

## **Practice Guideline on Communication and Collaboration**

## **Pause and Reflect**

Take a moment to reflect on your current efforts, practices and policies on family engagement. Consider the following questions, either independently or with colleagues:

• What does family engagement mean to you? What's your role in the family engagement process?

• What is the family's role? In what ways are families invited to engage in your practice setting?

• What strategies do you or your colleagues use to invite families to engage?

• Are there any barriers, real or perceived, to family engagement in your practice setting? If so, what are they? How do you know? How might you break them down?

• How is family engagement reflected in your program statement?

· How can you invite families to be involved in program policy development and review?

• Do you take the time to critically reflect on your assumptions, beliefs and biases around a family's engagement level?

• Think about a family who might have had a bad experience with engagement (e.g., they felt judged by others on their parenting). How can you continue to try and invite these families to become engaged in a way that's on their terms?