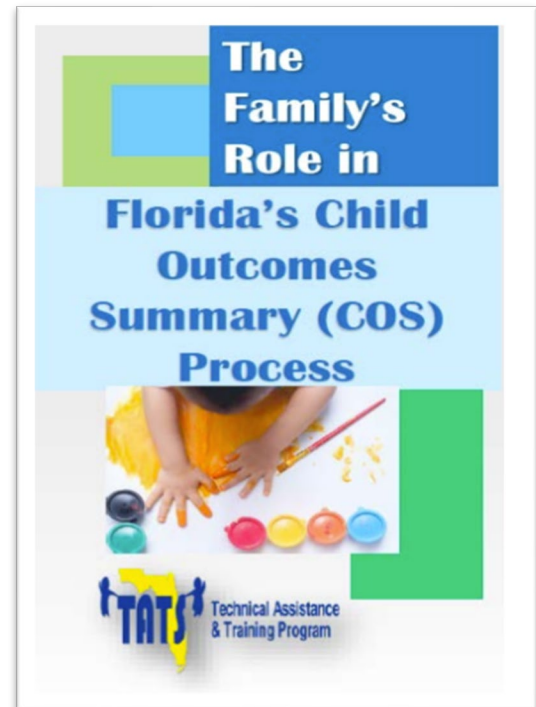


## Connecting Engaging Families to the Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process

It's important to share information about the COS process with the family as their child is entering and exiting the ECSE program.

**The Family Brochure** helps explain to the family that the purpose of an assessment is to identify a child's abilities in everyday activities, to make decisions about a child's eligibility for intervention services, to develop an individual plan for the child and family, or to monitor child progress.



### Benefits of engaging families!

Engaging families as partners in their child's assessment includes methods and strategies for gathering information from families and promoting their participation during the assessment.

Gathering information from families is critical for identifying a child's strengths and needs and for making informed decisions about the goals and objectives on intervention plans.

Practitioners ensure that family members play an important role in their child's assessment when they listen to family members, encourage them to share their knowledge, and clarify their concerns, priorities, and goals for their child.

### Working together!

When parents and professionals work together as a team, children do better. While professionals have expertise in working with children, **parents are the expert on their own child.**