Trauma Informed & Healing Centered
Family Engagement

Module One

What is family engagement?

My definition of family engagement:

Definition of family engagement used by Family Engagement Consulting Team.

Family engagement refers to the systematic inclusion of families in activities and programs that promote children's development, learning, and wellness, including in planning, development and evaluation.

Practices that I feel good about

List specific things you do in your own practice, and/or that are norms or policies at your organization you think are good examples of family engagement.

Growth Mindset Notes: How am I applying this information to how I engage with families?

Voice and Choice

- Family perspectives are intentionally elicited and prioritized.
- Professionals work to provide options and choices to ensure that all decisions and plans reflect the client's and families' values and preferences.
- Decisions are grounded in child, youth or other client's and their family members' perspectives.

Opportunities I am already taking advantage of.

New ways I can provide voice and choice to families.

What can we offer more voice and choice in?

- Intake processes
- Screening processes
- Communication methods
- Transitions between workers and/or programs (internal and external)
- Referral sources
- Outreach processes
- Program evaluation and use of evaluation data for planning

Have we considered?

- Out of the box strategies to offer choices.
- If our spaces are set-up to promote choice.
- Perception is reality. Do families leave interactions with us feeling an increased sense of agency.
- How problem solving and decision making are grounded in client and family strengths/assets.
- How considerations of family and community culture are integrated to all phases of engagement.

Four work areas that impact family engagement

Below are four areas of our work that impact family engagement. Consider how these four areas intersect with the intake, initial meeting, feedback and crisis intervention processes. What aspects of your processes are strengths and which are areas of needed focus?

Physical Environment	Strengths: Needs:
Personal Interaction	Strengths: Needs:
Written Materials and Communication	Strengths: Needs:
Practices and Policies	Strengths: Needs:

Trauma-Informed Community Network

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