A Family Centered Approach to Developing Quality Outcomes
Sept 2010 Training
What TIDEWATER Learned about Describing EI Supports & Services to Families

Based on what they learned during training, early intervention (EI) practitioners in the Tidewater region of Virginia shared these statements as examples of how they will use what they learned when explaining EI Supports and Services to families:

“We’re teaching you things to do as a parent.”

“If we are doing our jobs right, we will be coaching you in what you can do to help.”

“We will be switching title from “therapist” to “service provider”; it helps separate services from the medical model.”

“We will give strategies to parents to use every day (as opposed to 1-2x/week).”

“Ask the parent what they would like for the child to do in their environment.”

“We have to explain the developmental model early in the process- at intake and reiterate it at IFSP development.”

“Help them use common household items vs. very specific toys.”

“The El role is to help the family figure out ways to have their child participate in family activities.”

“Many skills are used in an activity each day, for example, eating involves language, motor, cognition etc.”

“Think about the Natural Environment for your family- what does that looks like to you?”

“Ask parent about his/her learning style.”