



Utilizing the Parents w/Disabilities Resource Teams (PwDRT)

These teams can provide consultation to case workers, parent educators and healthcare providers supporting a parent who has a disability.

- If parental disability is known – consult with the PwDRT to connect family with appropriate resources.
 - If parent disability is suspected - Invite a PwDRT team member to meet with the parent at your clinic, with the parents' consent.
- If parent displays behavioral indicators of learning disabilities over time, consult with the PwDRT (indicators listed on back of this form).
- If parent is facing legal action, a Competency Based Parent Assessment can be requested through the PwDRT.
- If child is placed in foster care and has disabilities, consult with Sooner SUCCESS about appropriate resources to recommend to foster parent for support and information on disability services for the child.

Expectations of those accessing the team:

Those presenting a case should be able to explain the known or suspected disability of the parent and what issues are placing the children or family at risk using a PwDRT Consultation form.

Expectation of the team:

When presented with a case involving a parent with a disability, the team will:

1. Help the presenting professional understand the nature of the parent's disability.
2. Discuss how services can be adapted to meet the family's unique needs.
3. Recommend disability resources that may benefit the family.
4. Recommend community resources that may benefit the family and discuss ways to make the programs accessible to the parent.
5. Brainstorm solutions to specific challenges and/or safety concerns that the parent/family are facing.
6. Whenever possible, help identify or nurture potential long term supports within the parent's natural environment or areas of interest.

PwDRT Team Contact Points: (see map on back)

- **DHS Region 1 (yellow) - Deana Wilson** deana-wilson@ouhsc.edu
- **DHS Region 2 (orange) - Janet Wilson** janet-m-wilson@ouhsc.edu
- **DHS Region 3 (red) - Lori Wathen** lori-wathen@ouhsc.edu
- **DHS Region 4 (green) - sooner-success@ouhsc.edu**
- **DHS Region 5 (blue) - Erin Strayhorn** erin-strayhorn@ouhsc.edu

Behavioral Indicators of an Intellectual Limitation or of Learning Difficulties

If you are questioning whether a parent may have an intellectual disability or learning difficulty, look for some of the following possible indicators. Remember, any parent could exhibit some of these difficulties or behaviors.

- Missed appointments
- Disorganizations
- Poor judgement
- Sequencing difficulties
- Motor planning difficulties
- Problems with understanding time
- No follow through on home program
- Short- and long-term memory problems
- Not following through after appearing to understand a concept
- Performance fear (reluctant to try a new task for fear of failure)
- Not wanting to get down on the floor with their child, fear of appearing childlike
- Attention issues
- Difficulty generalizing information
- Reluctant to do things in a different way, rigidity
- Parent in competition with their child for toys or attention
- Child has chronic health problems such as frequent or ongoing ear infections, coughs, or rashes that may be due to lack of appropriate use of medication or medical advice.

