

Handout W-3: Role Assignments—Health Coordinator

You're a strong advocate for including children with chronic conditions in Head Start. You also appreciate the seriousness of medical conditions such as asthma, and feel that Head Start staff need information, training, and support to safely care for children. You're somewhat worried about your own liability for medication administration in the centers. You want to ensure that the Individualized Health Plan brings together all of the necessary information from the family and health care provider into a clear and effective care plan for James in Head Start.

Some things you want to share at the meeting:

- You observed James in the classroom and he seemed very happy and eager to participate in activities.
- In reviewing James' health history and assessments, you noted that James seems to be quite healthy, other than his asthma. He's growing and developing well, and his language skills are particularly strong.

Remember, you are responsible for facilitating the meeting:

- Facilitate this meeting as you would a real meeting among the participants.
- Make sure that the group stays on-task for sharing their information and working together to complete the Individualized Health Plan.
- Remember that the parent knows his child the best. The parent's and child's feelings, concerns, and needs should guide the care of the child.
- Be aware that all members of the group have their own concerns. Allow participants to express whatever positive feelings and concerns they may have. Try to help resolve any conflicts that may arise in the discussion.
- Try to make sure the plan is realistic and safely meets James' needs.