

For this month's topic we were told to discuss how having a family member with a disability affects the whole family. I'm sure for those of you reading our newsletter each month your interest in our organization comes from the fact that what we do hits home for you in that you, a family member or someone you know as a disability. You don't need me to tell you that having a disabled family member affects the whole family. You already know it. Every family has something that forces them to be stronger.

I did however want to take this opportunity to tell you about a new show that recently came out and I recently came across that depicts the realities of having a disabled family member. The show is called "speechless".

The show is about a boy, who uses a wheelchair and is unable to speak but communicates through an augmented communication device, and his family, primarily his mother and her internal conflict of wanting to protect her son while at the same time giving him the freedom that any high school student demands.

The show is highly relatable and from what I know/have seen, the first of its kind. It's really refreshing to watch a show that breaks down the barriers of what a family goes through with having a family member with a disability. Give it a watch on Wednesday at 8:30pm on ABC.

