

# **FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES**

## WHAT IS FSS?

The OPWDD Family Support Services (FSS) Program is specifically tailored to support families who care for relatives with developmental disabilities in their homes. Its primary goal is to strengthen family stability and maintain family unity by offering a range of essential supports and services.



### **EXAMPLES OF FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES:**

- Advocacy
- After School Programs
- Assistive/Durable Medical Equipment
- Behavioral or Crisis Services
- Camp Services
- Family Counseling or Training

- Family Reimbursement
- Recreation Activities
- Respite
- Sensory Items
- Social Skills Training
- Transportation

### IMPORTANT FSS CRITERIA

- OPWDD eligibility must be established.
- Enrollment in Medicaid or a Care Coordination Organization is not required.
- An application must be submitted to the FSS service provider to be approved.
- Each FSS service must be related to disability.
- Recipients must reside at home full-time with non-paid family members or caregivers.
- All other funding and service sources should be exhausted before seeking FSS.
- When a comparable item is available at a lesser cost, the lesser item must be utilized.

### **EMERGENCY REIMBURSEMENTS**

Reimbursements for crisis situations are available once per family, per type of request. This is separate from the usual FSS funds and conditions apply.