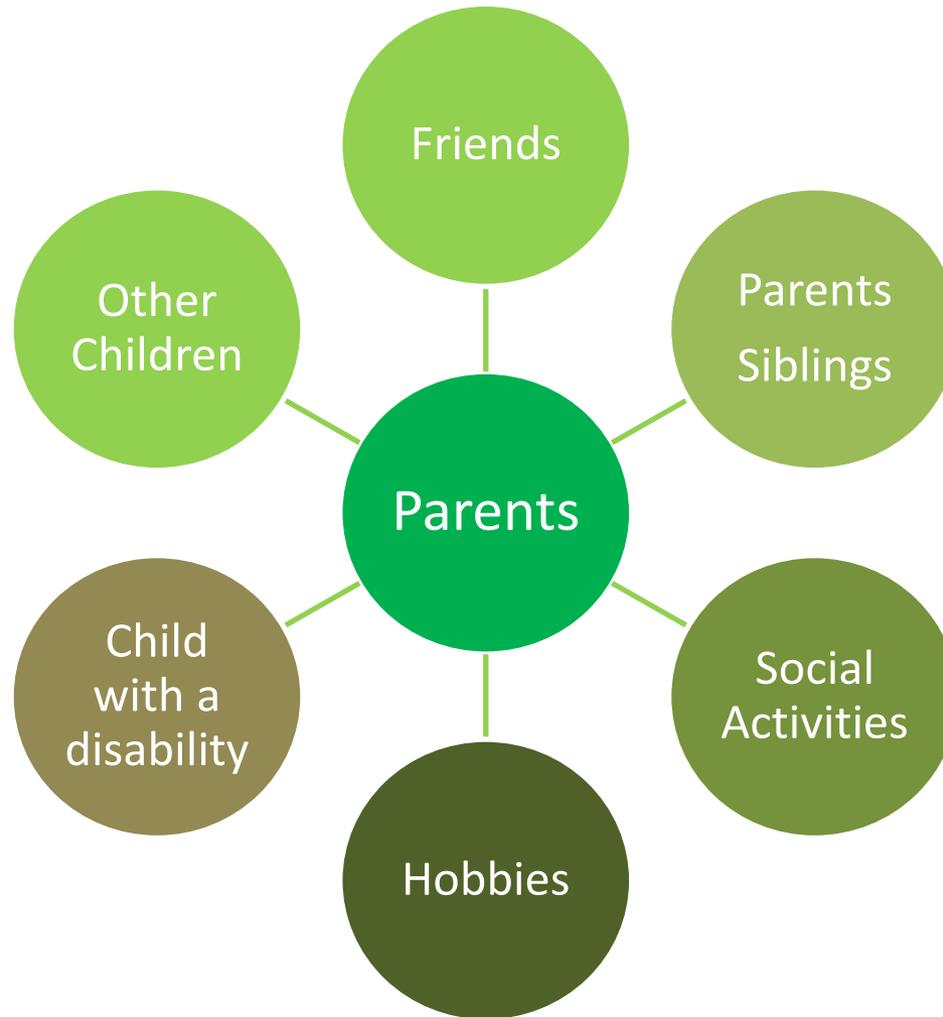
Changed Family Dynamics



Consequences of Unemployment



Emotional Costs - Isolation



Emotional Costs--Guilt

Disability in the Family: A Mother's Story

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBbul6FnBvE>

From the Headlines...

Va. Lawmaker: Disabled Kids are God's Punishment for Abortion

Republican Virginia State Delegate Bob Marshall said at a press conference last week that **God is taking "vengeance"** on parents who have had abortions by making their other children disabled, according to the News Leader in Central Virginia.

Cost too much money

In 2011, independent Wadebridge East councillor Mr Brewer told a charity worker "disabled children cost the council too much money and should be put down".

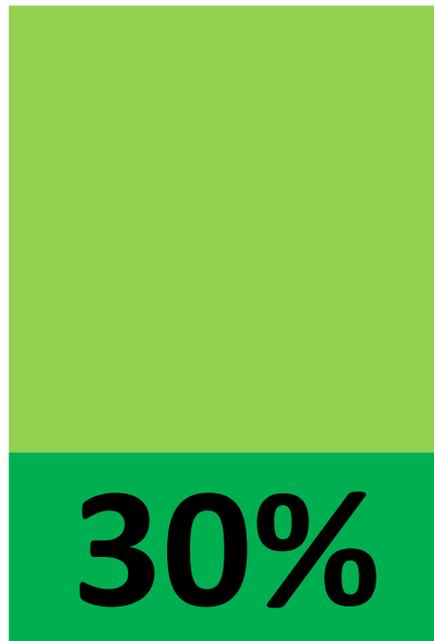


Disposable

Gardendale couple sentenced to **probation** after plea in malnutrition death of their Down syndrome child

The couple had been indicted for manslaughter after a medical examiner determined that their **16-month-old son** Justin Trent Stockton, who had **Down syndrome**, died April 22, 2010 of *severe malnutrition*.

Divorce and Disability



Birth - 3



10 years

System Exhaustion

Special Education IEP Meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LWNYnVFL2Cc>

Disability and Family Life

“My dear, here we must run as fast as we can, just to stay in place. And if you wish to go anywhere you must run twice as fast.”

*Alice Through the
Looking Glass*



Parental Fears



“Now” Centered



What Parents Need

A photograph of a woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a light blue shirt, hugging a young child from behind. The child is wearing a white shirt. They are outdoors, with a blurred green background. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Listen

Be Flexible

Ask Questions

Ask for help if you need it

The Strengths Of Families with a child with disabilities



Recommendations for Advocates

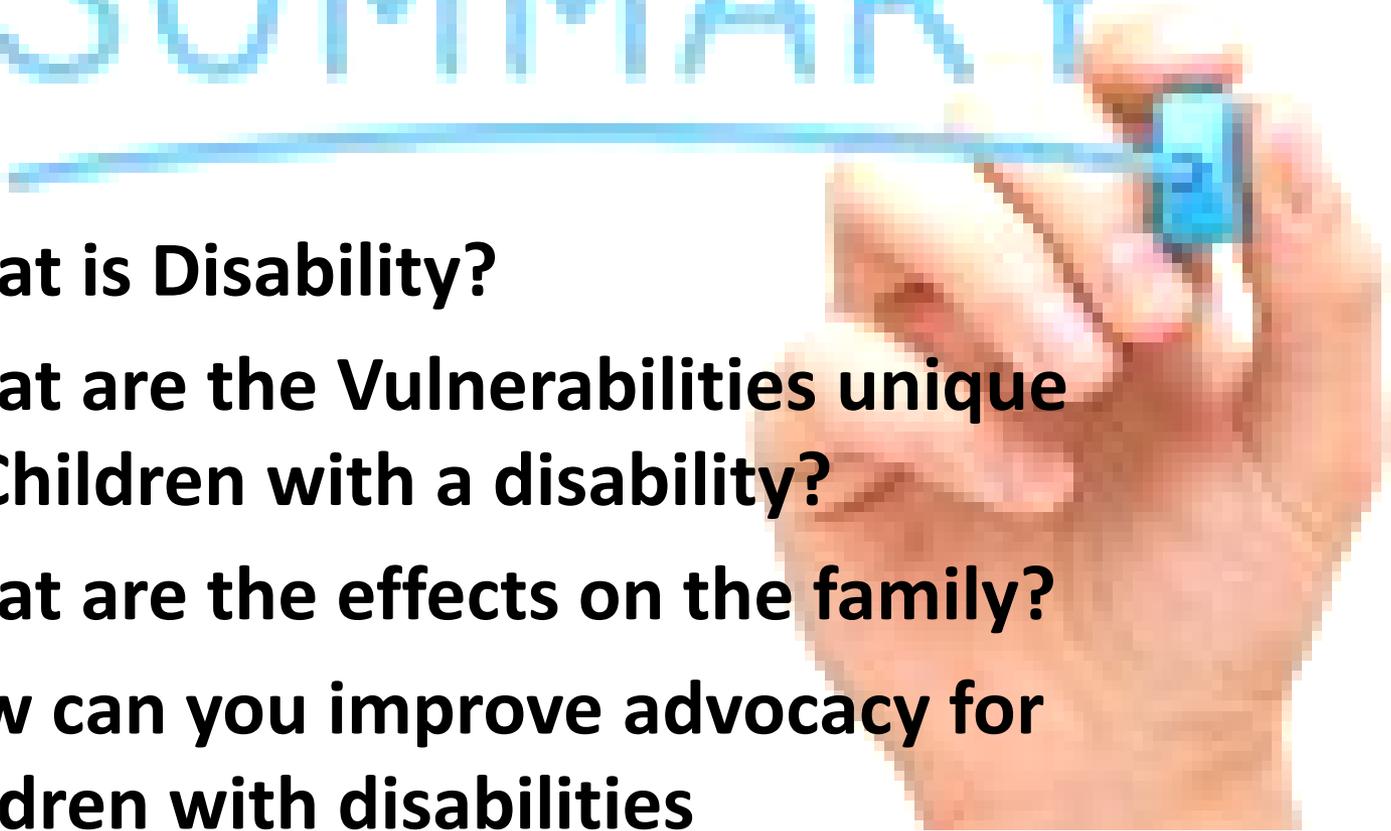
Build collaborations

Learn about
disability resources

Educate yourself



SUMMARY



What is Disability?

What are the Vulnerabilities unique to Children with a disability?

What are the effects on the family?

How can you improve advocacy for children with disabilities

Do You Have any
Questions
About Today's
Presentation?

References

- Positive Adaptation and Coping Strengths of Families Who Have Children with Disabilities , Summers, Behr, and Turnbull. (2009) Downloaded from <http://beachcenter.org>
- Partnering with Families of Children, Ray, Pewitt-Kinder and George, downloaded from <http://www.naeyc.org/>
- Forgotten Families – the impact of isolation on families across the UK, (2011) downloaded from: http://www.cafamily.org.uk/media/381636/forgotten_isolation_report.pdf

References

- The US census
- Caring for Children with Disabilities and their Families in Ohio: The Impact on Families downloaded from:
<http://ddc.ohio.gov/pub/OHFamImpStudyWhitePaper-FINAL.pdf>
- A report on the Needs of People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Families in Spokane County , B. Holloway, The Arc of Spokane, (2014)
- Family Consequences of Children's Disabilities, D. Hogan, Russell Sage Foundation (2012)