

NETWORK PRESENTATION GUIDE

Network is an innovative approach for families who need the support of a variety of service systems. The Network meeting is the start of a process that builds on the strengths and resources of the family and the community to develop individualized, collaborative systems of support for highly stressed children and their families.

Network is based on the belief that children are best served in their own homes, with supports in their own communities. Families have the best understanding of and ability to meet their children's needs; service providers are most effective when they view families as partners and colleagues.

WHAT HAPPENS AT A NETWORK MEETING?

- At the start of the Network meeting, the family will be asked to review the attendance sheet and sign a voluntary consent form for the meeting.
- The family will be asked to identify who is in the family, and who are their resources and supports.
- The meeting will include a discussion of the children's and family's strengths and capabilities, and a focus on the family's goals and concerns.
- The family and the Network participants will then discuss some options for resources and services to help the family reach their goals.
- The family, with the help of the Network participants, will identify the members of the coordinated team, called the "support circle", who will continue to meet to help the child and family work towards their goals. One or more of the team members will co-chair the support circle, along with the family. The support circle members will identify a time and place for the next meeting.

HOW DO I ARRANGE A NETWORK MEETING?

- Identify why you would like to invite this family to Network, and how you think Network might be helpful to the family.
- Tell the family about the Network process; stress that Network is strength-based and family-focused. Discuss possible Network participants and resource people with the family, and obtain consent to contact them. Let the family know that Network participants must follow the laws of confidentiality, and that information can be shared only with the family's consent.
- Discuss the family with a Network chairperson, to establish that it is appropriate for Network and to set a meeting date. The Network chairperson may also help you identify resource people to invite to Network.
- Ask the family's permission to have Family Ties, a family support organization for families of children with emotional problems, contact them before the Network. Family Ties can be significant in helping families feel prepared for Network.



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Referral & Consent for Outreach by Family Ties of Westchester, Inc.

Print Child's Name	DOB	"Network" Community		
Print Parent/Guardian's Name	Home Phone #	Alternate Phone #	Best Time to Contact	
Street Address	City	State	Zip	

Type of Information to be Released: Family Information

I hereby authorize the release of the above information concerning my child and family. I understand that the information to be released is confidential and protected from disclosure. I understand that I have the right to cancel my permission to release information any time before it is released. I also understand that my consent to release information will expire six months from the date signed. Information is released to **FAMILY TIES** in order for **FAMILY TIES** to provide outreach to the family.

Signature of Parent/Guardian	Print Name Signed	Date
Signature of Referral/Witness	Print Name Signed	Date
Referral Agency	Phone Number	

PLEASE FAX THIS COMPLETED/SIGNED CONSENT FORM TO FAMILY TIES @ (914) ~~995-8421~~ ⁶⁶⁷⁻⁹⁴⁰²
 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (Please give a copy of this signed form to the family as a reminder to expect a call from Family Ties. Thank you.)

For Family Ties' Use: Date Received: _____ Assigned to: _____

Date Assigned: _____ Contact Date/Time: _____

WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY NETWORK

Westchester County Children's System of Care

The Westchester design for policy, program development and service delivery for children with emotional, behavioral and social challenges is built on the following core principles and values:

FAMILY DRIVEN

Families are viewed as partners and colleagues.

COMMUNITY-BASED

Children are best served in their own homes, schools and communities.

TEAM SUPPORTED

Families and professionals are united in a collaborative effort to create a seamless system.

NEVER GIVE UP

Unconditional care approach. It is the responsibility of the system of care and service team to adapt to the needs of the family. If the plan is not working, change it.

STRENGTH-BASED

Services focus on strengths and competencies.

INDIVIDUALIZED CARE

Interventions and supports are available to "wrap services around" the needs of each child and family.

CULTURALLY COMPETENT

Services are delivered with an understanding of the individual culture of a family as well as the ethnic, social and environmental framework in which a family exists.

Adapted from CHILD AND ADOLESCENT SERVICE SYSTEM PROGRAM (CASSP), 1984



www.westchestercommunitynetwork.com