

## **Benefits of Transition Planning**

Evidence Based Practices indicate the following benefits for Transitions:

- Transition planning provides the foundation to assure that all children and families have their needs met; important information about a child's unique needs is shared prior to the transition allowing for supports for children and families to be in place.
- Local planning can minimize discontinuities and enhance child success.
- Planned activities can help children and families cope with necessary changes.
- Transition planning supports a good start from the very beginning and minimizes problems, such as social and academic struggles.
- When young children experience success during a transition point, they grow in confidence and are better able to handle change.
- Gaps in care and education disrupt growth and development.
- Developmentally appropriate curricula provide continuity for children and promote early success.
- Family members need information and encouragement to be involved in the transition process and provide stability toward their child's adjustment in a new setting/environment.
- Families who are made to feel welcome in the new setting are likely to continue active involvement in their child's program/education.
- When sending and receiving staff, teachers, families, and community representatives plan together, the transition process works better than when these people do not cooperate, collaborate, or talk.
- Written procedures with timelines help communities implement transition activities.

Duwa, S. 1996, *Prevention and Early Intervention: Making It Happen-Interdisciplinary and Interagency Training for Families and Providers*, Duwa Training and Development Group for the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitation Services and the Florida Department of Education