



Wisconsin  
Department of Health Services

## CORE Conversations with Families in Birth to 3

Module 2

Meeting the Mission

A Presentation by Molly Murphy, Ph.D.

August 3, 2016

# CORE Conversations



- **Community** where we live, work and play together
- **Opportunity** when we practice, participate, contribute
- **Relationships** who we love, who gives and receives support
- **Enjoyment** how we feel about one another, what sustains us

CORE Conversations offer Birth to 3 providers a strategy to use in their conversations with parents raising young children with disabilities that emphasizes natural and ordinary unpaid supports; to ensure a meaningful life for children, teens and adults with disabilities.

Continue through the rest of the  
presentation at your own pace

# CORE Conversations

CORE Conversations (2009) were originally developed by Molly Murphy, Ph.D. and Mark Sweet, Ph.D. for the Natural Supports Project at the Waisman Center, University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.

# Support

This CORE Conversations online training (2016) was developed by Molly Murphy with support from the following:

- WI Board for People with Developmental Disabilities
- WI Department of Health Services Birth to 3 Program
- Disability Rights Wisconsin

*Connecting families to natural, ordinary supports  
in early childhood to ensure a meaningful life  
for children, teens and adults with disabilities.*



# CORE Conversations

The content for this online training is based on:

The CORE of a Good Life:

Guided Conversations with Parents on Raising  
Young Children with Disabilities

by

Molly Murphy and Mark Sweet (2009)

- We invite learners to refer to the first CORE Guide for indepth descriptions of these ideas and strategies to integrate into their work with families.

You can download a free .pdf copy  
of the CORE Guide with the link below

[http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/pdfs/  
products/early/CORE\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/pdfs/products/early/CORE_Guide.pdf)

*Community Opportunity Relationships Enjoyment*

C O R E

Parents raising children with disabilities want the same things all parents want for their children.



# Module 2 Learning Objective

- To increase understanding of how *CORE Conversations* support the mission of Birth to 3.

# Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program Mission Statement

- Commitment to children and families
- Value family relationships
- Enhance family's knowledge and abilities

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/birthto3/principles.htm>

The Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program is committed to serving children under the age of 3 with developmental delays and disabilities and their families.





We value the family's primary relationship with their child and work in partnership with the family.



We work to enhance the child's development and support the family's knowledge, skills and abilities as they interact with and raise their child.



# How do we accomplish the mission of Birth to 3?

By developing a relationship with a parent in which he or she builds the confidence and competence to then support and enhance the development of his or her young child.



By providing information about child development that is informed by our training and professional experiences.



By teaching evidence based strategies and modeling ways of interacting that will influence the child's development and support the parent's outcomes for their child and family.



By focusing our attention on natural activities and interactions, that will support success and participation in the activities and places young children and their families spend time now, and will as they grow into adults.



By balancing what we have to offer  
with what is most relevant and meaningful to the family.





By guiding parents to discover what is important to them  
by bringing professionalism and our expertise  
to inform, not decide, their outcomes.



By recognizing that Birth to 3 providers offer a significant influence on the possibilities that a parent may consider.



By encouraging children and their parents to learn and practice in ways that increases their confidence and competence to meet the life goals that matter to them.



# How do CORE Conversations help providers meet the mission of Birth to 3?

- If a child's optimal development depends on him or her being viewed *first as a child* and second as child with a disability.....
- Then there will also be value in viewing his or her parents *first as parents*, and second as parents of a child with a disability, and only when it is most relevant.

# CORE:

## Meeting the mission of Birth to 3

- CORE Conversations encourage parents and providers to consider natural and ordinary supports as a response to their needs just like any other family would.
- CORE Conversations encourage parents to think about their *community, opportunities* for their child and family, the *relationships* that they want in their life, and *enjoyment* of their child and family, just like any other family would.

More specifically .....

- CORE Conversations invite parents to learn ways to talk about their child that invite relationships instead of creating distance and barriers.

- CORE Conversations encourage parents to consider the relationships that are supportive, the relationships that are not supportive, and the new relationships they want to explore or invite.



- CORE Conversations encourage parents to connect to the ordinary experiences of parenting and being a family that are important to them; reconnect with those experiences or modify those experiences to fit his or her family's needs.

CORE:  
def. chiefly Scottish “a group of people”



# To continue learning about CORE Conversations.....

- **Module 3** Strategies for talking with parents about *community, opportunity, relationships and enjoyment* to better understand their priorities.
- **Module 4** Use parent priorities about community, opportunity, relationships and enjoyment to identify meaningful outcomes.
- **Module 5** Ideas on how to add *natural and ordinary supports* to the options you encourage families to consider.

# For additional information

If you have questions, would like to use CORE Conversations in a Birth to 3 training, or would like continued training for your agency in CORE contact:

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Any training with the CORE materials, outside of WI Birth to 3 agency use for their own teams is prohibited. Any other use of these materials requires permission from the author.



# Wisconsin Department of Health Services

WI DHS Birth to 3 Program partnered with Molly Murphy, Ph.D., presenter and co-author of the CORE Guide (2009), to make the CORE Conversations training and materials available to Birth to 3 providers across the state.

Molly is a clinical assistant professor and Director of the Waisman Center Autism Treatment Programs in partnership with UW Health, at the University of Wisconsin- Madison.

Molly holds a doctorate in Behavioral Disabilities with an emphasis in early childhood special education from the University of Wisconsin Madison, is a licensed Behavior Analyst and a certified Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) therapist.

Molly has supported families raising children with disabilities across WI for many years; as an educator in Birth to 3, inclusive preschool teacher, lead supervisor for in home and clinic based autism treatment and as a parent education and parent leadership group facilitator.

If you would like information on CORE Conversations, or permission to use these materials outside of your Birth to 3 Program, you can contact Molly at 608-263-8033 or email [memurph3@waisman.wisc.edu](mailto:memurph3@waisman.wisc.edu)

*Community Opportunity Relationships Enjoyment*

C O R E