

## Family Outcome Survey Provider Tip Sheet

NH is required to demonstrate the effectiveness of its Family-Centered Early Supports and Services (FCESS) and Preschool Special Education programs. NH's Cornerstone Project in conjunction with the Early Childhood Outcomes Center (ECO) developed the enclosed Family Outcomes Survey in response to this need. The results of the survey will help us to better understand the impact of the program on families:

- understanding of their child's strengths, abilities, and special needs,
- knowing their rights and advocating for their child,
- increased understanding of how to help their child develop and learn,
- having support systems, and
- accessing supports in their community.

This information will provide ESS programs and Area Agencies with information that can inform continuous quality improvement planning. The Bureau of Developmental Services will also gain a better understanding of 'the state of the state' in terms of the family outcomes listed above. This statewide information will be shared with the Office of Special Education Programs in an annual performance report.

As FCESS providers you play a major role in disseminating the Outcome Surveys to families. Families trust and respect the information that you share and vice versa. How these surveys are presented is important. Families may ask you about this survey, its purpose, and benefit to them. Here are some talking points that might help you answer their questions.

- The Family Outcomes Survey asks about families' opinions and experiences as a parent of a young child with special needs.
- All information completed will be non-identifiable unless the family chooses to print their name and address on the survey.
- Answers will be combined with those of other families participating in FCESS to come up with an overall picture of families in each program, region, and state.
- The information will be used for local program improvement and future planning of services and supports for families.

Family participation - Reviewing and analyzing Family Outcome Survey data is very important. Please encourage families to join the Family Outcomes Data Review Committee. Let Carolyn Stiles know if any of your families are interested in joining this committee by e-mail: [cstiles@dhhs.state.nh.us](mailto:cstiles@dhhs.state.nh.us), or 271-5122.

Deadline for returning surveys: **5/31/09**

Let families know: **ten \$50.00 gas cards will be raffled off to families who return their survey by 5/31/09.**