

Here's a breakdown of how to run an early help meeting:

1. Preparation and Planning:

• Purpose:

Clearly define the reason for the meeting and its goals, ensuring it aligns with the individual's or family's needs.

• Participants:

Invite relevant individuals, including the person or family experiencing difficulties, professionals involved (e.g., health worker, social worker), and any other support people.

• Location and Time:

Choose a comfortable, neutral location and time that accommodates all participants.

• Agenda:

Develop an agenda that outlines the key areas to be discussed, including introductions, identifying strengths and needs, brainstorming solutions, and creating a support plan.

Resources:

Gather any relevant information, such as previous assessments or reports, and have access to resources that can provide support.

2. Conducting the Meeting:

• Welcome and Introductions:

Start with a welcoming tone and allow participants to introduce themselves and their roles.

• Identifying Strengths and Needs:

Focus on the individual's or family's strengths and capabilities, and explore the specific areas where support is needed.

• Planning:

Work together to identify potential solutions and interventions, considering the individual's or family's preferences and resources.

• Creating a Support/Action Plan:

Develop a clear and specific support plan that outlines the steps to be taken, who is responsible for what, and how progress will be monitored.

Review and Agreement:

Review the support plan with all participants, ensuring everyone is in agreement and understands their roles and responsibilities.

3. Follow-up and Monitoring:

- **Regular Check-ins:** Schedule follow-up meetings to monitor progress this could be between 6-8 weeks, make adjustments to the support plan as needed, and ensure the individual or family is receiving the appropriate support.
- **Documentation:** Keep a record of the meeting, the support plan, and any changes made.
- **Evaluation:** Evaluate the effectiveness of the early help interventions and make adjustments to improve outcomes.