

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Family Driven Support Services Program (FDSS) is to promote, improve and sustain the quality of life for persons with mental retardation and their families. The purpose of the FDSS is to enhance the family's ability to provide a supportive, positive home environment for the family member with mental retardation thus reducing the need for out of home placements.

It is the goal of the Cumberland/Perry Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program to achieve this mission by ensuring that parents and other caretakers have access to support services to maintain a positive home environment for their family member with mental retardation. Since the family is the primary source of daily supervision, economic support and emotional support, the focus of the FDSS is to give families power to choose what services are necessary to support the home environment for their family member with mental retardation while still complying with the current regulations on Family Support Services. This empowerment of families is based on the belief that families will choose the best and most effective ways to utilize resources for support, education and training. Families will assume an active role in service planning and increase their ability to advocate for their needs and the needs of their family member with mental retardation.