FCC TASKFORCE SPOTLIGHT

MORGAN KOWALSKI
Program Manager, FCC Taskforce
Family Partner, Golisano Children's Hospital NICU at URMC
Parent of Tommy

Meet Morgan Kowalski! She has served on our Executive Council as a Family Partner since 2022 and as our Program Manager since June of 2023!

How were you personally activated to advocate for and support NICU families?
My son Tommy arrived at 25+1 just hours after we realized he was coming. He was inpatient at Golisano Children's Hospital NICU for 17 weeks where an incredible neo encouraged me to take notes & ask questions. Because of the outstanding care Tommy received at GCH, I felt called to give back via their Family Connection Program and have donated hundreds of hours of my time to help them implement a Small Baby Unit in their NICU, review policies & procedures, provide simulation workshops, and more. I manage @micropreemiesupport on IG which shares inspiring quotes & messages with other NICU parents at all stages of their journey.

What is your greatest wish in terms of the positive impact the FCC Taskforce members can make together in maternal-infant health?
Parents as Primary Care Providers!!! I want to see parents & caregivers viewed as experts in their infant's care from day <1 of life!

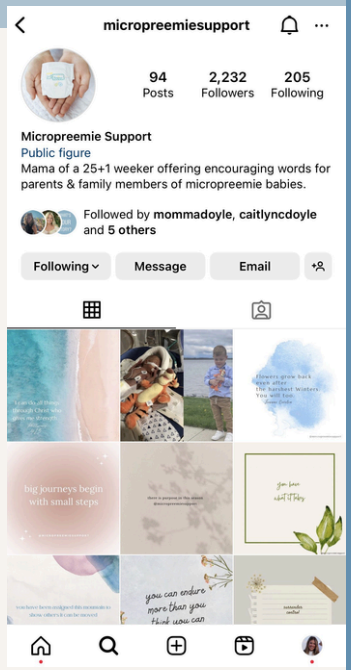
Anything else you want our community to know?
This is some of the most important work being done in neonatology, thank you for being part of it!

How does your organization/company/hospital support NICU families?
I created @micropreemiesupport on Instagram during Tommy's first week of life in 2018. When a google search of 'micropreemie' yielded almost no family-centered results, I felt called to create a space where NICU parents could lean on each other and share milestones with the convenience that only social media offers.

What are the greatest needs of families in maternal-infant health you observe through your work?
Education, inclusivity, support (emotionally and otherwise) and judgement-free, label-free care.

What insight or advice do you have for healthcare partners who want to implement/strengthen FCC practices in their hospital?
Each time you interact with a NICU parent/caregiver, you have an opportunity to empower them, educate them, and include them in their baby's care. Find language that feels authentic to you as an individual and can be used consistently & inclusively to lift the voices & presence of NICU families.

What does being part of the FCC Taskforce mean to you personally?
I feel like anything is possible in family-centered care when our FCC Taskforce community comes together - the energy and expertise of our membership is inspiring and invigorating! It is an absolute honor to serve as Program Manager and feels like my call to action. The growth our organization has experienced in just the last 12 months is incredible and I'm excited to see what the future holds for neonatal and perinatal care around the globe.



Healthcare partners are... *important parts of our story and family legacy.*

NICU & bereaved parents are... *the strongest people on the planet.*

FAMILY-CENTERED CARE TASKFORCE