

Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health  
Family Leadership In System Evaluation

*Family & Youth Driven*  
**Family-Youth-Evaluator Partnership**

Family members of children with significant mental health needs, youth, and evaluators helped develop the following list of characteristics for a “*Family & Youth Driven Family-Youth-Evaluator Partnership*” during the Family Leadership in System Evaluation Phase IV Training - Atlanta, Georgia - February 2006.

**IN ORDER TO USE DATA TO TRANSFORM & SUSTAIN CHILD AND FAMILY SERVING SYSTEMS, FAMILY-YOUTH-EVALUATOR PARTNERSHIPS SHOULD EXIST, IN WHICH:**

- ❖ There is a balance of power
- ❖ There is interdependence with mutual support – Evaluators do “with” and not “for” families and youth
- ❖ The partnership is institutionalized – Families, youth, and evaluators are always seen together – and, together, they help create systems change through the use of data
- ❖ Families and youth are mobilized through the use of data
- ❖ Families and Youth have access to (evaluation) skills and resources
- ❖ Evaluators have access to skills and resources (about how to partner effectively with families and youth)
- ❖ Families and Youth are the decision-makers -- as supported by evaluators
- ❖ Families and youth have a role in managing the funds for evaluation