

# *Family Partners in Wraparound: Who are they and what do they do?*

*An opportunity to examine and operationalize this role  
in organizations and communities.*

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# *Formal presentation will cover*

- 📌 Brief history of the family-partner task force.
- 📌 Definition of family partner role.
- 📌 Key characteristics and responsibilities of the role.
- 📌 Applying the 10 principles of wraparound apply to the family partner role.
- 📌 Activities of a family partner within the four phases of wraparound.
- 📌 Infrastructure support for family partners.
- 📌 Critical issues related to practice.



# *History of the Family-partner Task Force*

- ✦ National Wraparound Initiative established the Family Partner Task Force in June 2006 to work creating a model for how parent or family partners operate within the wraparound process.

- ✦ The Family Partner Task Force work plan and progress to date can be reviewed on the NWI website.

[http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/nwi/PDF/wg\\_plan\\_family\\_partner\\_nashville2008.pdf](http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/nwi/PDF/wg_plan_family_partner_nashville2008.pdf)

- ✦ The first task defined the role and described key responsibilities and characteristics of the individual who is qualified to fill it.



# *Definition of Family Partner in the Wraparound Process*

- ✦ The Family Partner is a formal member of the wraparound team whose role is to:
  - ✦ serve the family;
  - ✦ help them engage and actively participate on the team; and
  - ✦ make informed decisions that drive the process.
- ✦ Family Partners have a strong connection to the community and are very knowledgeable about resources, services, and supports for families.
- ✦ The Family Partner's personal experience is critical to their earning the respect of families and establishing a trusting relationship that the family values.

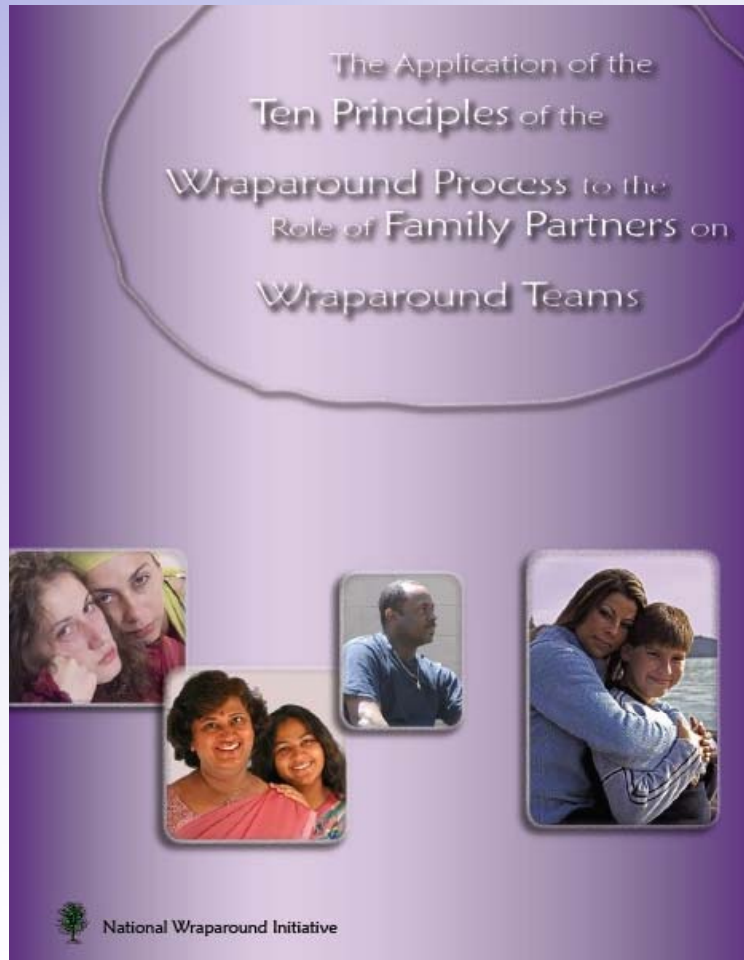


# *Key Characteristics and Responsibilities*

- 📌 A compassionate, empathetic, and attentive listener.
- 📌 A reflective, objective, and non-judgmental coach or mentor.
- 📌 A mediator, facilitator, or bridge between families and agencies.
- 📌 Ensures each family is heard and their individual needs are being addressed and met.
- 📌 Provides families with accurate knowledgeable about policies, systems, and services.
- 📌 Communicates with and educates agency staff on family voice and choice.
- 📌 Displays good verbal skills and accurately portrays the family point of view in many venues.

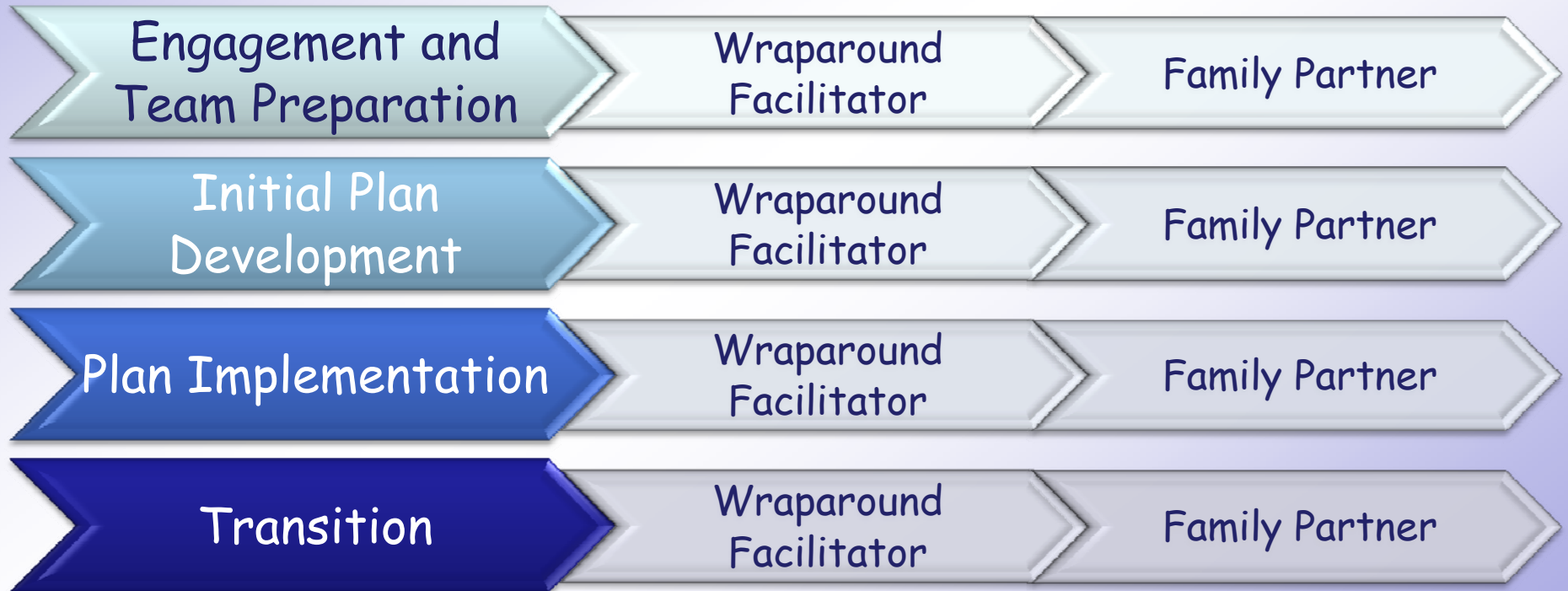


# 10 Principles of Wraparound and the Family Partner Role



- Developed using a modified Delphi process to gain maximum consensus from a broad constituency.
- Based on existing NWI documents describing the 10 Principles of Wraparound

# Activities of a Family Partner within the Four Phases of Wraparound



# *Infrastructure and Support necessary for Family Partners*

- ✦ Cannot work in a vacuum.
- ✦ Require support and supervision.
- ✦ Parameters of the position must be clearly defined.
- ✦ Role must be understood by all the wraparound partners and the families being served.
- ✦ Sustainable and appropriate infrastructure is necessary to prevent frustration and failure.



# *Critical Practice Issues*

- 📌 Training and supervision
- 📌 Compensation and other conditions of employment
- 📌 Strategic partnerships
- 📌 Background checks



# Useful Websites

- 📌 [www.rtc.pdx.edu/nwi](http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/nwi)
- 📌 [www.tapartnership.org](http://www.tapartnership.org)
- 📌 [www.ffcmh.org](http://www.ffcmh.org)
- 📌 [www.systemsofcare.samhsa.gov](http://www.systemsofcare.samhsa.gov)
- 📌 [www.neglected-delinquent.org](http://www.neglected-delinquent.org)
- 📌 [www.ncmhjj.com](http://www.ncmhjj.com)
- 📌 [www.CASEL.org](http://www.CASEL.org)



# Handouts

📌 PowerPoint

📌 10 principles document

<http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/nwi/PDF/pbNWI-FamilyPartner10Principles.pdf>

📌 Focal point article

<http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/PDF/fpW0807.pdf>

