

## "From the Heart"

*News from the Family to Family Health Information Center*

October 2012

Here in Alabama we are starting to feel the first touch of fall weather, which means football, fall festivals and before we know it, we will be planning for the holidays and time to be spent with friends and family. The Family to Family Health Information Center project has been busy, and we wanted to share some of our recent activities with you, as well as give you some information on what we have planned for the coming months.

On April 16 & 17, our second annual Partners in Care Summit was held in Prattville, AL. It was a wonderful two days of learning, networking and information sharing. If you were unable to join us, each session was recorded, and links to those presentations can be found on our website. Also, **mark your calendars now for our 2013 Summit which will be held April 8 & 9**, again at the Marriott in Prattville. We hope that you can be a part of this opportunity to build leadership skills and increase partnerships with professionals working with children and youth with special health care needs.

We have been presenting and exhibiting at various events throughout Alabama, including the YLF Parent Seminar, and the AL Council for Developmental Disabilities/AL Association for People in Supported Employment annual conference. We have also conducted numerous workshops on our **Care Notebook**, a step-by-step guide to organizing health information for a child/youth with special needs. You can order a notebook or download individual pages for your use on our website, [www.familyvoicesal.org](http://www.familyvoicesal.org). A companion piece to our **Care Notebook** was developed and shared at this year's Partners in Care Summit-The **Transition to Adult Health Care Guide** is also available on our website or by calling our toll free number.

Enclosed you will find a new **Tip Sheet** with detailed information about the **Medical Home**: what it is, and what your role is, as a patient partnering with your primary care provider, in developing one.

Finally, we are in the midst of planning for activities at this year's Early Intervention and Preschool Conference, to be held in Mobile on December 3-5<sup>th</sup>. Family Voices and the Family to Family Health Information Center will be exhibiting, presenting, and also coordinating the **Family Leadership Training Session on Monday, December 3**. Check our website for more details about this exciting opportunity!