



Parent/Family Role Map

Effective family members contribute to building and maintaining a strong family system that promotes growth and development

BROAD AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY



Promote Family Members' Growth and Development

Family members support the growth and development of all family members, including themselves



Meet Family Needs and Responsibilities

Family members meet the needs and responsibilities of the family unit



Strengthen the Family System

Family members create and maintain a strong sense of family

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Make and pursue plans for self-improvement
- Guide and mentor other family members
- Foster informal education of children
- Support children's formal education
- Direct and discipline children

- Provide for safety and physical needs
- Manage family resources
- Balance priorities to meet multiple needs and responsibilities
- Give and receive support outside the immediate family

- Create a vision for the family and work to achieve it
- Promote values, ethics, and cultural heritage within the family
- Form and maintain supportive family relationships
- Provide opportunities for each family member to experience success
- Encourage open communication among the generations

BROAD AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Promote Family Members' Growth and Development



Family members support the growth and development of all family members, including themselves

KEY ACTIVITIES

ROLE INDICATORS

(How? How well? With what outcomes?)

• **Make and pursue plans for self-improvement**

- Set personal goals and commit to them by visualizing and talking about them
- Evaluate ways to meet personal needs, generate alternatives for achieving plan, and access resources such as libraries and educational institutions to address goals
- Allocate efforts and resources, including time and money, to meet goals
- Achieve goals for personal growth with the support of other family members
- Practice lifelong learning

• **Guide and mentor other family members**

- Adjust expectations of family members based on age, individual skills, abilities, and interests
- Guide decision making by other family members by fostering critical thinking
- Provide opportunities to expand knowledge and abilities by nurturing a sense of adventure
- Provide a proper balance of challenge and support to encourage risk taking
- View all family members as both teachers and learners

• **Foster informal education of children**

- Provide a wide variety of experiences to support learning
- Respect cultural differences in communication and learning styles
- Encourage language development by reading, singing, telling stories, and counting
- Stimulate learning and real life experiences through choice, play, instruction, and sensory perception
- Express pleasure when children master a concept or task
- Foster initiative and social relations by listening to children's ideas, encouraging them to solve problems, and supporting the building of relationships with other children and adults
- Monitor external influences such as television

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BROAD AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Promote Family Members' Growth and Development, *continued*

Family members support the growth and development of all family members, including themselves

KEY ACTIVITIES

ROLE INDICATORS

(How? How well? With what outcomes?)

• **Support children's formal education**

- Remain involved in children's education from prekindergarten through high school by participating in conferences, school programs, and assignments
- Create an environment in which children can successfully complete their homework, including creating quiet space, allocating time, helping them directly, or helping them get help
- Advocate for better education by voicing opinions and concerns and by networking with others
- Seek to understand all aspects of school operations and use this information to work with the school system and to guide children
- Find ways to contribute to child's classroom, such as sharing stories and cultural objects, cooking, or volunteering
- Build effective parent/teacher relationships by increasing communication and becoming involved as a mentor, tutor, or teachers' aide

• **Direct and discipline children**

- Practice a family code of conduct that affirms and supports all its members
- Provide consistent and loving adult supervision with appropriate discipline
- Set, communicate, and enforce limits, rules, and guidelines
- Allow children to make mistakes within safe boundaries in order to learn from them
- Adjust discipline based on child's age and understanding
- Reinforce expected behaviors by reasoning with children rather than demanding obedience
- Serve as a positive role model by modeling self-discipline, including controlling anger, organizing time, valuing relationships, and dealing effectively with life situations

BROAD AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Meet Family Needs and Responsibilities



Family members meet the needs and responsibilities of the family unit

KEY ACTIVITIES

ROLE INDICATORS

(How? How well? With what outcomes?)

• **Provide for safety and physical needs**

- Meet physical needs and provide a safe environment
- Provide adequate clean clothing, appropriate to the season
- Provide regular, nutritious meals
- Ensure health care matched to wellness or illness
- Guide child's behavior to prevent injury
- Protect all family members from abuse
- Choose child care providers carefully

• **Manage family resources**

- Manage personal, financial, and community resources
- Maintain consistent employment
- Develop and use a financial plan with realistic goals
- Recognize family members as resources

• **Balance priorities to meet multiple needs and responsibilities**

- Maintain balance among personal, family, work, and community responsibilities consistent with family priorities and individual needs
- Reserve and use time for personal, family, and community activities
- Establish routines and schedules that reflect family priorities
- Share responsibilities among family members to accomplish tasks
- Practice organizational and time management skills

• **Give and receive support outside the immediate family**

- Create and participate in a social network of friends and relatives for support, recreation, dealing with problems, and coping with change
- Identify the problem and admit to the need for help
- Identify individual and community resources and services to match the need
- Seek help
- Attend to others' needs and offer help as appropriate

BROAD AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Strengthen the Family System

Family members create and maintain a strong sense of family



KEY ACTIVITIES

ROLE INDICATORS

(How? How well? With what outcomes?)

- **Create a vision for the family and work to achieve it**

- Develop, implement, and evaluate strategies to achieve the family vision
- Reflect upon and support family's common goals and values
- Consider social, political, and economic realities that affect the vision
- Allocate time and resources consistent with the family's vision

- **Promote values, ethics, and cultural heritage within the family**

- Establish and value family traditions and teach and model family customs
- Emphasize family strengths
- Identify and communicate cultural roots
- Draw upon knowledge of elders
- Establish and maintain a strong identity
- Provide for spiritual needs of family members
- Participate in rituals associated with faith, birth, marriage, worship, and death to foster spiritual growth

- **Form and maintain supportive family relationships**

- Encourage, acknowledge, and consider the opinions, values, and beliefs of all family members
- Support efforts of other family members to make decisions at home, school, work, and in the community
- Foster a spirit of kinship and interdependence by making a conscious effort to gather as a group and to discuss issues and problems together
- Demonstrate trust in other family members by accepting explanations, allowing choice, keeping promises, and accepting various perspectives
- Demonstrate effective conflict resolution strategies by using language that bridges differences

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BROAD AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY:

Strengthen the Family System, *continued*

Family members create and maintain a strong sense of family

KEY ACTIVITIES

ROLE INDICATORS

(How? How well? With what outcomes?)

-
- **Provide opportunities for each family member to experience success**

- Exhibit sensitivity to family members' social, emotional, and intellectual needs
- Provide opportunities for each family member to express feelings and experience success
- Respect individual rights to privacy
- Demonstrate enjoyment and enthusiasm for others' interests by supporting their activities

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- **Encourage open communications among the generations**

- Encourage family members to speak and listen
- Name, own, and express feelings and respond to feelings of other family members
- Recognize non-verbal messages
- Honor the right to tell one's story without disapproval and criticism
- Recognize and use reconciliation techniques, such as offering an apology or using problem-solving strategies