Anna

Anna is a 35 year old Mexican-American who completed college in Mexico and has lived in the United States for ten years. She has a healthy typically developing 6 year old son and a 12 year old daughter with autism. Anna has been a stay at home parent who is very actively involved in her children's schooling, and occasionally assists at her husband's Mexican restaurant. Her parents' health is deteriorating, and she has been working to have them move to the US. Recently Anna has become more involved in the PTA at her son's school because of her concerns that the increasing numbers of young Spanish-speaking children were overwhelming the bilingual programs because of cutbacks in school funding. She assisted the school librarian in starting a family reading club in which Spanish-speaking parents were given story books and helped in learning to read to their children.

Anna's daughter will be starting at a new public school, and she is less optimistic about the optimal supports being made available to her daughter. She noticed two flyers on the guidance office bulletin board – one recruiting mentoring families for LEND trainees and the other recruiting family members to apply to be trainees. Anna is wondering about many E2T2 issues (although she doesn't use life course perspective terminology) and decides to call you for advice about these opportunities.

Facilitator Questions:

PHASE 1:

1. What additional information would you like to have about this situation?

PHASE 2:

1. How do this family's and community's cultural and religious beliefs about typical development, the role of medicine and health care in addressing disabilities and chronic illness, and stigma differ from yours?

2. How would this additional information impact on and be incorporated into the next steps you would take in this situation?

PHASE 3:

1. What if multiple generations of the family need caregivers?

2. What if…

PHASE 4:

1. How will what you have learned through this case discussion impact your work with children, families, and communities?