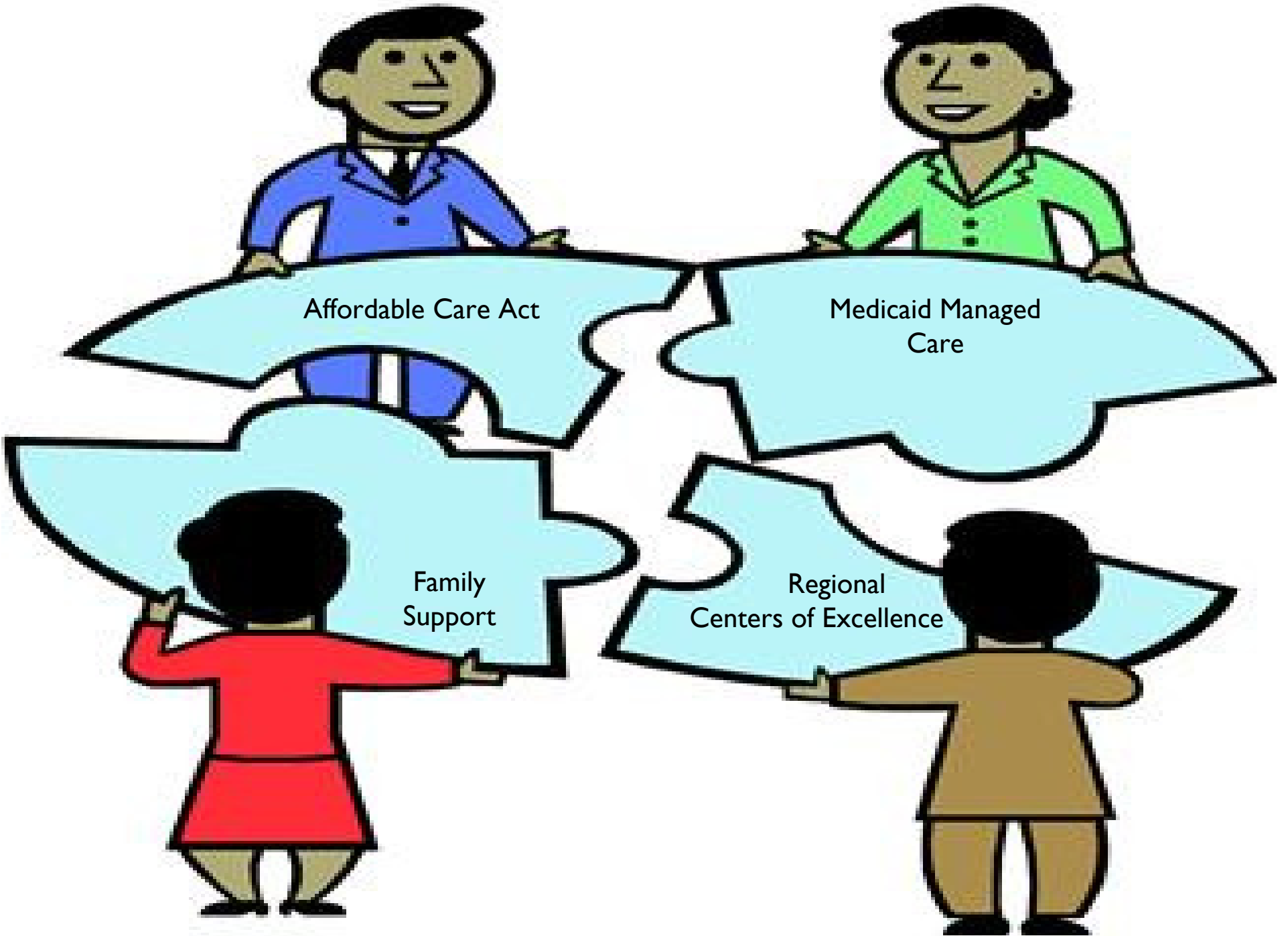




# Family Support The Revised Draft Definition Within a Changing Behavioral Health System

**Children's Mental Health Services  
Staff Development Training Forum  
December 4, 2013  
Saratoga Springs, New York**



Affordable Care Act

Medicaid Managed  
Care

Family  
Support

Regional  
Centers of Excellence



# **Environmental Changes Prospects for Opportunities**

## **Federal Affordable Care Act**

- Increase number of families eligible for Medicaid
- Health Exchanges

## **NYS Medicaid Redesign**

- Family Support as a billable service
- OCFS and OASAS

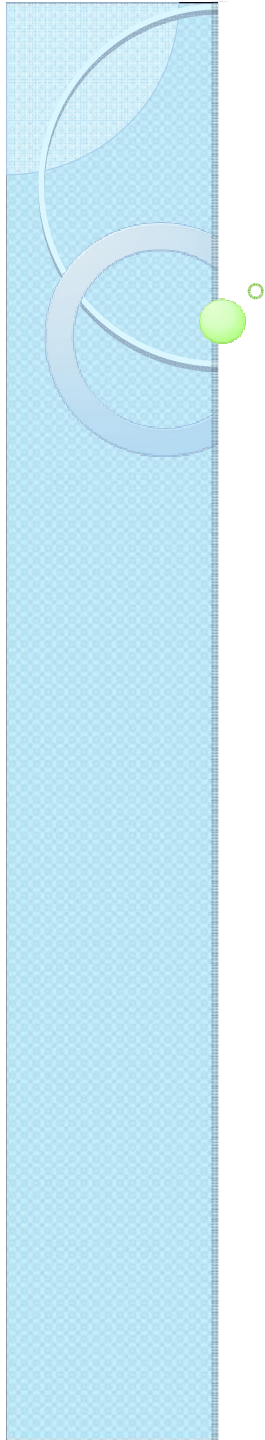
## **Regional Centers of Excellence**

- Opportunities
  - Potential increase in number and role of facility parent advisors
  - Potential increase in community-based family support assigned to State Facilities



## Why Revise?

- With 20 years under our belts we've refined our understanding of the role of family support and about the potential of Family Support to positively impact the experience of families in ways that can be a significant contributor to positive outcomes.
- Moving forward, family support needs to retain its flexibility/warmth/personal qualities while making the case for its inclusion in the service array by clarifying its role and demonstrating its impact on a wide range of outcomes.



# Family Support The Revised Draft Definition



# How we arrived at the revised definition? A culmination from

- The good work and honing in over the past two decades from multiple stakeholders
- Reviewing National Trends
  - Other States
  - Wrap Philosophy
- Reviewing CMS criteria to bill
  -



# Definition Critical and Forms the Basis for:

- Defining the scope of practice and competencies.
- Working toward shared understanding of the role with other collaborating professionals.
- A unified definition that will be applicable across all settings .
- Forming the basis for assessing outcomes (i.e. outcomes should be tied to the role and goals of FPA's).
- Helpful to families – what can they expect.



## Definition

Family Peer Support Services (FPSS) are an array of formal and informal services and supports provided to families raising a child up to age 23 who is experiencing social, emotional, developmental and/or behavioral challenges in their home, school, placement, and/or community.





## Definition

FPSS provide a structured, strength-based relationship between a Family Peer Advocate and the parent/family member for the benefit of the child/youth.

The purpose of this service is to support the parent/family member and enhance their skills so they can promote positive youth functioning and enhance their child's ability for successful independent living in their community.



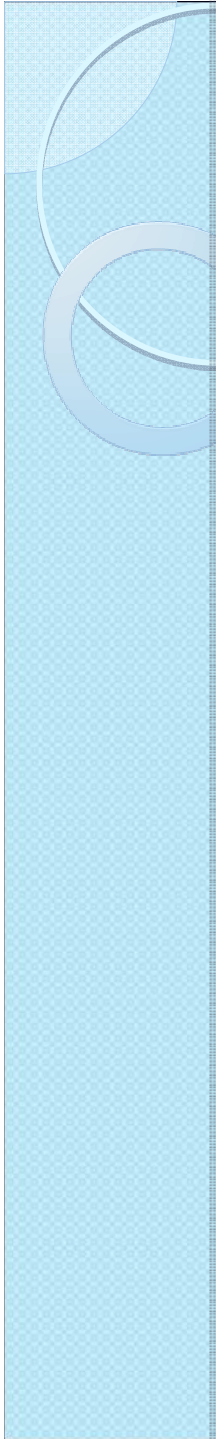
## Definition

FPSS are provided by a trained and credentialed Family Peer Advocate (FPA) who is uniquely qualified to work with families based on their personal experience parenting a child with similar needs and the specialized training they receive . FPSS can be provided through individual and group face-to-face work (at the family's home, in the community or in an office) and/or by telephone/Skype contacts.



# Services

- Outreach and Information
- Engagement, Bridging and Transition Support
- Self-Advocacy, Self-Efficacy and Empowerment
- Community Connections and Natural Supports
- Parent Skill Development
- Promoting
- Effective Family-Driven Practice



# Comments and Discussion