

Let's Talk about Policies

(Adapted from Baker & Manfredi-Pettit, 2004, p. 176-178.)

- How do your center's policies strengthen relationships between adults? Between adults and children?
- Do any of your center's policies weaken or undermine relationships? Which policies?
- What do you need to know to establish policies that are more supportive of adult relationships?
- Do your center's policies support caring connections with parents that go beyond cordiality?
- Do its policies limit staff relationships with families? Why?
- Do you need to make changes in staff scheduling so relationship priorities are put first? For instance, is there frequent contact between parents and their child's primary caregiver?
- Is family participation a shared value and goal among center staff? Among parents?
- Does your center feel like home?
- Is relationship and community building a program-wide goal?