# Family Therapy through Role Play

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### Family Therapy is...

 Healing Through Relationships
 Developing a secure and strong family environment

□ Present-Focused

□ Collaborative Conversations

□ Strengths-based and solution-

focused

### The first contact and session(s)

#### What's Important

- Joining and Collaboration
- Setting expectations and guidelines (include safety and confidentiality)
- Highlight family strengths
  - -Begin and end with strengths and positives
- Draw out hopes and goals
- Project interest, curiosity, acceptance

#### Guidelines

- □ Start with positive and relational interactions
- Learn about family narratives amidst joining;
  can go back for history
- Leave room for questions, summarize in positive terms, obtain feedback, repeat goals and structure of sessions

## Joining

# Joining means...Creating an alliance, engaging members

**Demonstrate warmth and interest**, respect each member, create safe and predictable environment.

**Focus on surface reflections-**-avoid delving too much into problems or negative affect. Reframing is an essential tool.

**Pay close attention** to those who seem less engaged, hostile, or skeptical

Respect the family's power dynamics/rules of engagement

Hear people out, show "just a little more optimism" than the family



For further information or to schedule this training at your organization, please contact Jonah Green at 301-466-9526 or jonah@jgatherapy.com. Thank you!