

# The Heart of Acceptance

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES  
Bringing Lived Experience to Family Support

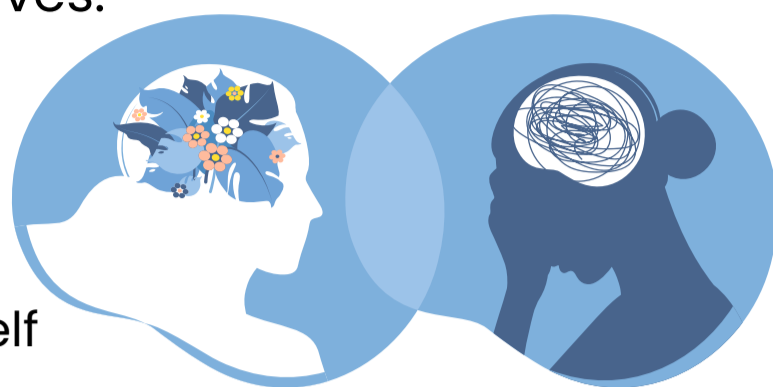


## What Acceptance of Mental Health Needs Means for Youth and Young Adults

Getting to the heart of the matter, young people shared how acceptance would change the way they think and feel about themselves.

### They said:

- I would feel more confident
- I would believe in myself
- I would love and accept myself
- I would be true to myself
- I would be able to find my value
- I would not feel like a bad kid
- I would feel wanted
- I would feel accepted, supported, and worthy
- I would feel welcomed and supported
- I would feel happier and understood
- I would feel I am loved and cared for as I am
- I would not feel shameful
- I would feel empowered
- I would feel the right to be unique
- I would have the ability to live and thrive
- I would smile again
- I would feel free to share my feelings
- I would feel important and valued
- I would have a stronger, more positive sense of self
- I would feel like I have a place in my community
- I would better understand myself and the world I live in
- I would have a happier, healthier lifestyle
- I would be more willing to share
- I would feel better about myself
- I would feel self-love
- I would feel more positive
- I would feel good about myself
- I would learn, grow and thrive
- I would have a healthier mind set
- I would have a healthier self-image
- I would feel successful
- I would be more comfortable being a part of my community
- I would feel encouraged and empowered
- I would feel successful in my goals
- I would have some fun along the way
- I would feel I can achieve independence and stability
- I would have self-acceptance
- I would strive to contribute to my community
- I would have self-esteem
- I would have normalcy
- I would have a successful, normal, and cultivated life
- I would be able to enjoy things other children enjoy
- I would be confident and wouldn't isolate myself



**"I would feel like the sky's the limit!"**



#youthvoice

#acceptance

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