



FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

SEPAC SUMMER SCHOOL – 2021 AGENDA – Family Engagement/Building Positive Relationships

Week 1 - July 6

Welcome and Introduction to Family Engagement

- Five Guiding Family Engagement Principles
 - Four Foundational Elements
- Homework: Strengthening Partnerships Framework

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/family-engagement-framework.pdf>

Week 2 - July 13

Building Your SEPAC

- Creating a Warm and Welcoming SEPAC Environment
- Exploring Activities that Encourage Families to Participate

Homework: Advocacy in Action

<https://sepacguide.parentcenterhub.org/>

Week 3 - July 20

Setting the Stage for Success

- Building on Shared Values and Experiences
- Healthy Relationships (Overcoming Conflict)

Homework: Association for Talent Development

<https://www.td.org/insights/developing-your-teams-shared-values>

Week 4 - July 27

Valuing SEPAC Members

- Recognizing and Acknowledging Strengths of Members
- Seeing Diversity as an Asset in your SEPAC
- Welcoming Multi-Generational Perspectives

Homework: Working Together Series

<https://www.cadeworks.org/resources/cadre-materials/working-together-series>

Week 5 - August 3

Meeting the Needs of your Membership

- Needs Assessments
- Inviting Perspectives
- Developing Resources

Homework: Conducting a Successful Needs Assessment

<https://www.nichq.org/insight/seven-steps-conducting-successful-needs-assessment>



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Week 6 - August 10

Reciprocal Communication

- Create Channels of Communication
 - Sharing Information
 - Evaluate Communication Strategies for Effectiveness
- Homework: Emphasizing Equity and Access through Two Way Communication

<https://www.buildinitiative.org/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Resources/FamilyEngagement/EquityAssets-DL-Two-Way-Final.pdf>

Week 7 - August 17

Finding Hidden Treasures - Member Strengths

- Building SEPAC Membership through Member Connections
- Mentor and Support New Families
- Include Informal Opportunities to Connect

Homework: Guide to Peer Support, Coaching and Mentoring

<https://www.volunteeringact.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Guide-to-Peer-Support-Coaching-and-Mentoring.pdf>

Week 8 - Aug. 24

Ways to Connect and Learn

- Create Family Friendly Events and Activities
- Take your Resources on the Road
- Link Engagement to Learning

Homework: Toolkit of Resources for Engaging Families and Community as Partners

<https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/project.asp?projectID=4509>

Week 9 - Aug. 31

Using the Fundamentals Framework as a Self-Assessment Tool

- Initiating or Basic Level
- Progressing or Functioning Level
- Mastering or Embedded Level

Homework: Family School and Community Partnership Fundamentals

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/fscp-fundamentals.docx>

Week 10 - Sept. 7

Summary/Family Engagement as a Strategy

Homework: Course Evaluation

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