



Family Friendly Development-Centered Events

Events at your program can be opportunities to:

- Give parents and caregivers the opportunity to share their knowledge with others through peer learning.
- Provide opportunities for parents to connect with one another to build relationships, collaborate and support one another.
- Give families the opportunity to practice the skills or knowledge shared in workshops or trainings.
- Provide training for parents and caregivers on parenting and child development [SEL].
- Offer opportunities for parents to build their parenting and other skills, and for sharing knowledge.
- Allow participants to control content and experiences to gain knowledge and understanding.

Family Friendly Development-Centered Event

Example

Families are warmly welcomed by staff and invited to enjoy refreshments to take to their seating area. Once at their seating areas, families and youth are led through a game or activity that they play together that fosters discussion, strengths, positive family-youth interaction and SEL skills.

A presenter (or caregiver) shares the topic for the day's event and families are encouraged to share things that they have done at home that focus on the topic.

Families are presented information about Social-Emotional-Learning, why it is important and other ways to partner with the program to continue building these skills at home.

Families are led through another activity that is specifically geared towards the topic and shown how they can incorporate it at home.

Families are asked about other topics they'd like to discuss and are given evaluations to complete about whether or not the event was fun/family friendly, if it increased their understanding of SEL, and if they feel comfortable continuing strategies at home pertaining to the specific SEL topic for the current event.

Your OST Program Development Coach would be happy to help you plan an event like the one described above.