Purpose
This document describes the elements of Family Support work in Early Learning.

Guidance
Family support programs work toward strengthening families to support the well-being and healthy development of all family members and their future generations. The following principles guide the work of all Early Learning staff and programs:

• Site teams and families work together in relationships based on equality and respect.
• Teams enhance the families’ capacity to support the growth and development of all family members - adults, youth and children.
• Families are resources to their own members, to other families, to programs and to communities.
• Programs affirm and strengthen families’ cultural, racial and linguistic identities and enhance their abilities to function in a multicultural society.
• Programs are embedded in their communities and contribute to the community building process.
• Programs advocate with families for services and systems that are fair, responsive and accountable to the families served.
• Practitioners work with families to mobilize formal and informal resources to support family development.
• Programs are flexible and continually responsive to emerging family and community issues.
• Principles of Family Support are modeled in all program activities, including planning, governance and administration.