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Answers from the Editorial

Alvin Sallee

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Answers from Editorial (from page vi)

Recognizing the Driving Forces of Services for Families

Driving Forces:

- S System-centered: the strengths and needs of the system drive the delivery of services
C Child-centered: the strengths and needs of the child drive the delivery of services
F Family-centered: the priorities and choices of the family drive the delivery of services.
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1. S A family must bring their child to the mental health office for service.
System-centered - What if the family can't get to the office?
2. S A complete assessment is done on a child and family.
on not with, therefore not Family-centered
3. S Family therapy sessions are arranged according to a family's schedule.
Therapy won't conflict with family's other activities
4. F/C Child care is provided for the brother and sister while the child with special needs receives services.
Family needs are met, but if this is the rule rather than option then it can be seen as Child-centered.
5. S The office hours of the psychologist are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 p.m.
Rigid nonflexible hours make it difficult for families.
6. S/C A teacher sends the instructions for a special assignment home with the child.
The teacher may feel the child needs the assignment but doesn't involve the parents.
7. S Transportation to the income maintenance (welfare) office is available from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
hours not adequate
8. F/S Parent education groups may use the food stamp training room in the evening.
meets Family-centered needs but if the room is only available in the evening then System-centered
9. F/S An interagency planning committee consists of professionals, parents, and representatives from the community.
If consumers have true input, Family-centered—if only tokenism, then System-centered
10. S A child's case records are available 3-5 days after a release of information is received.
rigid time frame—what if parents need it sooner?

11. S/C/F A therapist comes to the home twice a week for a one-hour session with the child.
Family-centered if family requested this—Child-centered if only child involved— if the office is too small then System-centered
12. S A case plan developed by a multidisciplinary team is reviewed with the parent.
System-centered if no evidence plan was developed with the parent
13. S School is closed for a day so that parent/teacher conferences can be held.
working parents have to miss work—child care must be arranged
14. F Parents choose to send their child with special needs to a church camp instead of a special camp for children with his/her diagnosis.
Choice indicates family had options
15. C A homemaker arranges for Christmas gifts for a child in foster care.
if it is not discussed with the family Child-centered

Adapted from: L. Edelman (Ed), (1991), *Getting on Board: Training Activities to Promote the Practice of Family-Centered Care*, Bethesda, MD: Association for the Care of Children's Health.