Resource-Based Practices

Look Like...

Do not look like...

Ø	Communicate clear and complete information in a manner that matches the family's style and level of understanding.	×	Tell the family what you think is best for them.
V	Interact with the family in a warm, caring, and empathetic manner.	×	Tell the family to come in and meet with you because you have things you need to go over.
V	Treat the family with dignity and respect and without judgment.	×	Judge the parent's choices as "good" or "bad."
V	Honor and respect the family's personal and cultural beliefs and values.	×	Expect the family to see the world from your perspective.
Ø	Focus on individual and family strengths and values.	×	Focus on the individual's and family's weaknesses and deficits.
Ø	Acknowledge the family's ability to achieve desired outcomes.	×	Tell family members their dreams are not realistic or possible for them.
Ø	Work in partnership with family members to identify and address family-identified desires.	×	Tell the family members what their goals should be and how they should reach them.
Ø	Encourage and assist the family to make decisions about and evaluate resources and/or strategies best suited for achieving desired outcomes.	×	Tell family which resources they should use and/or call and make arrangements for the family to use the resources.
Ø	Seek and promote ongoing family input and active participation regarding desired outcomes.	×	Tell family members why their plan didn't work and revise the plan for the family.
☑	Encourage and assist the family to use existing strengths and assets as a way of achieving desired outcomes.	×	Take action (e.g., filling out applications, making phone calls, setting up appointments, etc.) for the family.
Ø	Provide family participatory opportunities to learn and develop new skills.	×	Do things for the family that the family members can do for themselves.
Ø	Support and respect the family members' decisions.	×	Tell the family, "That's not the best decision."
V	Work with the family in a flexible and individualized manner.	×	Tell the family when and where the meetings will occur. Lecture families when they are late.
Ø	Offer help that is responsive to and matches the family's interests and priorities.	×	Talk about what you think should be important to the family.
Ø	Look for opportunities to support the family's ability to access resources for themselves.	×	Do things for the family that they will need to be able to do on their own.
Ø	Ask the family to reflect on the helpfulness of the resources they used.	×	Tell the family what you think about the resources they used.