



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

- ☺ *Family-centered care* involves addressing the needs & using the strengths of the entire family to promote optimal child development.
  
- ☺ *Family choice* is honored in the selection & provision of services. Families must give written permission before evaluations or services are provided.
  
- ☺ *Families are informed* with complete, unbiased information & professional opinion (i.e. information is shared in a way that the parents can understand).
  
- ☺ *Families have the right to:*
  - ✓ Have a Care Coordinator.
  - ✓ Communicate in their preferred language.
  - ✓ Have a comprehensive evaluation & Individualized Family Support Plan (IFSP) within 45 days of referral if eligible.
  - ✓ Have other family members, friends, attorneys, and/or advocates present at the IFSP meeting.
  - ✓ Examine their early intervention records.
  - ✓ Maintain privacy of personally identifiable information – information can only be released with the family’s written consent.
  
- ☺ *Families & children may receive services in natural settings*, such as the home, or preschool, or at an early intervention program.