

**Handout W-1: Role Assignments—James' Dad**

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You're feeling a little anxious about this meeting. Since your wife went back to full-time work, you've had to take over more responsibility for James' care. You're happy that James got into Head Start—he's really enjoyed it. But he's been pretty sick with his asthma since starting school. You're worried: Can you trust that Head Start staff will watch James' as closely as you do? Do they really understand how sick he can get? If it gets too hard for Head Start to care for James, might they decide that he can't come anymore?

*Some things you want to share at the meeting:*

- James has been very happy in Head Start.
- James loves to play outdoors. When he doesn't have outdoor activity, he gets restless.
- James' asthma is triggered by colds, playing in cold air, pollen, grass, and animals.
- James' doctor prescribed Cromolyn by metered dose inhaler with spacer every four hours (at 8 AM, 12 PM, 4 PM, 8 PM).
- You're worried that Head Start staff wouldn't know how to give him the inhaled medicine. So you and your wife have been giving it to him before and after school, even though that means waiting more than six hours—which really is too long—between his daytime doses.
- James used to fuss about taking his Cromolyn but he cooperates when he can hold the mask and spacer himself.
- James has been sick with colds, coughing, and asthma off and on since starting school.
- At the beginning of an asthma attack, James coughs a lot. Then he begins breathing fast and his neck and ribs suck in with each breath. When he gets an asthma attack, he needs to be given his inhaled Albuterol.