

STEP ONE

EXAMINE THE ROLE AND BENEFITS OF FAMILY HEALTH PARTNERS

Why become a Family Health Partner?

Some families knew the moment they were asked that they wanted to become more deeply engaged in their pediatric practice and give back to their practice. Others report they wanted to be a part of supporting changes and improvements to the practice. For some it was a chance to learn, to educate and to be a voice for families. Whatever the motivation, contributing to medical home transformation can be an opportunity for families to build their confidence and problem-solving capacity while discovering the value of caregiver expertise in partnering for quality improvement within their child's pediatric practice.

Below, Family Health Partners from the CHIPRA Massachusetts Medical Home Learning Collaborative share their personal stories and why partnering in their medical home matters to them.

WHY I PARTICIPATE, BY PARENT PARTNER ZIVA MANN, DECEMBER 14, 2013

Family partners can play a key role in providing guidance for how to make change work for practices transforming into medical homes. Ziva Mann is one of these family partners, working with a team from Cambridge Pediatrics in Massachusetts. An advocate and mother of a child with hemophilia, she shares her story on the importance of a medical home and how partnering with healthcare professionals helped a practice achieve improvements.

WHY I PARTICIPATE, BY PARENT PARTNER OLGA CAPPAS, AUGUST 15, 2013

In NICHQ's work on improving medical homes, healthcare professionals work closely with parents to make improvements to pediatric systems. Olga Cappas shares her story of raising a son with cerebral palsy and why the streamlined care offered in a medical home is so important.

Families interested in learning more about becoming Family Health Partners are encouraged to read the article **“Who You Gonna Call?”** as it contains helpful background information on family engagement and important questions for reflection at the end.