

Family Partnership Philosophy

Purpose

This describes the Early Learning Program approach to working in partnership with families.

Guidance

Building a partnership with a family is an interactive process that is individualized, strengths-based, family driven and staff supported. Family partnerships are trusting, respectful relationships that exist throughout the time a family is enrolled in the program. Working in partnership with families benefits the development and education of each child enrolled in the Early Learning Program. Interactions with families must reflect a commitment by staff to the parents' role as the child's primary and most important educator.

This partnership is reflected in the following ways

- Services are flexible, individualized and take into account each family's cultural, ethnic and linguistic experiences.
- Site team members encourage families to focus on their strengths and find ways to build on them.
- Families are the primary decision makers at all stages of the partnership.
- Families share their needs and work together with staff toward meeting those needs.
- Families are able to maintain their existing cultural traditions, lifestyles and values.
- Families determine their relationship to the program and choose their level of involvement.
- Families develop their own community support system with assistance from staff to identify and access these supports.

Resources

[Parent Family Community Engagement Framework](#)