



Recruiting Collaborative Inclusion Team Participants

If you are interested in organizing a collaborative team with an *early childhood inclusion* focus it is important to consider these issues:

Motivation: Why you need to collaborate? What is in it for you and the other agencies, programs, child care and education staff with whom you are forming the Inclusion Team?

Focus of Collaboration: Do you need guidance and an opportunity to build relationships, problem solve and increase the capacity of the community to include children with disabilities?

History of Collaboration and Compatibility: Collaboration is about both tasks and relationships. It focuses not only on what you want to do together but also on the agencies/people that will need to interact.

After reviewing the above, the team “organizer(s)” should make a decision about which agencies or staff need to be involved on the team. Within these agencies, which individuals need to be involved during the formation of the team? Keep in mind that these individuals may need to change after the team becomes operational and specific team priorities are identified. It is important to have the “right player” at the table for the particular tasks you have chosen. Administrative teams may find it beneficial to include both staff and family representatives.

You may also want to inquire and determine if a preschool Inclusion team already exists in your community as you may not need to organize a new team but suggest they apply for the project and add new team members. Contact Sue Bollig email: mbollig@wested.org 916 492-4009