

Key Elements of Family-Centered Early Supports & Services





Family-Centered Service Delivery recognizes the centrality of the family in the lives of children. It is guided by fully informed choices made by the family and focuses on the strengths and capabilities of these families within the context of their daily lives. To achieve positive outcomes for young children in ESS programs, the major focus of intervention needs to include the family system.



Each family defines “family” in a way that reflects the diversity of their own family patterns and standards.





ESS services should be flexible,
accessible and responsive to family
identified needs.





Respect for family autonomy, independence and decision making means that families must be able to choose the level and nature of ESS's involvement in their lives.





ESS services should be provided in as typical a fashion and natural environment as possible.





A team approach to planning services is necessary because no one agency or discipline can meet the diverse and complex needs of infants and toddlers with special needs and their families.





Family/professional collaborations and partnerships are key to Family Centered ESS and to successful implementation of services and supports.





Excerpts from:

*“Guidelines and Recommended Practices
for the IFSP Plan” McGonigle, Kaufman &
Johnson,*

Region 10 Parent intake packet.

