





**Web Discussion**  
*Using a Primary Service Provider  
 Approach to EI Service Delivery*

PRESENTED BY  
 Dana Childress, M.Ed.,  
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 & Tracy Shiplett, DPT


**February 2, 2016 • TALKS ON TUESDAYS WEBINAR**





**AUDIO DETAILS:**  
 1-866-842-5779  
 Enter Code: 463-661-9330

**MEET TODAY'S PRESENTERS**



**Dana Childress**

**EI Professional  
 Development Consultant**  
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 Disabilities at VCU  
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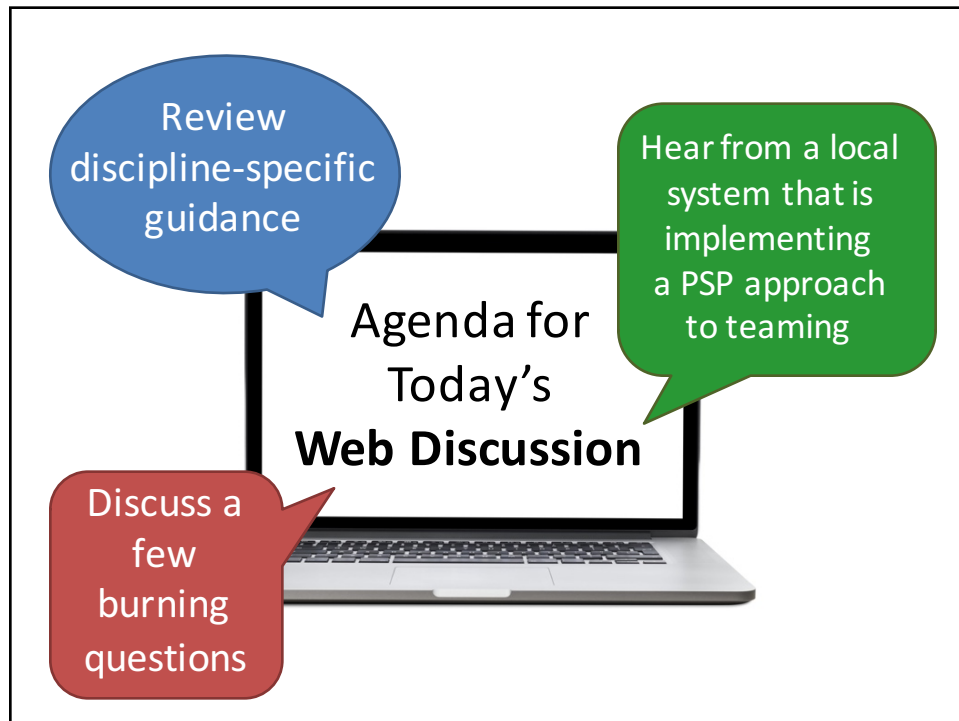
**Susan Sigler**

**Clinical Coordinator**  
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**Tracy Shiplett**

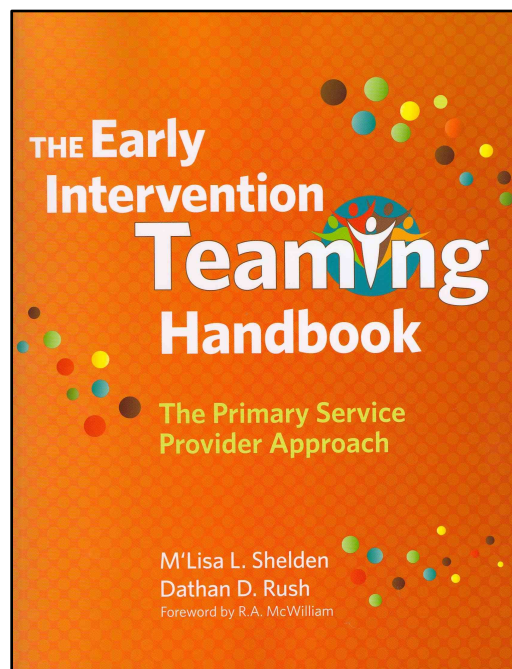
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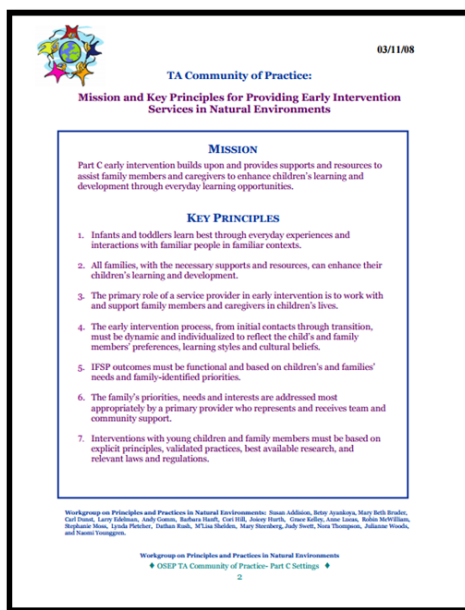


What is the Primary Service Provider (PSP) Approach?

The primary service provider (PSP) approach to teaming is a family-centered process for supporting families of young children with disabilities in which one member of an identified multidisciplinary team is selected as the PSP who receives coaching from other team members, and uses coaching as the key intervention strategy to build the capacity of parents and other care providers to use everyday learning opportunities to promote child development.

(Rush & Shelden, 2012)





# KEY PRINCIPLE 6

The family's priorities needs and interests are addressed most appropriately by a primary provider who represents and receives team and community support.

***The PSP approach involves:***

- Role release
- Teaching others how to implement intervention strategies that support development

**Ethical**

It can be  
“both ethical and legal  
and exist within the scope  
of...practice.”

(APTA Fact Sheet, 2010)

**Legal**

## ***Myths?***

- 1** The PSP is determined according to the child's area of delay.
- 2** The PSP is expected to be all-knowing.
- 3** Children who have a PSP receive less therapy.
- 4** Using a PSP approach means that a child can only have one service provider.
- 5** I can't use the PSP approach because it conflicts with the requirements of my discipline or license.

## APTA Fact Sheet: Using a Primary Service Provider Approach to Teaming

— 2013 —

“One member of the team, serving as the primary service provider (PSP), functions as the primary liaison between the family and other team members. The PSP receives consultation from the other team members and may use adult learning strategies, eg, coaching, as a way to interact with and teach other team members, including the family and caregivers.”

## AOTA Practice Advisory on the Primary Provider Approach in Early Intervention

— Jan 2014 —

“Occupational therapists are ideally suited to function as primary service providers, as determined by [IFSP] team...”

“Occupational therapists should receive team consultation and support in order to provide service using a primary provider approach.”

## Core Knowledge and Skills in Early Intervention Speech-Language Pathology Practice

– ASHA, 2008 –

### ***Knowledge of:***

Continuum of service  
delivery models

Collaborative design of  
intervention services to  
achieve IFSP outcomes

Strategies to deliver  
services as a member of an  
interdisciplinary team

### ***Skills in:***

Implementing strategies to  
function as an effective  
member of an interdisciplinary  
programming team.

Teaching families, caregivers,  
or other professionals specific  
intervention strategies as  
appropriate.

## DEC Recommended Practices

– 2014 –

### **Teaming and Collaboration**

TC5. Practitioners and families may collaborate with each other to identify one practitioner from the team who serves as the primary liaison between the family and other team members based on child and family priorities and needs.

## KEY CHARACTERISTICS



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As described so far, is your program using a true primary service provider approach?

- a. Yes, we use it with all families
- b. Well, we use it sometimes
- c. No, not really
- d. Hmm...still not sure

What are the strengths of using a PSP approach?



...for the child and family



...for the provider



...for the program

What are the challenges with using a PSP approach at the program level?

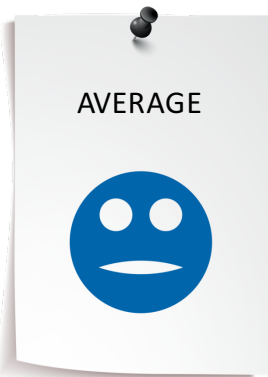


...at the individual service provider level?

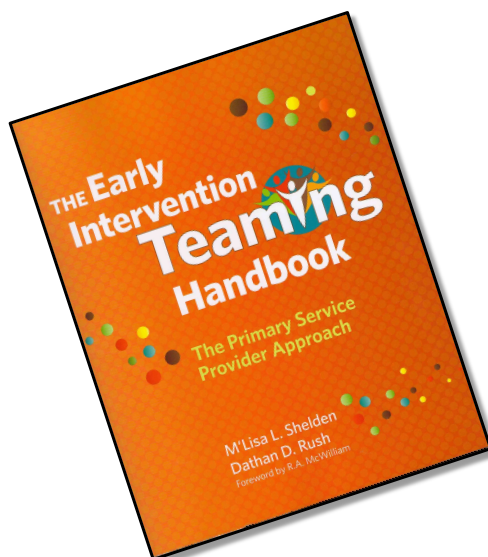


...at the child and family level?

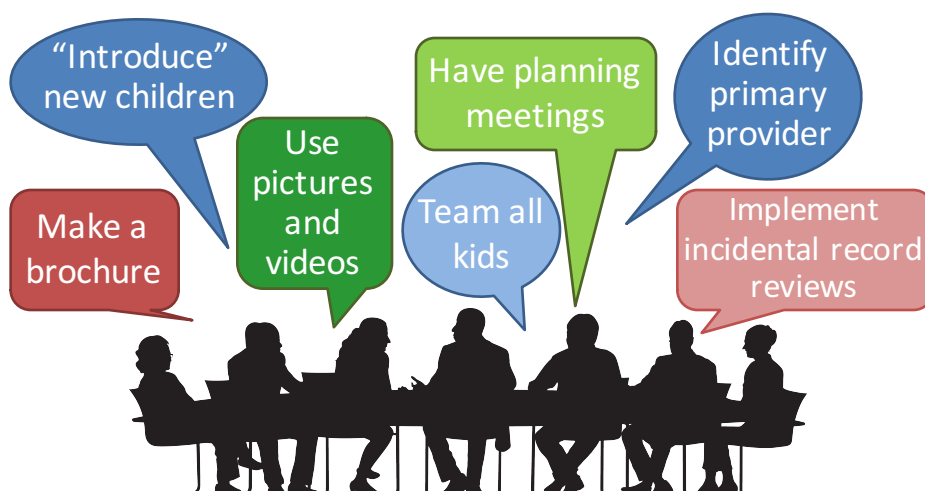
How comfortable are you in the role of a primary service provider?



**Implementation  
of the  
PSP Approach:  
I&TC of Fairfax-  
Falls Church**



**Suggestion for  
Local Systems and Teams**



What questions do you have for  
**Susan and Tracy?**



**Dana Childress**

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