

## Characteristics of Family-Driven Care

- 1.** Family and youth experiences, their visions and goals, their perceptions of strengths and needs, and their guidance about what will make them comfortable steer decision making about all aspects of service and system design, operation, and evaluation.
- 2.** Family-run organizations receive resources and funds to support and sustain the infrastructure that is essential to insure an independent family voice in their communities, states, tribes, territories, and the nation.
- 3.** Meetings and service provision happen in culturally and linguistically competent environments where family and youth voices are heard and valued, everyone is respected and trusted, and it is safe for everyone to speak honestly.
- 4.** Administrators and staff actively demonstrate their partnerships with all families and youth by sharing power, resources, authority, responsibility, and control with them.
- 5.** Families and youth have access to useful, usable, and understandable information and data, as well as sound professional expertise so they have good information to make decisions.
- 6.** Funding mechanisms allow families and youth to have choices.
- 7.** All children, youth, and families have a biological, adoptive, foster, or surrogate family voice advocating on their behalf.

Source: 11<sup>th</sup> Working Definition of Family-driven Care

<http://www.systemsofcare.samhsa.gov/headermenus/deffamilydriven.aspx>