



1.Capacity: Is there a required number to be served? Is the grant amount based on the number of children enrolled? **MFN does not have a required number of families that need to be served in a program year. Respondents should clearly articulate the targeted numbers of families that will be served based upon community demographics, community assessment information and through parent partnerships that were developed during the grant planning phase. The center will work with their Program Consultant to assist in developing an outcome target that is attainable. At this time, the grant amount is not based on children enrolled.**

2. Is there a target length of time for each family to be involved in the program? i.e., enrollment in September and servicing family through June. **Family Support Centers design programs and services that meet the needs of the community. There is no specific length of time that families are required to attend the program. Families may engage and disengage based upon their unique family circumstances.**

3.Playground- is it possible to meet this requirement with an indoor space in lieu of an outdoor playground for those in a downtown location? **A dedicated playground space would not preclude an applicant from consideration. We would require that there is an indoor space used for gross motor activity and the applicant should detail in their application how they would provide outdoor experiences for children, i.e. short stroller walks in the neighborhood, scheduled play at local parks, etc.**

Is there a conflict of interest for a for profit mental health agency to write for a Patty Center if parents might at some point become actual clients/patients of the agency?

Most current FSCs are sponsored by local government, small non-profit agencies or local education systems, but there is not a federal or state regulation that would preclude a for-profit entity from providing Family Support Services. A key factor in the Family Support philosophy, however, is that services are delivered at no charge to families and the application should clearly describe how families can access all required services for free – without any expected financial outlay. MFN encourages applicants to identify partnerships that will provide coordinated supports to families that includes constructing systems for seamless referrals and high-quality communication when two agencies (or multiple departments within an agency) ‘share’ in the provision of services to a person or family. Within the ‘free and accessible’ philosophy, though, if a center leveraged fee-for-service/billable services for eligible families (ex: referring a parent who meets mental health medical necessity criteria to the mental health arm of the agency), that could reflect a wise distribution of limited resources. The application should clearly outline how an agency will ensure that there is no conflict of interest.

