

Discussion Group of Parents and Service Providers at the March 24, 2017 Hands and Voices Conference, Manchester, New Hampshire - Ages 0-3, Part C to Part B Transition

How to get more families involved?

- Support groups with parents
- Communication between parents and programs
- Help families become knowledgeable of resources
- Parent-to-Parent Support
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing Advocates
- Keep involved families involved

S.P.O.T. Analysis (Strengths, Problems, Opportunities, Threats)

Strengths: What are benefits to family involvement?

Parents know their children best.

Parents involved in child's communication.

Problems: What are barriers to getting families involved?

Not enough professionals

Lack of various sign language providers

Lack of funding for D/HH programs

Opportunities: What opportunities exist or can be created to increase family involvement?

Play groups/play groups for the entire family

Support groups

Parent-child events

A central school for the Deaf (a state school)

Threats: What threats exist if families are more involved?

None recorded.

What do parents want from professionals?

Information – programs, services

“Fix my kid.”

Reassurance about the future.

What do professionals want from parents?

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Confidence

Parents meet Deaf adults (encourage the Deaf community to become more involved in family support and Deaf Education)

Have parents attend support groups that do exist

Parents should ask for the services they need

Family engagement – What does it mean to parents as you move through the system?

Figuring out what's next

What do we need/want

How to make things happen

Collaboration with service providers

Feedback from service providers

Constant communication – positive and negative

Written feedback

Newsletters