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Coach, Caregiver, and Child Working Together: Everyone Learns!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Family-centered practice focuses on the adults in a child’s environment. The provider delivers information tailored to each family. The provider teaches, through a coaching model, individualized strategies to support each child’s development. And, not incidentally, the provider offers emotional support. These three responsibilities of the provider are integral to our work with infants and toddlers and they are mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. But, this work is hard to do. This workshop will look at ways to disseminate information to parents and caregivers, implement a coaching model, and develop a working relationship with the adults who are in the life of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing. These principles are also appropriate for children who are older than 36 months of age; and the opportunities to implement them in collaboration with school-based practitioners will be explored. The opportunity for telehealth, an alternative to traditional in-person therapy, will be discussed. The clinical application of telehealth, the research supporting it, and its success in promoting the use of coaching techniques will be reviewed.

**As a result of this activity, participants will be able to:**

1. Identify areas of personal strength and weakness in their delivery of family-centered early intervention.
2. Become familiar with published documents illustrating the knowledge and skills that are part of family-centered practices with children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
3. Identify specific coaching strategies to enhance implementation of coaching techniques.
4. Learn different strategies they can use to engage parents and caregivers that match the resources and readiness of each unique family.
5. Understand ways in which telehealth supports utilization of a coaching model.