



Elements of Child and Family Centered Health Care

(ELNEC Pediatric Palliative Care – 2003)

1 Family As Constant

The family is the constant in the child's life, while the role and importance of health and social services systems vary and the people staffing those systems change.



2 Family has Strengths

All families have strengths. Understand and accommodate the individual strengths and characteristics of each child and family, including their coping strategies and their culture, ethnic, religious and other values.

3 Information Sharing

Share unbiased, timely, complete, responsive and understandable information with families about their child's diagnosis, prognosis, and care options.



4 Collaboration

Promote and assist collaboration between families and professionals at all levels: direct care, organizational processes and decisions, system wide policies and practices.

6 Family to Family Communication

Encourage and assist families in finding support groups, peer counseling, and other lines of family-to-family communication.

5 Sustainable Care Processes, Systems and Policies

Design systems of care that respond to child and family needs for flexibility, continuity, emotional and financial support based on the family's needs and differing developmental levels of the child.

7 Child to Child Communication (as appropriate)

Encourage child-to-child lines of support and communication, consistent with the child's developmental status and preference, and the family's values. (I.e. Sib-shops)