

## CMR Educational Advocacy



Since its inception by parents in 1952, advocating for quality educational opportunities for our children has been a vital part of our organization. A little over 50 years ago our local school systems excluded all students with moderate and severe disabilities. Today, by federal and state law, all children have the right to go to school, to receive a quality education, and to be served in the least restricted environment.

The Council understands that this would not have happened without the dedication, hard work and tenacity of parents, determined to move school systems forward in a positive and more inclusive direction.

**As parents, and as an organization, our work is not done.** Although many of our children with special needs receive quality educational services, this is not true for all of our children. **This is NOT acceptable.** All children have the right to develop and learn in the best way possible, so that they may, in turn, share their gifts and strengths with our community. Parents have always made the difference for their children. There are many ways that you can be an educational advocate for your child. Listed below are some activities in which you may want to participate. **Please fill out the bottom part of this form and return to Parent Outreach, 1146 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Louisville, KY 40203**

*To contact a staff person: email at: [outreach@councilonmr.org](mailto:outreach@councilonmr.org) or call at 584-1239*

*Our organization typically serves families in Jefferson County and the surrounding counties.*

- I would like to receive a bi-monthly newsletter containing information on local/regional educational workshops and meetings, as well as other resource information.
- I am interested in receiving information on trainings specific to the law (Individual Disabilities Education Act) and to the rights of parents.
- I would like to be a "parent advocate" and assist other parents who are new to the educational issues facing parents of children in special education programs.
- I am interested in participating with a group of parents who are addressing specific issues for children with disabilities in the public school system.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Age \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Disability \_\_\_\_\_ School Attends \_\_\_\_\_

**Family members of adults with disabilities** are also welcome to call 584-1239 to receive information on community resources and/or to be put in contact with a parent volunteer.