Parent Advocacy
Training &
Supporting
Families

Adna Betwell
Heartland Regional Genetics Network 2024 Annual Meeting
April 24, 2024
Norman, OK
Adna Betwell, FPSS
Family Navigator
Dubuque Regional Center
Marshallese Outreach

I am passionate about helping the Dubuque Marshallese families and Marshallese families across the state of Iowa.

Kaliena, Kanes, Emmanuel & Adna Betwell
University of Iowa Child Health Specialty Clinics

- Map: Statewide network of 13 regional centers and 7 satellite locations
- Provides services and supports to Iowa children and youth with special health care needs and their families
  - Gap-filling clinical services
  - Care coordination
  - Family to family support
Supporting Marshallese families in Iowa

Family Navigator Role:
• Started in July 2019
• All children with any diagnosis
• Cover all of Iowa
• Serve 10-12 families each month
Supporting Marshallese families in Iowa

And provide......

• Emotional Support
• Resource Assistance
• System Navigation
• Social Media
• Support Group—Summer 2024
Supporting Marshallese families in Iowa

Parent Advocacy Training

- Partnership between Heartland & CHSC
- 2 parts: Information & Role Play
- Posters/Materials translated into Marshallese (Lynda Riklon)
- 26 Families
- Ottumwa and 2 in Dubuque
- Training evaluations were positive