



Dear Family Support Professional,

The staff here at SFTA recognizes the enormous amount of work you and your co-workers put in every day. Often you are faced with difficult or saddening situations and struggle to resolve them the best you can with limited time, funding, and resources. We are aware of how much you give back on a daily basis, and we want others to know too. Let us share your stories. **Because you deserve to be heard, the families you work with deserve to be heard, and through sharing your experiences, together we can raise community awareness about the importance of FRC services, and build support systems so you can focus on what you do best—changing lives.**

Please take a moment to write or type a brief story below. It can be a success, a situation you would like to raise awareness about or something you learned that could benefit other FRC professionals. Use this sheet to quickly write things down as they happen, or to write a longer, more detailed story. There is no deadline. This is to benefit your work. **(*If you need ideas please see the prompts on page 2 for inspiration!)**

When you are ready, there are many ways to share your stories! Post them on the SFTA [WhatWorks blog](#), e-mail them to kelly@supportingfamieltogether.org, fax them to: (608) 441-5399, or mail them to the address below.

Topics for Thought

Just a few ideas to jump-start your stories! These are only suggestions—you can focus on anything you would like. **The one thing to keep in mind is to pick a specific story to tell, not a broad issue.** If there is an issue you want to call attention to, use the telling of a specific story to really make it stand out!

What is one of the most memorable experiences you have had in this line of work and why?

What is one of the most common issues that the people coming into your family resource center need help with? Can you illustrate this with a specific example?

What positive changes have you seen in the children and families that participate in Play and Learns?

For you, what is a time that really exemplified what Play and Learns provide for children and families?

What are some of the experiences that you or co-workers have had through home visits?

What methods do you use to support families how to approach their child's social emotional development? What are benefits you have seen from support offered to families for social emotional development?

What are some ways you have helped assist families struggling with difficult financial situations?

What types of support groups do you offer within your community and what have you seen them do for participants?

What is a difficulty or barrier you have faced within your work that you feel you would have approached differently, or been able to solve more efficiently had you more or different resources? What resources or funding focus does this situation illustrate a need for?

What is an experience you had within your work that truly emphasized the value of FRCs and the work you do?

What specific ideas, techniques, methods, etc. has your FRC employed that were proven effective in the work you do?

Is there a time when FRC staff really pulled together with the community to accomplish a goal for the center, community, or both? Explain.

Remember, these are only suggestions. Notes, bullet points, or a brief outline of a story is sufficient to send in. We will do the work of putting it into full story format. We know how busy you are! 😊