# Family Support Council

## Statute Responsibilities

| Statute Language | Accomplishments | Action Steps |
|---|---|---|
| **A. to assist the Department of Developmental Services and other state agencies to:** | | |
| 1. …establish a comprehensive, coordinated system of family support services, | | |
| 2. … use existing state and other resources efficiently and effectively | | |
| 3. …identify and address services that are needed for families of children with disabilities, and | | |
| 4. …promote state-wide availability of such services. | | |

# Family Support Council

Statute Responsibilities

| B. The Council shall: | Accomplishments | Action Steps |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Gather input and develop a vision and guidelines for family support services in Connecticut; | | Develop a FSC vision statement. Review DDS guidelines (see below). Revise or accept DDS guidelines for the FSC. Advise other state agencies to adopt the final FSC guidelines. |
| 2. review existing program policies, procedures and funding mechanisms for conformity to the guidelines and make appropriate recommendations; | | |
| 3. monitor the implementation of the guidelines and recommendations; | | |

# Family Support Council

Statute Responsibilities

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4. report to the Governor and the General Assembly on an annual basis regarding the status of family support services, including the implementation of the guidelines and recommendations | | |
| 5. advocate for family support services in accordance with the guidelines; | | |
| 6. compile and distribute information on family support services within public and private agencies; and (7) perform such other duties as | | |

# Family Support Council

Statute Responsibilities

## Principles To Guide Family Support Programs

The following principles should be used to guide supports to families.

- Family support programs respect families as equal partners.

- Family supports build on families' strengths and respond to the needs of the entire family.

- Families are recognized as valuable resources to their children, other families, their communities, and to the programs that support them.

- Family supports acknowledge the unique cultural and personal identities of families.

- Family supports are rooted in communities and help communities to be responsive to all their members.

# Family Support Council

## Statute Responsibilities

- Family supports are fair, responsive, and accountable to the families they serve.

- Family supports help families to use and strengthen both formal and informal sources of support.

- Family supports have the flexibility to respond to changing situations within families and their communities.

- Family support programs model the principles of family support in all they do.

# Family Support Council

Statute Responsibilities