Optimal Teamwork

The child and family's team, also known as the safety network, contain all of the important supporters and decision makers in the child and family's life, including the family's informal supports. The team has formed an excellent, consistent working system that meets, talks, and plans together; face-to-face family team meetings are held regularly and as frequently as the team sees the need as well as at critical points to develop short-term and long-term plans. The team has excellent skills, family knowledge, and abilities necessary to organize effective services with a child/family of this complexity and cultural background. Team members collectively function as a fully unified and consistent team in planning services and evaluating results; this is clearly reflected in a coordination of services across agencies for the child and family. Team members have significantly contributed to a written case plan, which is communicated as a reference for their work that considers the child's and family's strengths, needs, and the services and supports needed to meet the needs of the family. Actions and communications of the team fully reflect an optimal pattern of effective teamwork and collaborative problem solving with the child and family. The family is a full and equal team member.

Adapted from Quality Service Review for a Child and Family (Version 2.2B), Human Systems and Outcomes, Inc., October 2010