Anatomy of a Home Visit

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Assumptions

• Audience knows:
  – How to set up home visits
  – Understands Part C philosophy of natural environments
  – Understands balance between goals of the professional/parent guide versus family goals for the first visit
Prepping for the Visit

- Identify strategies for establishing productive relationships
  - Knowing one’s bias or personal belief system
    - Colorado System vs. Representing Specific Methodologies
  - Buttressing our weaknesses as professionals/guides
  - Anticipating questions
  - Awareness of adult learning styles
  - Knowledge of family systems
Family Models...
FAMILY MODELS

Mother
Father

Children
Children
Children

Grandmother
Mother
Father
Children

Father
Mother

Children
Children
Children

Mother and child
Children
Father
Extended family
During the Visit

- Analyzing parent/adult learning styles
  - Read the clues
  - Your toolbox (handouts, audiovisuals, demonstration)

- Using knowledge/experience to diffuse fear of the unknown

- Dealing with the challenges at hand
  - Genetic testing, paying for hearing aids, parental disagreement

- Outlining the process ahead
  - Deaf/hard of hearing role model program, transitions
The Heartbeat of the Visit

• Emotions that push a button – the array of reactions
• Drawing out a family: mapping/circle of support
• Barriers that parents face
Brainstorming Special Situations

• Late ID

• Non English Speaking Families

• Deaf Plus

• Hand on the doorknob questions

– Pros and cons to a joint visit
It’s a Process

• The first home visit
  – One session to three sessions
  – Separately and/or jointly
  – Call me, email me, text me, Facebook me, use Skype
Contact Information

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