

Guidelines for First Visits to LEND Families

- Call the family and introduce yourself. Ask what time would be best for your first visit. Make sure you get very good directions!! You can also Mapquest.com the directions but it is still a good idea to get directions from the family regarding roads, driveways, parking, etc.
- Make sure you have a camera, though it might be better to wait until after the first visit to take photos. Ask Jackie for a single use camera if you don't have one. Bring notebook or paper to write on.
- Ask questions relating to the objectives presented last week. Sample questions below (do not feel the need to ask all of the questions - this is just to get started. Add some of your own!)
 - What is your child's diagnosis?
 - What kinds of issues do you face on a daily basis?
 - What have been your experiences accessing service systems?
 - How do you find out about resources available?
 - Do you receive support or information from other families?
 - Do you provide information to other families?
 - Has your child or have you faced any discrimination from society because of your child's disability?
 - What has been your experience in dealing with the medical community?
 - What has been your experience in dealing with the educational system?
 - What is your philosophy regarding the education of your child?
 - What do you see as your family's strengths, challenges?
 - What has been your experience with extended family members and their attitude toward your child?

Ask if the family has any other information that they would like to share. Ask about their computer skills as you and they will be putting together a PowerPoint presentation including photos!

- Ask about community visits. These could include outings to the mall, restaurants, playgrounds, mini-golf, attending IEP or CSE meetings, visiting the classroom, attending therapy sessions, ice skating, horseback riding, etc.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jackie at 546-1700, ext. 224 or Yingling@advocacycenter.com