

# Resources from the Field: Incorporating Family Voice & Sharing Supports with Families



QSLA has gathered activities and practices that you and/or your fellow early educators use related to **family feedback and how to share resources with families** into this resource document. Check out the great ideas below – you never know what may spark your interest! Thank you to all early educators who shared their wisdom and experience!



Activity or Practice Name	Overview of the Activity/Practice	Links/Materials
<b>Ways to Communicate</b>		
<b>Surveys</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offering surveys as <b>physical printouts or via email/text</b></li> <li>For <b>online surveys</b>, simple, free websites like Google Forms or Survey Monkey are great options!</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Google Forms</a> <a href="#">Survey Monkey</a>
<b>Voicing Feelings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask family members to <b>share what they are feeling</b> and why. If in a family setting, asking them to draw and/or write out their feelings.</li> </ul>	Paper and pen (optional)
<b>Check-ins</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Great for Larger Programs:</b> Take advantage of daily routines to check-in with family members in person (ex. During temperature checks per COVID procedures)</li> <li><b>Use websites or mobile applications</b> like Facebook or WhatsApp to communicate with families - either in groups or individually!</li> <li><b>Great for Smaller Programs:</b> Provide weekly group calls (whether by phone or on a video call) to gauge how families are doing overall as a program</li> </ul>	Phone Computer & internet access (optional)
<b>Monthly Bulletin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Send out monthly bulletins</b> by text, email, or through physical printouts - <i>what works for you/your program?</i></li> </ul>	Computer & internet access Printer (optional)
<b>Weekly Activity Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Create a calendar of creative activities</b> like Arts &amp; Crafts, Painting, Music, Dancing, Singing for families to complete with their child (particularly on the weekends).</li> </ul>	YouTube channels & Activity materials
<b>Class Dojo</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ClassDojo is a communication platform</b> that teachers, students, and families use every day to build close-knit communities.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Class Dojo Link</a> (Free Version available)

<b>Ready Rosie</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is a <b>tool that programs can purchase to communicate with families</b> regarding program efforts and to share step-by-step activities, i.e. how to read with children, how to make playdough together.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Ready Rosie Link</a> (Ready Rosie is free through LA County Library)
<b>Learning Genie</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Learning Genie offers an all-in-one data driven Family Engagement Suite</b> featuring two-way communication with auto-translation, family engagement tool, digital In-kind tool, and versatile survey tool.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Learning Genie Link</a> (One month is offered for free!)
<b>Sharing Resources</b>		
<b>Connecting Families with Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Offer a form or primary contact that families can use to request support</b> and/or resources in a private manner.</li> <li><b>“Warm hand-outs”</b> - ensure that program staff are connecting families to resources &amp; supports in a positive and encouraging manner.</li> </ul>	Digital Form (i.e. Google Forms, Survey Monkey) OR Printed forms
<b>Offering Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Give families resources or information</b> if they need support. This can include printouts, resource websites or agency contact information.</li> </ul>	ex. <a href="#">QSLA's Concrete Supports Infographics</a>
<b>Bulletins &amp; Flyers in Common Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Provide resources in a visible area for families</b> to pick up and go when dropping off or picking up their child. Ideas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bulletin Board</li> <li>Local Resources shared via Resource Binders or Tables</li> <li>Program Forms - ex. Support Request Forms</li> <li>Jobs Announcements</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Bulletin Board, Printouts, Forms, Brochures & Flyers, Materials like binders, paper clips, staples, etc.
<b>Sharing Ideas Between Families</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Create an opportunity for families to connect and problem-solve together</b> - virtually or in person!</li> </ul>	Meeting Space, Communication Materials
<b>CHIRP Los Angeles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CHIRP LA offers comprehensive housing information and referrals for people living with HIV/AIDS.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">CHIRP Los Angeles Instagram</a>
<b>Ready LA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ready LA is managed by the LA City Emergency Management Department and <b>offers information &amp; resources to help us prepare for emergencies and disasters.</b></li> </ul>	* <a href="#">Ready Los Angeles Instagram</a> * <a href="#">Ready LA.org</a>
<b>LA County Department of Social Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LA Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) offers support through cash assistance, job services, food &amp; nutrition, health care, homeless services, support for elderly &amp; disabled folks, and more.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">LA Dept of Public Social Services</a>
<b>How to Incentivize Family Participation to Strengthen Engagement</b>		
<b>Partner with Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with other family child care</li> </ul>	Phone and/or



<b>Family Child Care Providers</b>	providers and their programs to: co-host workshops, events, etc., and/or share resources with each other to further expand your network!	Computer
<b>Seeking Other Ways to Connect</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is your program struggling to have family members attend program-wide meetings? Look for other ways to connect! Family meetings, phone calls, check-ins, on social media groups, etc.</li> </ul>	Computer and/or phone, Social Media Account(s)
<b>Live Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Offer live activities like cooking or art, making sure to incorporate educational moments for families</b> - including sharing resources. This can be adapted to an in-person or virtual format.</li> </ul>	Activity materials Physical meeting space or virtual set up (Zoom, Webex, Skype, Google Meet)
<b>Survey Tracker</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Share a visible tracker of survey responses</b> to encourage and recognize families' efforts! This can be posted in a program, where families may see or on a program's website or communications.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Sample Survey Tracker (Thermometer)</a>
<b>Raffles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Incentivize families</b> to share their feedback or submit responses by providing opportunities for them to win a raffle prize! (Ex. Obtain donations from places like Baby2Baby or local businesses)</li> </ul>	Raffle Prizes <a href="#">(Baby2Baby)</a>
<b>Whiteboard &amp; Token Box Ideas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create easy ways for families to use their voice in program matters while they are on-the-go, like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Whiteboard Questions</b> - Write 1-2 brainstorming questions, with post-its and pens/pencils available for families to share ideas for specific program matters.</li> <li><b>Token Box Voting</b> - Have families vote or respond to multiple choice questions by dropping tokens (or similar items) into a box corresponding to their response!</li> <li><b>Super Short Surveys</b> - Limit to 3-5 quick and easy questions that families can answer during pick-up or drop off. .</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Whiteboard, post-its, pens/pencils  Boxes, token or similar items, signs with questions  Surveys (printed or electronic), pens/pencils (if applicable)