

## Handout 2: Ways to Encourage Partnership Talk

### Overview

Partnership talk is actively listening to families and helping them tell the stories they want to tell. Partnership talk is the kind of talk that occurs as people become partners, working together towards the same goal, and is a means of showing families they are respected and valued. Below are some tips for building family trust, confidence, and rapport through partnership talk.

- Have a conversation with the family, not an interview.
- Adopt an attitude of "not knowing" and "wanting to understand" the family situation.
- Listen to and encourage different points of view with respect and without judgement.
- Focus the conversation on family members strengths' and successes.
- Ask open ended questions.
- Share power.

