

A Family's Story: Listening, Understanding, and Responding



LEARNINGbyte - Service Delivery & ISFP Outcomes



PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY

This activity provides professionals with the opportunity to watch and reflect on a family's story to better understand the impact of trauma on the entire family. Participants will practice identifying factors affecting the family, writing meaningful outcomes, and determining next steps for service delivery.



RESOURCES NEEDED

Technology

- Laptop and projector to view the following video: Meet Zaire and His Family

Handouts

- A Family's Story: Listening, Understanding, and Responding



SPECIFIC STEPS

Before the meeting:

- Instruct participants to bring a laptop or electronic device if the video cannot be viewed as a large group.
- Email or print copies of the corresponding handout.

Video Overview:

Zaire and His Family

- A family shares their journey supporting Zaire as they identify developmental concerns, navigate the impact of early adversity, and create a safe, loving, and stable environment where he can grow, trust, and thrive.

Activity Instructions:

- Instruct participants to use their handout to write down notes as they watch the video.
- Play the video.

Video debrief:

- Divide participants into small groups of 3-5.
- Instruct groups to spend 15 minutes reflecting and responding to the discussion prompts found on the handout.
- After the discussion, reconvene as a large group and facilitate a conversation using the questions found in the handout to guide the discussion.
- Facilitator note: This activity may also be completed as a large-group reflection if preferred.



Additional Resources

[Writing IFSP Outcomes](#)

[VEIPD - Topics and Trends: Social Emotional Development](#)

[HeartWired Video Series](#)

[Podcast - Meaningful Moments: Connecting IMH to EI](#)

[The ITC of Virginia EI Practices](#)

[VEIPD - Topics and Trends: Implementing Supports and Services](#)

[Supporting Social and Emotional Development: What All Early Interventionists Can Do](#)

Handout

A Family's Story: Listening, Understanding, and Responding

Discussion Prompts

Understanding the Social and Emotional Impact on the Family

What adversities may have impacted Zaire and his development?

How might these experiences impact the caregivers and family?

Practice: Writing Outcomes

What concerns and priorities did the caregivers share?

Write two potential IFSP outcomes based on the family's story, concerns, and priorities? Remember: Outcomes should always reflect the family's concerns and priorities and include Acquisition, Criterion, and Context. Use the [Quick Reference Guide - Writing Good Outcomes](#) to support your work.

Service Delivery

What additional information would you want to learn to better support this family?

What would be your next steps in supporting the child and family?

