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|  | **Creating a Family Leadership Council** | | | | | | | |
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|  | The purpose of a Special Olympics Family Leadership Council (FLC) is to: | | | | | | | |
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|  |  | 1 | Be the voice of Special Olympics family members in your Program. | | | | |  |
|  |  | 2 | Serve Special Olympics family members. | | | | |  |
|  |  | 3 | Develop family engagement strategies. | | | | |  |
|  |  | 4 | Provide feedback on family engagement initiatives. | | | | |  |
|  |  | 5 | Promote family engagement. | | | | |  |
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|  |  | **TIPS TO CONSIDER** | | | | |  | |
|  | * Recruit a diverse group of 5-10 dedicated family members to be on this council. * Try to include at least 1 sibling representative on the council. * Create an in-person or virtual meeting schedule. * Create a term limit for the council members. We suggest a 2-year term limit. * Create goals and objectives for the council. * Appoint a paid or volunteer staff to oversee the council. | | | | | | | |
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|  | **Potential Committee Member Roles and Role Descriptions:** | | | | | | | |
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|  |  | **Chairperson** | | | | * Leads all FLC meetings. * Communicates regularly with the Vice Chairperson on issues related to the FLC. * Creates meeting agendas based on collected feedback from other members. * Helps ensure FLC actions are in line with Program strategies. * Performs other responsibilities as assigned by the FLC. | | |
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|  |  | **Vice Chairperson** | | | | * Performs Chairpersons responsibilities when Chairperson is not available. * Communicates regularly with the Chairperson. * Assists in the creation of meeting agendas. * Performs other responsibilities as assigned by the FLC. | | |
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|  |  | **Council Member** | | | | * Regularly attends committee meetings. * Propose ideas to improve family engagement efforts. * Be proactively involved locally to promote family engagement initiatives. * Makes commitment to participate actively in committee work. * Gathers feedback from peers and communicates this to the council. * Provides feedback and suggestions on meeting agenda. * Accepts assignments set by the FLC and completes them on time. * Reviews and comments on minutes and reports. * Performs other responsibilities as assigned by the FLC | | |
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|  | **Potential Committee Member Projects:** | | | | | | | |
|  | * Plan and execute a Family Health Forum * Host Family Sports Days designed for families to participate in sport alongside their athletes. This could include modified sports activities suitable for all abilities. Emphasize the importance of physical activity for the whole family. * Offer workshops to teachers and coaches on effective communication and collaboration with Special Olympics families. * Organize regular family events where families can come together in a relaxed and fun setting. This could be a picnic, a sports day, or a themed party. Include activities that cater to various abilities and interests to ensure everyone feels included. * Establish a support group for parents and caregivers. This can provide a platform for sharing experiences, advice, and resources. Invite guest speakers, such as professionals in the field of special education or sports, to share insights. * Create a group for families on a messaging platform such as WhatsApp to connect with one another. | | | | | | | |

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