

# Framework for Family Engagement

## Representation Domain



Engage families who represent the diversity of the community your organization serves. Consider including higher numbers of families from communities that experience the most disparities in care and health outcomes.

### **Know the population data.**

Use internal and external data sources to understand the demographics on the populations your organization serves and the needs of the surrounding communities.

Connect with family-led organizations and community-based organizations to recruit and support family partners.

### **Offer training.**

Provide opportunities for family partners and staff to build their skills. Learning opportunities might include:

- Workshops about family-professional partnerships and family engagement.
- Training about implicit bias so all participants are aware of how the assumptions they may make can affect whether we create equitable policies.

### **Take the next steps.**

Learn more about engaging families in systems-level initiatives by downloading and using the Family Engagement in Systems Assessment Tools from [familyvoices.org/FESAT](http://familyvoices.org/FESAT).

The tools provide a collection of strategies, resources and tools to help your organization improve the way you engage families in systems-level changes.

# Framework for Family Engagement Representation Domain



## Strategy 3.3

Provide mentoring and skill-building opportunities for the families and organization staff who participate in systems-level initiatives.

### Resources for Supporting Families and Staff Teams

1

Family to Family Health Information Centers and Family Voices Affiliate Organizations (located in every state, 5 US Territories and 3 Tribal Nations), support and mentor family leaders and help them build their skills to collaborate with professional partners. Find your local organization at [familyvoices.org](http://familyvoices.org).

2

Maternal Child Health Bureau funds a cooperative agreement with Family Voices for Family Engagement and Leadership in Systems Change. This project provides technical assistance and training to community-based organizations and Title V organizations that are building their capacity for equitable family engagement. Learn more at [familyvoices.org/FELSC](http://familyvoices.org/FELSC).

## Strategy 3.4

Child- and family-serving organizations, organization staff, family leaders, and other stakeholders should be aware of their personal biases when engaging in systems-level initiatives.

### Resources for Addressing Bias

1

Project Implicit produces implicit bias tests so users can explore their own biases about race, disability, gender, age, weight, and more.