

Parent, Family, and Community Engagement

POSITIVE GOAL-ORIENTED RELATIONSHIPS



Reflective Practice

A key to building positive, goal-oriented relationships is taking the time to reflect on our work with families. When we look at what's working and what's not, we can make changes that strengthen our relationships with families. Self-reflection is also an important part of our own professional growth.

Strategies for Effective Self-Reflection

- ◆ Observe and remember what happens with children, families, and staff.
- ◆ Think about how your own experiences affect you and your work.
- ◆ Think about the perspective of others.
- ◆ Identify stressors.

Reflective Supervision

It is also essential for staff to have healthy, trusting, and respectful relationships with colleagues and supervisors. Reflective supervision helps to nurture and guide staff so that they have the tools to engage children and families successfully.

Strengths-based Attitudes for Supervision

- ◆ Staff deserve the support and respect we are asking them to give families.
- ◆ Staff are our partners with a critical role in achieving outcomes.
- ◆ Staff have expertise about their own fields of practice.
- ◆ Staff contributions are valuable and important.

Strategies for Effective Reflective Supervision

- ◆ Reflect on the staff's perspective.
- ◆ Support the staff's competence.
- ◆ Focus on the family-staff relationship.
- ◆ Value the staff's passion.
- ◆ Make time for your own reflection.



THE NATIONAL CENTER ON
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<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/family>