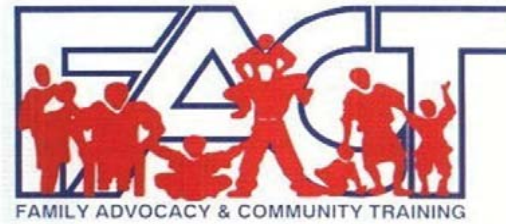


F.A.C.T.'s Mission is to mentor and empower families through advocacy and training to improve the quality of life and opportunities for children and young adults with disabilities.

F.A.C.T.'s Vision is a community where ALL children and young adults are supported through their challenges, valued for their diversity and fully included as they choose.

Today the agency serves individuals and the community through parent training in self-advocacy, direct advocacy assistance, disability awareness and mediation.



A Non-Profit Agency Providing Support for Families of Children and Young Adults with Disabilities

F.A.C.T. is funded by:

The Developmental Disability Resource Board of St. Charles County and The Community and Children's Resource Board of St. Charles County

800 Friedens Road, Suite 200  
St. Charles, MO 63303  
Phone: 636-949-2425  
Fax: 636-724-3664

[www.factmo.org](http://www.factmo.org)



## ADVOCACY

F.A.C.T. was founded in 1987 by parents who had children with disabilities; they sought to unravel the mystery of the special education process that often left families feeling frustrated, isolated and inadequate. They were determined to provide a program that would value and support effective parental input in a child's education and improve outcomes and high school completion rates for all children with disabilities.



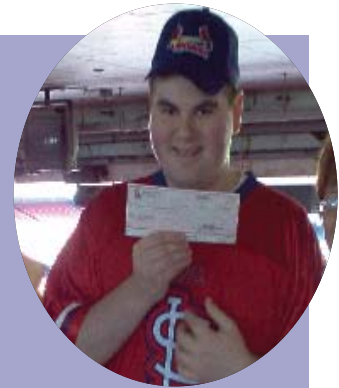
Advocacy is ...

- \* Encouraging advocates, especially parents, to help themselves and students with disabilities.
- \* Building self-confidence.
  - \* Analyzing and resolving problems
- \* Locating the person who has the power to make decisions
  - \* Understanding and using the law
  - \* Knowing where to go for help
- \* Organizing for change
- \* Investigating complaints
- \* Settling valid complaints informally
- \* Settling valid complaints through proper procedures

F.A.C.T. offers monthly support groups and training that can provide you with the most updated information that will help you support your child with a disability in pursuing their educational needs.

Consider making a difference in the life of a child who has developmental disabilities by making a tax deductible contribution.

You can do so by visiting our web site at [www.factmo.org](http://www.factmo.org)



## COMMUNITY AWARENESS

F.A.C.T. is committed to bringing awareness to our community. We have many programs to support families who have children with disabilities. One of these programs is the Dees Memorial Scholarship. Each year the scholarship is awarded to a graduating student who has shown perseverance. It is a celebration of abilities.



## PARTNERSHIP WITH FAMILIES

Together with other county mental health providers, F.A.C.T. provides the Parent Partners for the P.W.F. program. P.W.F. engages children and youth who have serious emotional disorders and their families into a “system of care” service model. This model uses family members, youth serving agencies, school personnel, mental health professionals and other identified community residents who are important to the child or youth in the program.

## PEOPLE FIRST

F.A.C.T. is the lead agency for People First; an adult self-advocacy and self-help organization run by and for people who have developmental disabilities.