

FAACT S.H.A.R.E.S.

Our S.H.A.R.E.S framework provides a support model for diversity, equity, and inclusion to assist the communities we serve through intersectionality and equitable solutions for those living with food allergies.

What it all means...

For decades, families have worked to raise awareness about life-threatening food allergies. Many organizations have provided information, research, and outreach opportunities to the food allergy community, which now numbers 32 million Americans.

The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Connection Team (FAACT) provides education, civil rights advocacy, disability support, industry and healthcare news, support group assistance, organizational advocacy for legislation, and more. The common theme is that FAACT shares because we care. Both the leadership team and board members have personal connections to the the food allergy community.

The FAACT S.H.A.R.E.S framework provides an additional layer of support and advocacy by recognizing the diverse nature of our community. Within the model, we provide a clear-cut view of how our work aligns with our overarching commitment to the community.

The Framework

FAACT S.H.A.R.E.S.



"Inclusion gives us the ability to call people in who have historically been left out."

SEE

To fully include others, we must consistently acknowledge not only the existence of each person but also their lived experiences. Ignoring the life events of others with whom we do not share the same experiences can cause division and harm. At FAACT, we seek to be intentional about embracing the unique differences and values in our community while celebrating the similarities we have as humans.

HEAR

Active listening is a key component to effective communication. We are committed to the goal of listening more than we talk to create and take advantage of opportunities for actionable steps. This strategy is key in leading to real-world solutions for those impacted by food allergies.

ADVOCATE

Advocacy is at the core of our work. The authentic personal connections our leadership team and board share with the community help to improve empathy and support our understanding of the needs of all family structures for the purposes of better short- and long-term outcomes. Additionally, effective advocacy requires a commitment to continuous improvement of our existing resources. We must recognize that DEI includes intersectionality across race, national origin, cultural identity, gender identity, orientation, economic class, age, ability, thought, and religion.

RECOGNIZE

We reaffirm our commitment to encouraging efforts to bridge gaps, create and support solutions to dissolve barriers to access, and improve quality of connection in doctor-patient relationships that include challenges faced by underserved and or underrepresented communities. We recognize the challenges some families face in having all needs met in the healthcare space and actively seek remedies for relief that we can share with the community on a regular basis as they become available. At FAACT, we also recognize the support we have received from the food allergy community and express our gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

EDUCATE

In an ever-changing world, it is important for our staff to meet the growing needs of the community through education. We set expectations that the need to educate ourselves first is ever present. This gives us a clearer view of what it takes to provide better solutions. We are committed to growing our knowledge of cultural differences and beliefs that may impact the ways in which we receive information or disseminate it. We understand that this does not come without challenges, and we are proud to be working towards improved cultural competency that we can share within our community.

SUPPORT

We support primary and secondary schools and colleges in doing the work to become better advocates for those in the food-allergy community through multi-dimensional inclusion pathways. We also acknowledge that people with food allergies are present in workplaces and may face similar inclusion challenges. We support workplaces finding better ways to provide accommodations to food-allergic persons through open opportunities to share educational information and develop creative accommodation strategies that are both equitable and inclusive.

The Ask

For years, the food allergy community has seen changes in food labeling, prescription programs, legislation, support group formations, and more. We are proud to have been a part of this journey and constantly seek out new ways to be better at what we do. Creating an environment of total inclusion means that we must find innovative ways to identify and support existing members of our community who feel represented as well as people who do not feel represented. We ask that you continue to support us in our quest to provide education, awareness, and advocacy for all persons living with food allergies and anaphylaxis.