

Bureau of Children's Services  
**Deciding Together**  
**Special Session:**  
**Needs, Outcomes and Goals**  
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**Today's Conversation**

- ❖ Deciding Together steps
- ❖ The "Deciding Together conversation"
- ❖ How to identify child and family outcomes and goals
- ❖ Talking to the support and service coordinator (SSC)

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**What is Deciding Together?**

- ❖ It is step-by-step guide for collaborative decision-making to develop individual service plans.
- ❖ It is helpful and complementary for current services planning practice.

The infographic 'Deciding Together Guide' outlines five steps: 1. GOALS (Identify child and family goals), 2. IDENTIFY OUTCOMES (Identify outcomes that support goals), 3. DEVELOP INDIVIDUAL SERVICE PLANS (Develop individualized service plans), 4. EVALUATE EFFECTIVENESS (Evaluate effectiveness of service plans), and 5. (partially obscured).

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### Nothing About Us Without Us

Families are viewed as the experts of their own lives

- ❖ Promotes families' active participation.
- ❖ Invests in relationships.
- ❖ Uses culturally responsive and trauma-informed approaches.
- ❖ Tailors services to fit the families' preferences.

**“Every child living their best life.”**

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### What is an Individual Service Plan (ISP)?

- ❖ Roadmap of where you want to go
- ❖ Unique plan
- ❖ List of outcomes and the supports and services to meet the outcomes
- ❖ Living document



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### A Deciding Together Conversation



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### Needs, Outcomes, and Goals

- ❖ The child and family needs determine the outcome.
- ❖ Each child and family are going to have different goals to achieve the outcome.
- ❖ Outcomes drive the Deciding Together process forward through the remaining four steps.

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Need	Goal	Outcome
A change or action that will help the child and family to live their best life.	A smaller step that needs to occur to get to the outcome.	What you hope to achieve, be able to do, or see happening for the child or family life <b>in the future once the change occurs.</b>

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<b>Need</b> Child is aggressive when he is mad. He needs to learn new skills to manage his anger.	<b>GOAL</b> →	<b>Outcome</b> Child will be safe when angry and we will have more good times together.
	↓ Item/service/support	

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### Clearly Defined Goals and Outcomes Help the Team

- ❖ Think of all options to meet the child's needs (Step 2).
- ❖ Select the best options to include as supports and services (Step 3).
- ❖ Develop an effective plan and appropriate strategies (Step 4).
- ❖ Evaluate and measure effectiveness and progress (Step 5).

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### When to have a Deciding Together Conversation

Those required times:

- ❖ When starting the Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver Program
- ❖ During annual reviews
- ❖ At the six-month check-in

Outcomes and/or goals more likely to take a long term view.

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### When to have a Deciding Together Conversation

Those unexpected times:

- ❖ An urgent challenge
- ❖ A sudden life change
- ❖ A service, support or item is not working out
- ❖ Progress has stalled

Outcomes and/or goals that are more likely to be short term.

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### Role of the Support and Service Coordinator (SSC)

The SSC is a partner in helping families navigate supports and services. The SSC will:

- ❖ Ask questions and do an assessment to get to know a child and family.
- ❖ Review information with families.
- ❖ Bring in expertise of working with children and families.
- ❖ Help families think about goals and outcomes or get unstuck.

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### How To Identify Child And Family Outcomes And Goals

- ❖ Talk with the child to get their thoughts.
- ❖ Think of times in your day that are great and times that are harder.
- ❖ Ask if there are certain places child does best in.
- ❖ Think about what areas have improved for child and how to keep that going.
- ❖ Ask how your family time could be better.

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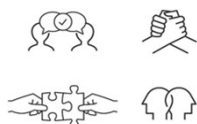
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### Talking with the SSC

- ❖ Take your time, don't rush.
- ❖ Spend time brainstorming and setting goals.
- ❖ Think about your family's needs.
- ❖ Think about the child's needs.
- ❖ Refrain from jumping to services.



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**Let's Learn from Each Other**

- ❖ Please share questions you may have.
- ❖ Please share examples of goals and outcomes you may have.

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**Thoughts? Feedback? Questions?**

**Thank you!**

**Please complete the session survey**

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