

Teaching Notes for *Family Support in the United States: Financing Trends and Emerging Initiatives*

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**Slide 1**

This lecture reviews findings from a study conducted on the trends in family support spending and the variability in the level of resources states allocate to families. This presentation could easily be incorporated into a policy, family services or disability class.

**Slide 2**

Discussion Question:

Have the class discuss their experience with and knowledge of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

**Slides 3 & 4**

Discussion Question:

Did you know that most people with developmental disabilities live with their families? Do you know many people with developmental disabilities in your community? If you know anyone with a developmental disability, what kinds of services do they receive? Do they receive adequate levels of support?

**Slide 5**

Discussion Question:

Why do you think parenting children with developmental disabilities has this type of lifelong impact on the parents?

**Slide 6**

Discussion Question:

Ask class to discuss how advocacy made a difference for families after the 1970's and what advocates may continue to do in the future.

## **Slide 7**

### Discussion Question:

What are the policy implications of planning for the future?

## **Slide 9**

### Discussion Question:

Do you think there are other types of family support services that families might need? What would these include? What role can social workers play in the family support system?

## **Slide 12**

### Discussion Question:

Would families prefer cash subsidies over programs? What would be the pros and cons of each cash subsidies? Programs?

## **Slides 13 & 14**

### Discussion Question:

Do you think there are political repercussions for states related to the data they report regarding family support services?

## **Slides 17 & 18**

### Discussion Question:

Look at the states in the Top and Bottom and talk about trends you might notice. What are the differences and similarities of the two tiers? Are there regional trends? Are there trends in state wealth? Small vs. large states?

## **Slide 19**

### Discussion Question:

Why do you think some states don't provide cash subsidies? What do you notice about the level of cash some families receive? What do you think the amount of money received in North Carolina or Utah would allow a family to do?

## **Slide 20**

### Discussion Question:

What could HCBS be used for? What do you know about HCBS? What are the policies surrounding HCBS?

## **Slides 21-33**

### Group Activity:

Have the class divide into groups and have each group take 1-3 initiatives and discuss the range of ways in which the general constructs behind the initiatives (e.g. flexible funding, networking) could be operationalized into programs. Then have them create a specific program which for each initiative. Return to large group and report out.

## **Slide 34**

### Discussion Question:

What policy issues would you recommend on the state and federal level?