

STRATEGIES FOR IDENTIFYING KEY PLAYERS IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD AND FAMILY

1. Connect with the 4 - 8 people who know the child and family best
2. Ask the child and family who is most important to them in their daily life
3. Have a conversation with the family about who they interact with most
4. Share ways that key players emerge in your own life to help set the direction
5. Incorporate the obvious people that the family may overlook due to proximity
6. Explore hobbies and activities as key players will be tied to real life events
Use patience in exploring these issues; families will tell you as they trust you
8. Invest time in this process as it is a key to the success of your plan
9. Spend time with the family members in different community settings
10. Explore key players through others (teachers, neighbors) with permission
Recognize that key players will change over time as family's needs change
12. Include key players from systems involved in the life of a child and family
Do not overlook key players who are unpleasant to deal with
Consider identifying key players tied to each member of the family
15. Emphasizing naturally occurring key players builds community base of a plan
Recognize investments of each key player as this effects their role with family
17. Find those whose commitment to the family is unconditional