

Module 6: Family and Community Partnerships

Handout 5

NAEYC's Code of Ethical Conduct and Statement of Commitment

Excerpts from Section II -Ethical Responsibilities to Families & Section IV-Ethical responsibilities to community, society (Revised April 2005, Reaffirmed and Updated May 2011)

Families are of primary importance in children's development. Because the family and the early childhood practitioner have a common interest in the child's well-being, we acknowledge a primary responsibility to bring about communication, cooperation, and collaboration between the home and early childhood program in ways that enhance the child's development.

Ideal-2.9—To participate in building support networks for families by providing them with opportunities to interact with program staff, other families, community resources, and professional services.

Principle-2.15—We shall be familiar with and appropriately refer families to community resources and professional support services. After a referral has been made, we shall follow up to ensure that services have been appropriately provided.

Early childhood programs operate within the context of their immediate community made up of families and other institutions concerned with children's welfare. Our responsibilities to the community are to provide programs that meet the diverse needs of families, to cooperate with agencies and professions that share the responsibility for children, to assist families in gaining access to those agencies and allied professionals, and to assist in the development of community programs that are needed but not currently available.

Discussion Questions:

- How are family members encouraged to interact with professional services?
- When are referrals tough to make?
- What have you done to follow up on referrals you have made?
- Which agencies do families have a hard time accessing?
- How can you help?