



Five Counties Children's Centre Vision of Family Engagement

*Parents and family members are the cornerstone to the success of their child's rehabilitation journey.

*Modern and current delivery of pediatric rehabilitation service has evolved into an entity called Family-Centred Service (FCS) in which families direct the care "in partnership with professionals" (Rosenbaum et al., 1998) .

*In addition to the assumption that parents and families are involved as partners in their child's care, we are making a commitment to improve the active voice of parents in decision making around organization design and new initiatives.

Vision of Family Engagement at Five Counties Children's Centre

Families will experience:

1. An inviting and inclusive climate with the opportunity for high family engagement.

Parents and family members are to feel welcome, respected, and valued by the organization as a whole. They will authentically feel that they are true partners in their children's experience of being involved with Five Counties Children's Centre. We are striving for family engagement at all levels of our organization.

2. A range of choices about how to be involved.

Barriers to full participation will be identified and strategies to mitigate these will be implemented. We acknowledge that our families are diverse and these distinct needs will be reflected in the strategies that are chosen.

3. A partnership that is supported.

Family members will be provided with the knowledge, skills, and tools they require to fully participate in their child's care and services. Parent and family members participating in centre initiatives and program design changes will be properly oriented to their roles, to important background information, and to the purpose of the task.

(Adopted from Ontario Ministry of Education – Parents in Partnership, 2010)