



Family Engagement Team Addendum to the Cohort 2021 Application

The National MCH Workforce Development Center's Family Engagement Team supports authentic collaboration between the Title V workforce and people with lived experience in all of the Center's work. We encourage applicants to Cohort 2021 to integrate a range of perspectives into your team by meaningfully engaging community and family partners who have been or will be personally impacted by the planning and decision-making you will carry out as part of your Cohort project work with the Center.

In addition to the specific tools below, our team (consisting of family engagement specialists from leading family-focused national MCH organizations) can assist with brainstorming, clarifying, connecting and enhancing any of the information shared during the Cohort experience. Our goal is to help "level the playing field," so that all team members feel comfortable learning, sharing, asking questions and participating fully.

To prepare your team for effective collaboration during the Cohort experience, The Center's Family Engagement Team recommends the following selection of curated resources. Please contact us for additional resources and assistance.

- **Family Voices Family Engagement in Systems Assessment Tools**
[Family Voices](#) has created a Family Engagement in Systems Assessment Tool (FESAT) and Family Engagement in Systems (FES) Toolkit, a compendium of strategies and resources, which organizations can use to plan, assess, and improve family engagement in systems-level initiatives. In particular, your team may want to use the [Family Engagement Checklist](#) to identify supports your team already uses and additional supports that may help ensure meaningful family engagement in your work.
- **[Planning for Meaningful Family Involvement Worksheet](#)**
Developed by Tamara Bakewell at [Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs](#) this resource is a simple-to-use checklist available for use by team leaders in the early stages of a project when recruiting and integrating family partners into an MCH team. Groups are more than welcome to adapt this tool, however please request permission from the author (at Bakewell@ohsu.edu) prior to modifying.
- **[Leading by Convening: A Blueprint for Authentic Engagement](#)**
- **[Serving on Groups That Make Decisions: A Guide for Families](#)**
Both of these tools available at servingongroups.org are meant for by anyone already serving or who wants to serve on a decision-making group. Each one focuses on helping team members develop specific skill sets using research-based strategies while being broadly applicable to a diverse audience. Of particular interest to the Center's Skills Institute attendees is a basic but helpful reminder of the ins/outs of meeting attendance for members of all kinds of groups [Section 8 Module on Skills for Serving on Groups](#).
- **[Team Engagement for Quality Improvement](#)**
Developed as a collaborative introduction for families and health care teams working together on a particular health care transformation initiative by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, [CYSHCN Program](#) and Partners this step-by-step booklet offers hands-on activities to support team learning including how-to's of family partnership principles and tips for successful team engagement.

The Workforce Development Center's Family Engagement Team

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