

# AIR-B RESEARCH ROUNDUP

## PARENT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES REVIEW

Conducted at University of Rochester, Drexel University, University of California at Davis, University of California Los Angeles, and University of Pennsylvania

### WHAT did you study?

Families of young children with different disabilities are often asked to participate in interventions for their children. We studied the **strategies that were most effective at keeping parents involved** in these kinds of programs.

### WHAT did you find?

Parents are more likely to continue their participation in research programs when:



- Programs occur **at home or in the community**
- Parents are **paired with a peer** for shared learning, guidance, and support
- There is **less oversight and more praise** from a provider



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### HOW did you study it?

Researchers reviewed articles (published between 1/1/2000 and 7/1/2016) that included a focus on parent engagement strategies.

Thirty-five articles met criteria for answering their main research question: **What engagement strategies kept parents actively involved in the treatment program?**

### WHY does it matter?

When parents are involved in their child's treatment, it results in **improvements in the child's and family's overall well-being**. Using effective strategies for parent engagement 1) can **help guide clinicians** in family interactions and 2) can **help us understand** how to work with parents who are underrepresented.



## WHAT'S NEXT?

- Identifying engagement strategies that meet the diverse needs of families and studying their effectiveness
- Future studies should use parent engagement strategies as part of the intervention, because previous work shows how important it is to keep families involved
- Future studies should clearly describe whether they use engagement strategies, what they are, and how families – especially those with diverse income and education levels – benefit from the use of those strategies.



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## THE FULL ARTICLE CAN BE FOUND THROUGH THIS CITATION:

1. Pellecchia, M, Nuske, HJ, Straiton, D, Hassrick, EM, Gulsrud, A, Iadarola, S, Vejnaska, SF, Bullen, B, Haine-Schlagel, R, Kasari, C, Mandell, DS, Smith, T, & Stahmer, AC. (2018). Strategies to engage underrepresented parents in child intervention services: A review of effectiveness and co-occurring use. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 27(10), 3141-3154.

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