

Wraparound Planning:**Training and
Presentation
Materials**

Read materials from John VanDenBerg's training sessions and presentations on wraparound planning.

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WHAT ARE INFORMAL RESOURCES

Informal resources are the "goodies" in a community that can be supportive to families, and that do not cost money to get. They occur both within a family and their friends, and within communities.

How Do We Find Out About Informal Resources?

We find out about informal family resources by *asking* the family. In some situations, the family does not want to let us know who their supports are, so we learn about their informal resources slowly as trust develops, or sometimes not at all. We find out about community informal resources by learning the community, by linking to the community where families live, and by recognizing the importance of informal resources.

Are Informal Resources More Important Than Formal Services or Treatment?

If you poll your family and friends about how they have gotten through their life crises, most will tell you that they did so by having access to family, faith, or friends. Services or treatment can be vitally important, but most of us get through life by depending on our families and community. In some cases, families lose their connection to their supports through their families or through the community, often due to abuse, violence, stress, or addiction. Part of the job of a helping professional is to help families recover and again learn to access their own or the communities' informal resources.

TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR COMMUNITY

Who brokers formal services?

- Services agencies
- Government offices
- Schools, school boards
- Others

Who brokers informal services and supports?

- Clergy and parishioners
- Business leaders
- Families
- Cultural groups and leaders
- Leagues and teams
- Unions
- Volunteer networks

- Service organizations
- Universities
- Others

EXAMPLES OF FORMAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS:

- Therapy
- Day Treatment
- Case Management
- Medication
- Respite Services
- Home-based Services

EXAMPLES OF INFORMAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS:

- Neighborhood helps with transportation
 - Rotary sponsored a family
 - Craftsman hired to make repairs
 - Single parent taught to choose a better mate by another
 - Peers organize to help support teen to be legal
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