

IS JOY LEGAL?

*Joy is a practice and a behavior. It's deliberate and intentional.
Joy can share space with other emotions, such as sadness and fear.*

Can 'joy' be inserted into IFSP's?
What? Where? Who? How?





HOW DID THIS IDEA COME ABOUT? & WHO ARE WE?



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WE ASSURE YOU, WE ARE NOT LAWYERS



WE DO NOT HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS

WHERE CAN 'JOY' BE INSERTED INTO AN IFSP

- 1.) Family priorities/concerns
- 2.) Objectives/goals
- 3.) Service Providers/support
- 4.) Resources

**Section titles may be different
in your state*



Section 1: Family Priorities/Concerns

Care Coordinator asks, "What would you like to see happen for your family/child?"

"We would like the providers working with our family to understand our desire to focus on joy. We worry we may not be on the same page with other members of the IFSP team."

"I am concerned service providers will miss the mark and only focus on what our child can't do. We want our child to learn how to communicate. We would like to build their skills through familial connection and community friendships."

Section 2: Objectives/Goals

CHILD FOCUSED GOALS

"How will we know the child has met their goal(s)?"

Child will share their favorite part of the day each night at dinner.

Child will greet sister when she arrives home from school.

Child will narrate pictures while looking through "joy experience book."

Child will say/sign when they are feeling happy.

Child will imitate modeled facial expression during mirror play.

Child will label feelings while reading books.



Section 2: Objectives/Goals

FAMILY FOCUSED GOALS

"How will we know the family has met their goal(s)?"

1. Parents will participate in a joyful activity once a day.
2. Family will attend an event with other D/HH families 2x in the next 6 months.
3. Parents will use an audible/visual "self-talk" when they are feeling joyful.
4. Parents will label emotions in others, while reading books, or when they are feeling emotions, throughout the day
5. Family will create a "joy experience book" with pictures of their family/an event their family participated in.



Section 3: Service Providers/Support

WHO WILL HELP THE FAMILY ACHIEVE THESE GOALS?

Everyone.

Family, friends, social worker, D/HH specialist, SLP, audiologist, teacher, OT, PT, ENT, community, etc.



REFRAMING TO WHOLE CHILD FOCUS

DEFICIT MODEL

"Child will have 25 words in their vocab."

"How many new words do they have this week?"



GROWTH MINDSET

"How did you see your child work through something that was challenging?"

"What skills have they been working on that you saw progress on?"

"How did you see their language grow recently? What were new ways they communicated with you or someone around them?"

CONVERSATION STARTERS FOR SUBTLY INSERTING 'JOY' INTO SESSIONS



"Tell me something that brought you joy this week."

"Is there anything you noticed about your child this week that made you smile?"

"Did anything happen this week that you wanted to capture in a photograph?"

"What was your favorite part of your week?"



BETH

How might these 'joy focused'
ideas have changed your
family's experience in EI?

CORA

What advice do you have for Early Intervention professionals interested in incorporating 'joy' into their work?



Section 4: Resources

Early Intervention Service Providers

Deaf Community

Audiology Team

Preschool

Family Focused Organizations in the Community

Fostering Joy Journal (for parents and teens)

Facebook Groups: Family and Professionals

Fostering Joy Websites

Hands & Voices Website

Be the change you wish to see in your programs.



Thank you

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