



Our Story

Sibshops

In 1978, [Don Meyer](#) was a graduate student of Special Education at the University of Washington. Energetic and kind, Don was a natural teacher to whom kids were immediately drawn. At UW, Don was challenged by a professor to consider the impact of a disability on family members who were not typically found in clinic waiting rooms: first fathers, then, eventually, grandparents and siblings. Don quickly learned there were considerable needs among these family members, but few supports to address them.

The Sibling Support Project



In less than a decade, Sibshops flourished and grew not only in Seattle and Washington State, but across the U.S. Increasingly, parents and service providers recognized the importance of supporting young brothers and sisters,

and reached out to learn more about how to do so through Sibshops.

In 1990, Don created the Sibling Support Project, the first national program in the U.S. dedicated entirely to recognizing and promoting the important roles that siblings play in their families and communities, and to creating opportunities for brothers and sisters of all ages to receive the information and resources they need to support their families and themselves.

The Sibling Support Project began at Seattle Children's Hospital, which to this day offers outstanding Sibshops throughout the year.

In 2006, the Sibling Support Project joined [Kinderling](#), Washington State's largest neurodevelopmental and most comprehensive neurodevelopmental center.