



Kellie Smith **Educational Specialist** **Eastern Region**

(Wolfe, Lee, Breathitt, Perry, Knott, Floyd, Pike, Letcher, Leslie, Harlan, Scott, Harrison, Nicholas, Bourbon, Fayette, Clark, Montgomery, Bath, Menifee, Madison, Estill, Jessamine, Bracken, Robertson, Mason, Fleming, Rowan, Lewis, Greenup, Carter, Boyd, Elliott, Morgan, Lawrence, Morgan, Magoffin, Johnson, Martin, Jackson, Owsley, Clay, Laurel, Knox, Whitley, and Bell Counties)

My name is Kellie Smith. I am a 39 year-old mother and advocate in Berea. I have lived in or around Madison County for the past 17 years, but Leslie County will always be "home". I have a 21 year-old son with a Traumatic Brain Injury and our road has not been easy. As a young single mother in Leslie County, I had a difficult time finding resources and desperately needed assistance in my home town and even in surrounding towns. I left Leslie County in 2001 in pursuit of a better life for him. My goals are to educate parents that are in the same position that I found myself in all those years ago and still often find myself in today, as well as connect them will valuable resources and opportunities to assist their child live their best life. I communicate very well with individuals with disabilities, especially those with cognitive delays. I am an excellent "ear-to-listen" and supporter of the parent and support professionals of individuals with disabilities. My main area of interest is early intervention transition to adulthood.

"There is no more powerful advocate than a parent armed with information and options."

Rod Paige, Secretary of Education



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