



# Making It Happen for Families

## Vignette #1

Cynthia is an active 18 month old who is African-American. She likes to listen and dance to music while holding her favorite stuffed animal, Barney. She coughs often and sometimes has problems breathing, but loves to be in motion. She likes to eat french fries, but sometimes chokes on food she eats. Renee, Cynthia’s mother, loves to care for her so much that she took a part-time job at night so she can interact and play with Cynthia during the day. Renee’s part-time job does not bring in the income she needs, but she feels that Cynthia’s needs come first. Sadly, Renee’s husband, Jeff, died in an automobile accident last year and had no insurance.

Renee and Cynthia have been referred to your early care and education program.

As you prepare for your interview with this family, what do you think their needs are? What services do you think they might be interested in hearing about? Please write your answers in the **left-hand column**.

<b>Child and Family Needs</b>	
<b>How Our Program/ Community Can Support These Needs</b>	

### Session 5 Handout #2



## Making It Happen for Families

### Vignette #2

The Lees are a Hmong family from Laos. They have a seven-month-old baby boy. The baby lives with his father, mother, grandmother, and aunt. In Hmong culture, a child is not named until he/she is about two years old. The Lees call the baby “number 3” or “number 5”; he does not have a name yet. Mr. Lee hopes to provide a better life for his family. The family believes the baby is a “gift from the gods” and will dress him like a girl and put a silver dog collar on him, which is their custom. They believe doing this will protect him from any evil spirits.

The adults in the Lee family have become discouraged and depressed because they have not had an opportunity to meet other Hmong families. They plan to enroll their child in a family child care program in hopes of meeting other families who speak their language and share their culture and values.

As you prepare for your interview with this family, what do you think their needs are? What services do you think they might be interested in hearing about? Please write your answers in the **left-hand column**.

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# Making It Happen for Families

## Vignette #3

Lelia was born in Samoa and moved to Hawaii last year. Her mother, father, and grandparents share a small, cramped apartment in the inner city. Lelia is three months old. She is being raised by her parents and her grandparents. Her family views child-rearing as a responsibility for all family members. Major family decisions are made as a unit, not just by Lelia’s parents.

Lelia’s parents want their daughter to attend the child care center, where they feel she will be exposed to more “American ways.” But, they also want her to know and keep the Samoan customs they feel are important, such as respecting the land and honoring one’s ancestors.

As you prepare for your interview with this family, what do you think their needs are? What services do you think they might be interested in hearing about? Please write your answers in the **left-hand column**.

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**Session 5 Handout #2**