

# Rights and Responsibilities for Parent-Provider Partnerships

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## *For Parents:*

- I am an equal partner with providers on the team, working jointly to address needs and plan on behalf of my child.
- I see the provider as a person who is working with me for the well being of my child & family.
- I see my goal as reaching a mutual understanding of my child and family's needs so that as a team we can take action to meet those needs. I clearly express my own strengths and needs as well as the strengths and needs of my child & family.
- I am an active participant in the decision-making process concerning services for my child & family, and I seek ways to insure my active involvement.
- I know that wraparound does not mean that I will receive large amounts of money or new possessions, but that the focus is on needs.
- I understand that a provider often has responsibility for service coordination and communication with many children & families, including my own.
- I don't let past negative experiences or negative attitudes get in the way of establishing a good working relationship with the providers I am working with now.
- I encourage the providers involved with my child to communicate with each other and to keep me informed as well.
- When I make a commitment to a plan of action, I follow through on my responsibilities.
- I talk with other parents involved in the child serving system, sharing my experiences and knowledge.
- I commit to regarding providers with the same respect that I expect them to give to me. I help promote a culture that is supportive and friendly to providers.

### ***For Youth:***

- The people on my team are a part of the team because they care about me and my family. They are working with me for our well being.
- I believe that I am a partner with all team members, working together to address needs and make important decisions on behalf of me or other family members.
- I am a person just like my partners and the service providers. I have ideas, feelings, and beliefs that may or may not be different from those on the team. I deserve to have them voiced.
- I know that I am not the only voice to be heard, and that all plans/decisions are the result of the entire team. I also know that I am a child (minor) and sometimes adults in my life make decisions for me.
- I attend and participate in team meetings because the meetings are about me or other family members, and therefore, I should have my feelings, strengths, and needs voiced.
- I come to team meetings prepared. I come to meetings with ideas I want added to the agenda for discussion and questions I want answered.
- I am able to clearly express my own needs and the needs of my family to all team members. I will voice my feelings, needs, and opinions in appropriate and respectful ways.
- Adults, just like children and teenagers, make mistakes and learn things one step at a time. I treat others on the team like I would like them to treat me.
- When I make a commitment to a plan we decided on, I follow through with what I said I would do.

***For Providers:***

- I am an equal partner with parents and other team members, working jointly to address needs and plan on behalf of the child.
- I evaluate the child in terms of progress made, and communicate hope to the parent by doing so.
- I consistently value the comments and insights of the family and make use of their knowledge about the child's needs and activities. I will not impose my own values and how others live.
- I speak plainly, avoiding the jargon of medicine, sociology, education, psychology, or social work.
- I actively involve the parents in the establishment of a plan of action and continually review, evaluate, and revise the plan with them.
- I make appointments and provide services at times and places that are convenient for parents and other team members.
- When I make a commitment of action, I follow through on my responsibilities.
- With appropriate authorization, I obtain and share information with other providers, ensuring services are not duplicated.
- With appropriate authorization, I connect the family with other families in similar situations.
- At the request of parents, I am an active part of their information and referral network, providing them with contacts to services and to parent support networks.
- I will use the family team meeting to honestly and assertively share my concerns and fears.
- I commit to regarding parents with the same respect that I prefer they give me. I help promote an agency culture that is supportive and friendly toward parents.