

Service Delivery Contrast

Family Preservation Services	Traditional Social Services
Services in family's home	Services in office
Immediate response	Waiting list
Sessions with family last as long as needed	Sessions with family last approximately 50 minutes
Meet frequently with family - often daily	Meet weekly or less with family
Available for services to family 7 days a week, 24 hours a day	Available for services to family during business hours
Family selects solutions to problems	Worker selects solutions to problems
Services with the family have a predetermined length of involvement, usually short term - up to 12 weeks	Services with the family have an indefinite duration, long term, often years
Small caseloads, 2 to 3 families	Large caseloads, 12 to 50 children
Focus is on the family system	Focus is on the individual
Services concentrate on underlying skills and interactions	Services concentrate on immediate symptoms
Use a crisis situation as a "teachable" moment for intervention	No special use of crisis
Assist families in solving their own problems	Solve problems for individuals/families