

Some Guidelines for Presentations in Reflective Supervision

Reflective supervision emphasizes the collaborative process among group members as they consider issues in each other's cases. It involves active listening, thoughtful questioning, hypothesis building, and suggestions for intervention.

Reflection means learning about an infant/child and her family, developing an appreciation for the perspectives of the family members, and identifying and considering alternative approaches to intervention. Reflection also means "stepping back" and "slowing down," considering the issues of the family in some detail, *before* proposing solutions.

Here are some ideas about how to organize case presentations. The following elements should be considered as you put together your presentations.

1. Begin with some questions you have about the case you want the group to help you think about.
2. Present basic information about the family, demographics, presenting problem, how the referral came to you, and what the family's request is.
3. Describe your beginning relationship with family members.
4. Describe your observations—of the infant/toddler/preschooler, of the parent(s), of the child-parent relationship, of the child in settings other than the home.
5. What are the family's strengths and difficulties?
6. Where are you in the process, i.e. just beginning an assessment, developing hypotheses about the family's issues, implementing a treatment plan, in the middle of treatment? Discuss what have you tried so far, what seems to be working, and what roadblocks or sticking points you have encountered or anticipate.
7. What feelings does working with this family evoke in you?

A brief write-up that touches on the above questions can orient the group to the issues you'd like to discuss.

Illustrating presentations with video, if available, is a great way to convey information about the child/family. As you know, your releases of information must explicitly state that the video will be used for case consultation.

In presenting cases, please use only first names or initials, and avoid specific information that could potentially identify clients.