

Engaging Families and Creating Trusting Partnerships to Improve Child and Family Outcomes

Enhancing Trusting Partnerships at the Systems and Practice Levels:
Reciprocal Opportunities for Professionals and Families (April 20, 2017)

Webinar Reflection and/or Discussion

After participating in the webinar, we encourage you to reflect on key learnings and think about how you can apply them in your position or role. Below are some suggested prompts to use in your reflection and/or discussion with other partners/colleagues who also participated in the webinar.

1. Programs need mechanisms to track family progress toward achieving desired outcomes, as well as the efforts that staff/practitioners make to support that progress. In today's webinar, we shared a compilation of tools that can be used to help programs measure progress and efforts related to family engagement and family-professional partnerships. But, choosing the right tool is only one part of the measurement planning process. As Rud mentioned in the presentation, thinking about the "so what" of the information you get is an important place to start when planning any measurement activity. Why collect data to evidence the impact of efforts, services, and supports if the information is not going to be used to learn from and/or improve something? With that in mind, answer/discuss the following questions:
 - a. What difference does engaging in the measurement of family outcomes, family engagement, and family-professional partnership make to families, practitioners, programs, and communities?
 - b. How do you define and document progress in family engagement and partnership practices in your program? What's working and what isn't with the definition and/or methods being used?
 - c. How can programs embed meaningful measurement of this nature (and associated data analysis and data use) into practice? Is there a program in your state or locality doing this effectively? If so, describe what that looks like.
2. In today's webinar, you were introduced to more resources that can be used to support program efforts to build partnerships between families and professionals. For a recap of the resources/tools shared in the series thus far, visit:
<http://ectacenter.org/~calls/2017/familyengagement-resources.asp>

Thinking about your role in the system, what are your next steps with putting these resources to use? Identify one or two resources that you would like to start with to begin taking action on those next steps.