

Family-Staff Partnerships in Early Childhood Settings

Developer: Karen Callahan

Session Title: Family-Staff Partnerships in Early Childhood Settings

Delivery Mode: In person

Descriptor: This CEU session will provide opportunities for early childhood staff to construct their knowledge and develop new skills in building relationships with families.

Overall Learning Outcomes for CEU Session: Participants will explore what defines partnerships with families; the characteristics and needs for the growth of these partnerships; communication skills to enhance partnerships; program involvement opportunities; and special challenges of partnership building.

Pre-assessment strategies): Pretest and Posttest with questions on the above learning outcomes

DCD Topic Area(s): (4) Productive relationships with families & (6) Professionalism

CEU Session Outline

Segment/Time + Standards Addressed	Learning Outcomes	Instructional Methods	Engagement Strategies	Assessment Strategies
Session 1 - 45 minutes	Characteristics of today's families Challenges for ECE staff Roles of EC staff and family members	Brainstorming list Analyzing individual challenges Recording likenesses, differences, and areas of conflict	Discussion Assignment 1 with Handout 1 Written Assignment 1 and Small Group Assignment 1 Learning Activity 1	Pretest Discussion in small group of personal challenges with staff-family partnerships

Session 2 – 45 minutes	Forming partnerships – Characteristics of partnerships; How to build effective partnerships	Lecture Analogy of building blocks - Demonstration	Discussion Assignment 2 and Handout 2 Handout 3 and Learning Activity 2	Block building analogy activity will demonstrate understanding of effective partnerships
Session 3 – 45 minutes	Communication Skills – Ways to Communicate Categorizing Communication Types with subject of communication	Brainstorm list Analyze types of communication Practice communication skills	Discussion Assignment 3 Handout 4 Learning Activity 3	Learning Activity 3, Role playing situations will illustrate new communication skills
Session 4 – 45 minutes	Program Involvement – How family involvement nurtures partnerships	Brainstorming list of program involvement strategies Sharing examples of successful strategies	Discussion Assignment 4 Small Group Assignment 2	Assess how successful parent involvement opportunities increased partnerships
Homework – Online research & reading – 45 min.	Personal challenges in family-staff partnerships	On-line research and reading of an individual challenge	Writing Assignment 2 and Handout 5	Evaluate topics for further development in personal challenges
Session 5 – 1 hour and 15 minutes	Special challenges with families – an opportunity to reinforce all concepts in module	Student research reports on special challenges	Discussion Assignment 5	Restate learner outcomes with respect to special challenges Posttest

Total Time (min 5 hours): 300 minutes

Materials needed: pre and post tests, chart paper and chart stands, red, blue, and green markers, children’s blocks, post-it notes, paper, hand-outs