

Family Support Community of Practice Meeting: Emerging Family Support Consensus Framework

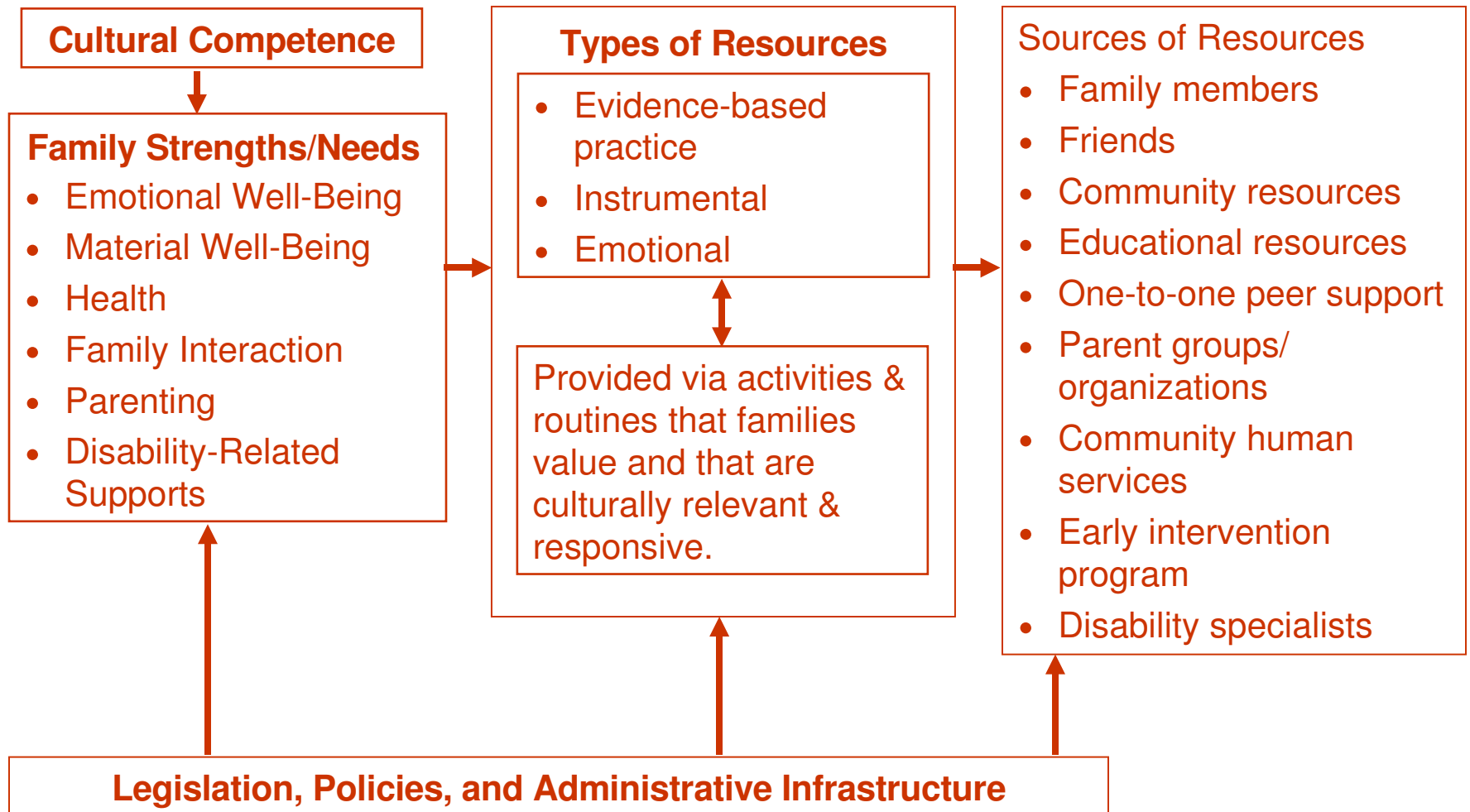
Family Support Community of Practice

DEC Conference

Little Rock, AR

October 19, 2006

Emerging Family Support Consensus Framework



Component 1: Family Strengths/Needs in Five Domains

- Emotional Well-being
- Material Well-being
- Health
- Family Interaction
- Parenting
- Disability-Related Supports

Emotional Well-Being: Strengths/Needs

- Experiencing, regulating, and expressing emotions
- Dealing with upsets, pain, and negativity
- Receiving professional counseling
- Addressing mental health concerns
- Preventing mental health problems
- Dealing with grief after child dies

Emotional Well-Being (cont.)

- Experiencing a sense of “normalcy”
- Feeling hope about the future
- Having trusted others (to talk to and to rely on and get to know other families of children with disabilities)¹
- Others

¹ECO outcome

Material Well-Being: Strengths/Needs

- Having money for food, shelter, transportation, and other basic needs
- Accessing needed equipment and materials
- Accessing government disability benefits
- Maximizing benefits from insurance coverage
- Becoming a wise consumer of public and private resources for child development
- Learning asset development strategies related to the disability field
- Others

Health: Strengths/Needs

- Having a medical home
- Having appropriate dental care
- Having information and resources to prevent health problems and promote wellness
- Carrying out ongoing surveillance of health and development
- “Forecasting” and screening related to health problems and genetics
- Others

Family Interaction: Strengths/Needs

- Having time for self
- Having support systems (enjoying doing things together as a family)¹
- Establishing close and secure interpersonal relationships
- Addressing the needs of the whole family, as well as the child with special needs

¹ECO outcome

Family Interaction (cont.)

- Making decisions about whether to have additional children in light of reproductive risks or disability-related concerns
- Knowing when and how to tell family members, friends, and others about the child's actual or pre-symptomatic disability
- Balancing work and family responsibilities
- Others

Parenting: Strengths/Needs

- Understanding their child's strengths, abilities, and special needs¹
- Help their children develop and learn¹
- Minimizing or preventing behavior problems
- Accessing parenting resources
- Learning techniques to foster child's development

¹ECO outcome

Parenting (cont.)

- Accessing community resources
- Having clear understanding of child development
- Facilitating friendships with other children in neighborhood and community
- Others

Disability-Related Supports: Strengths/Needs

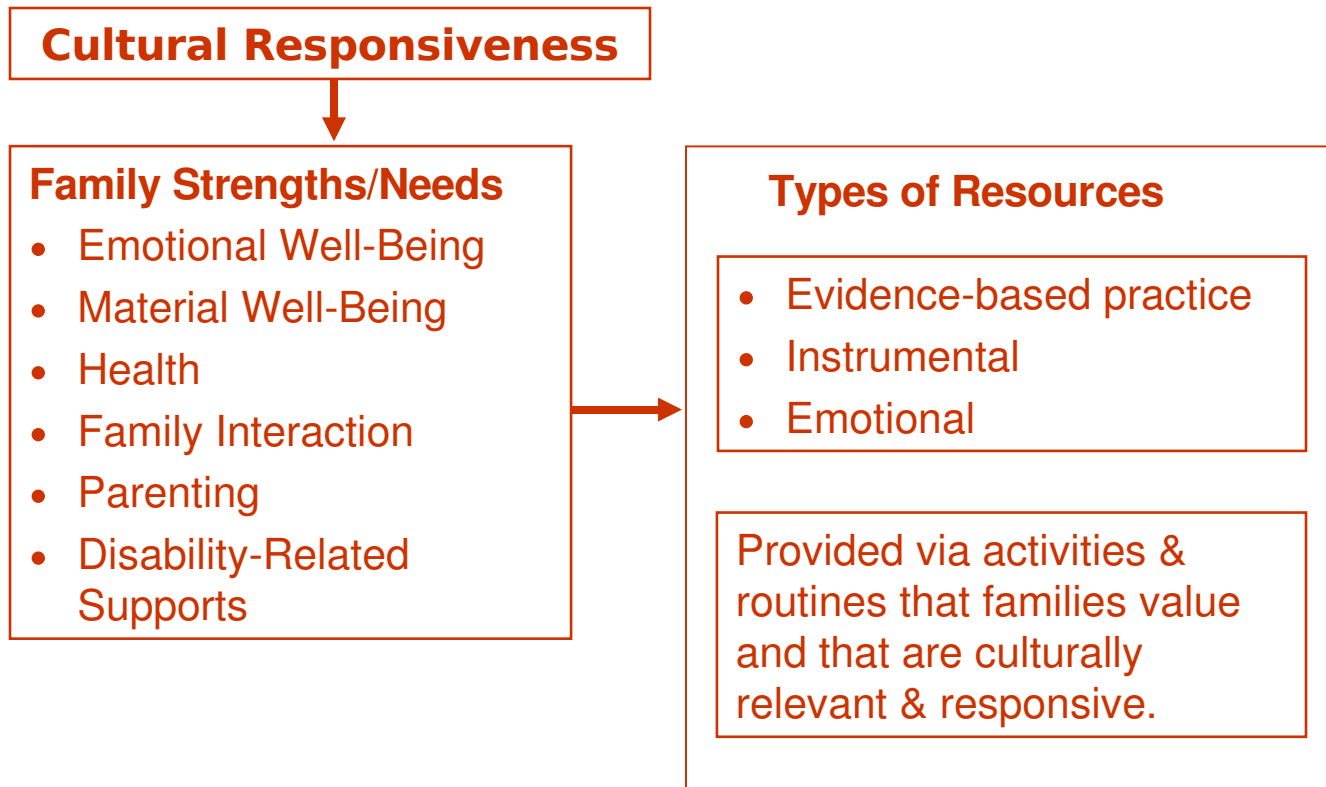
- Partnering effectively with professionals
- Knowing their rights and advocate effectively for their children (includes knowing different service options and the types of services offered by different providers)¹
- Maximizing developmental opportunities in natural settings
- Utilizing state-of-art service coordination

¹ECO outcome

Disability-Related Supports (cont.)

- Addressing issues of future concerns related to the child's disability
- Accessing Early Care and other education services
- Having clear understanding of child's disability
- Preparing parents to participate in policy-making related to disability
- Accessing child care in light of special needs
- Others

Component 2: Consider Types of Resources



Component 2: Types of Resources

- Evidence-based practice resources – providing the best available research combined with professional/family wisdom and values (Buysse, Snyder, Wesley, & Winton, 2006)
- Instrumental resources – providing practical assistance
- Emotional resources – addressing affective considerations and issues

Component 2: Activities and Routines

- Community Life
 - ✓ Family excursions
 - ✓ Play activities
 - ✓ Recreation activities
 - ✓ Arts/entertainment activities
 - ✓ Church/religious activities
 - ✓ Community activities

Component 2: Activities and Routines (cont.)

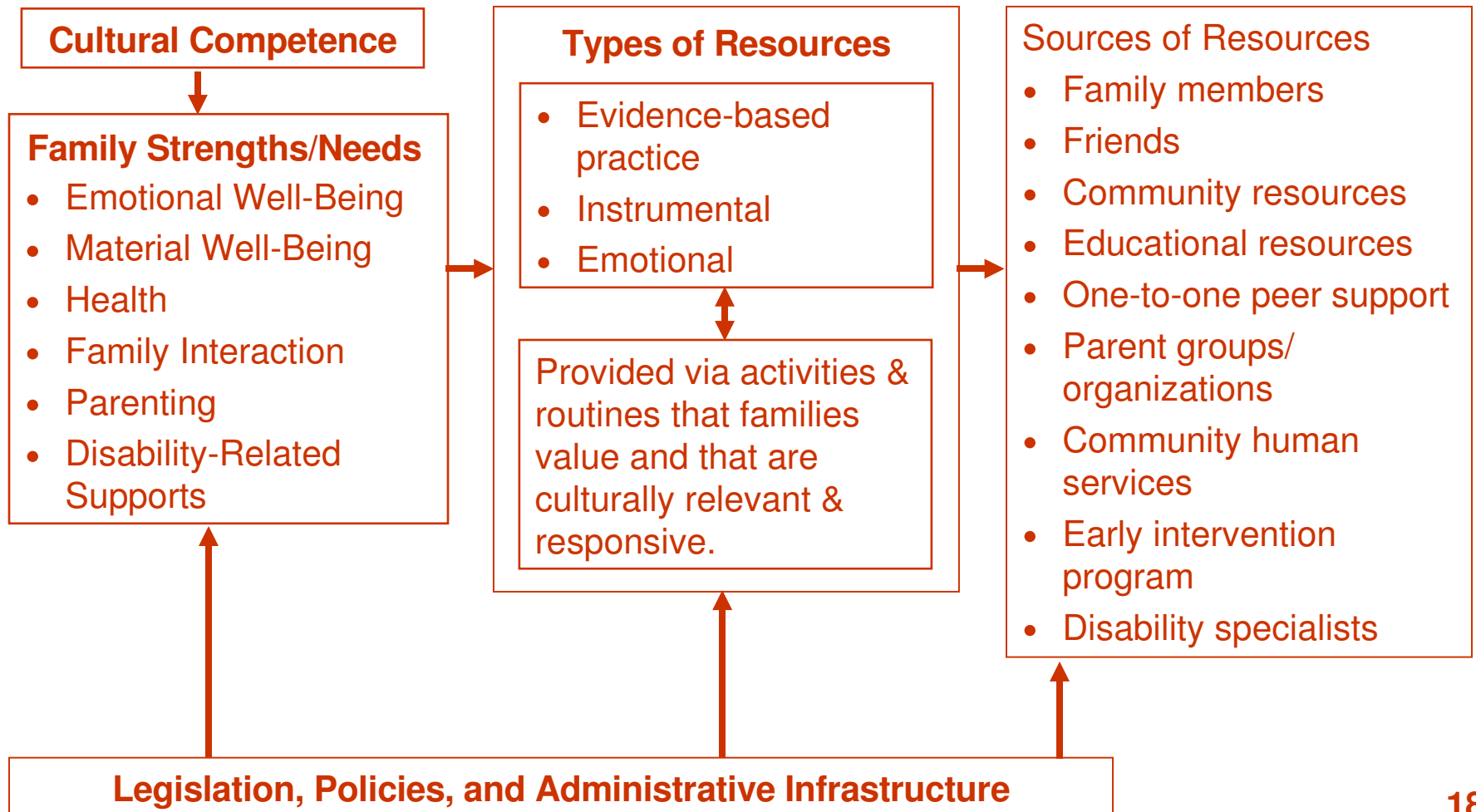
- Family Life
 - ✓ Family routines (cooking, shopping)
 - ✓ Parenting routines (bedtime, bath time)
 - ✓ Child routines (dressing, eating)
 - ✓ Play activities
 - ✓ Family rituals (family talks, saying grace at meals)

Component 3: Sources of Resources

Sources of Resources

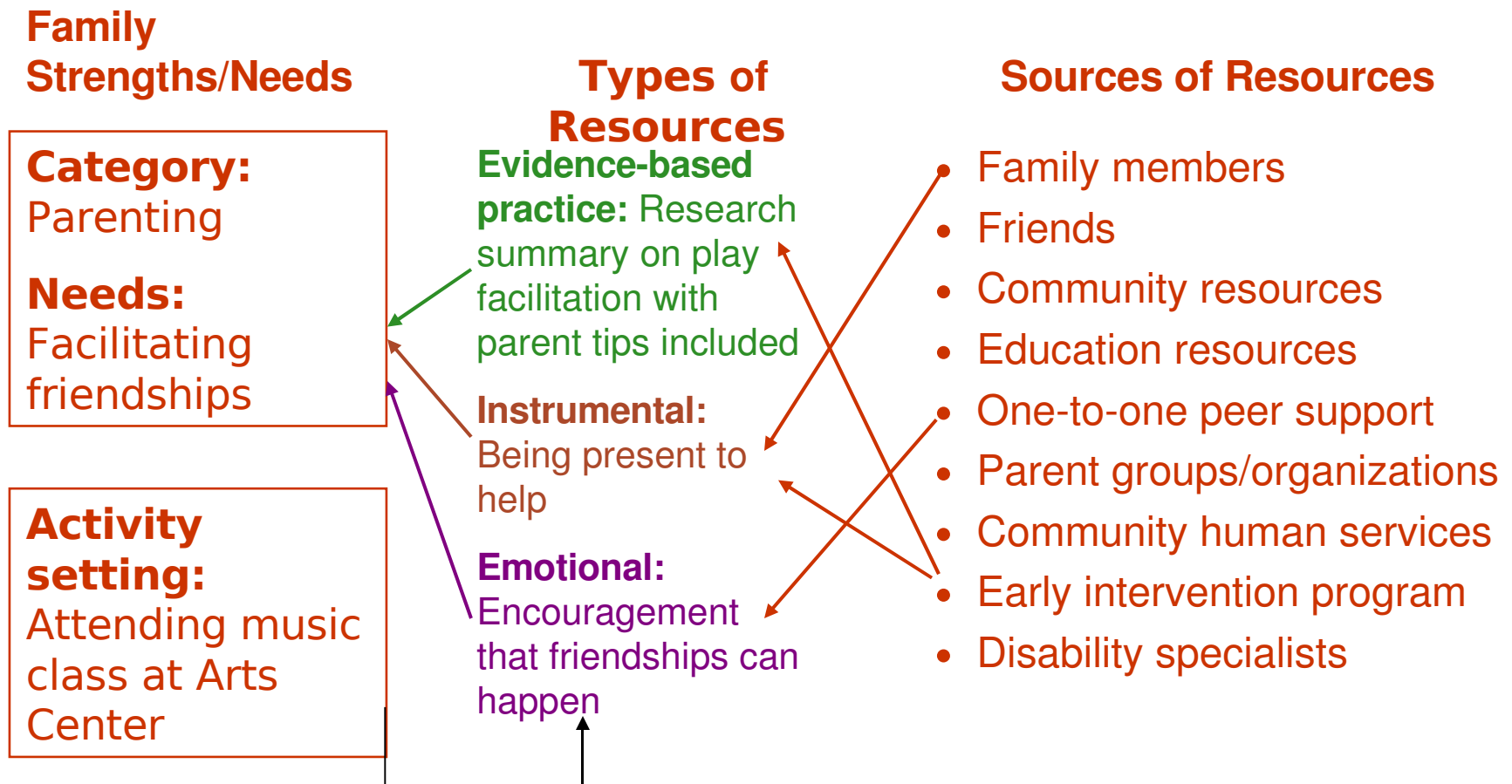
- Family members
- Friends
- Community resources
- Educational resources
- One-to-one peer support
- Parent groups/organizations
- Community human services
- Early intervention program
- Disability specialists

Emerging Family Support Consensus Framework



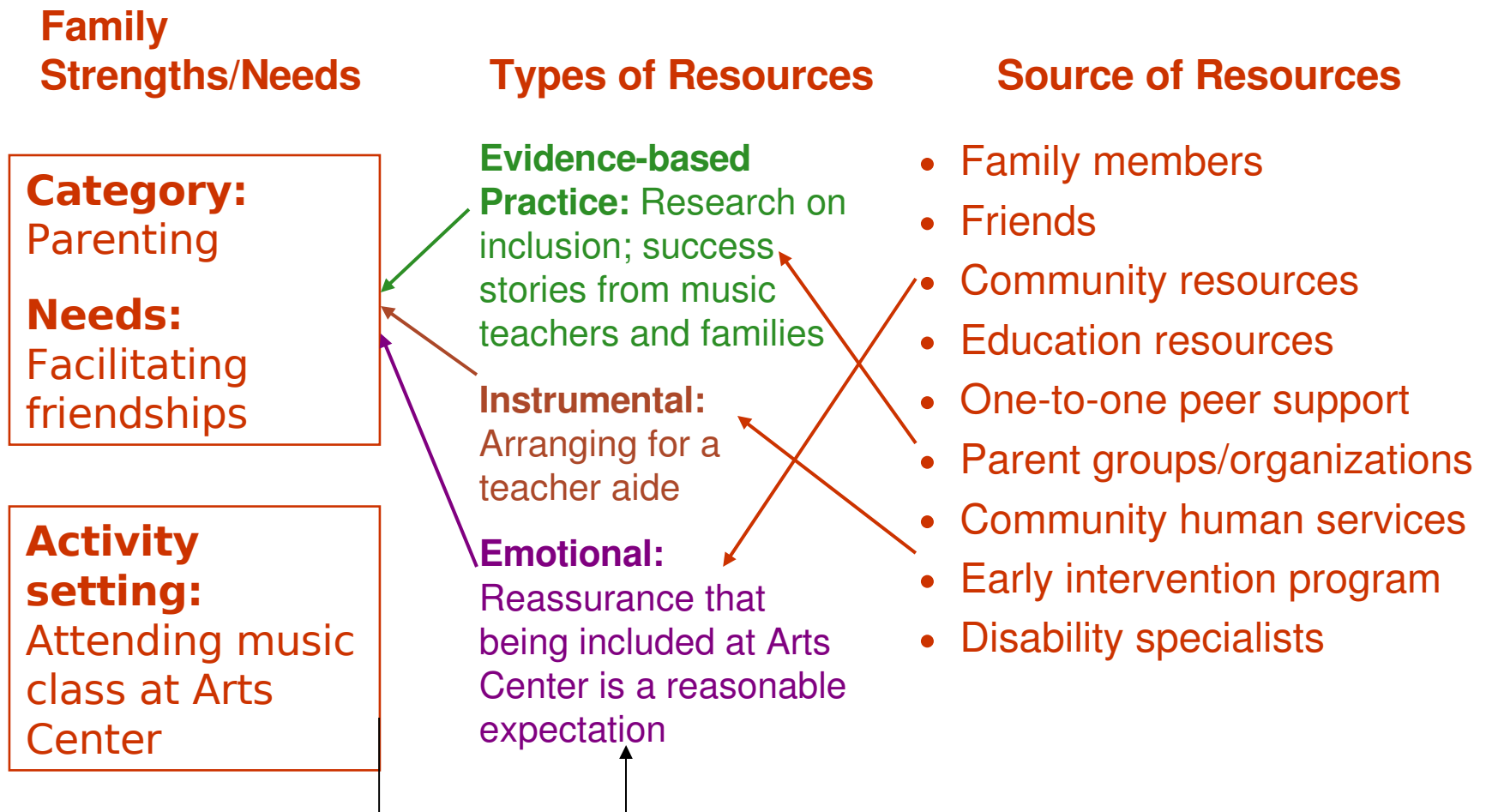
Supporting Family A

(With same need but different support preferences as Family B)

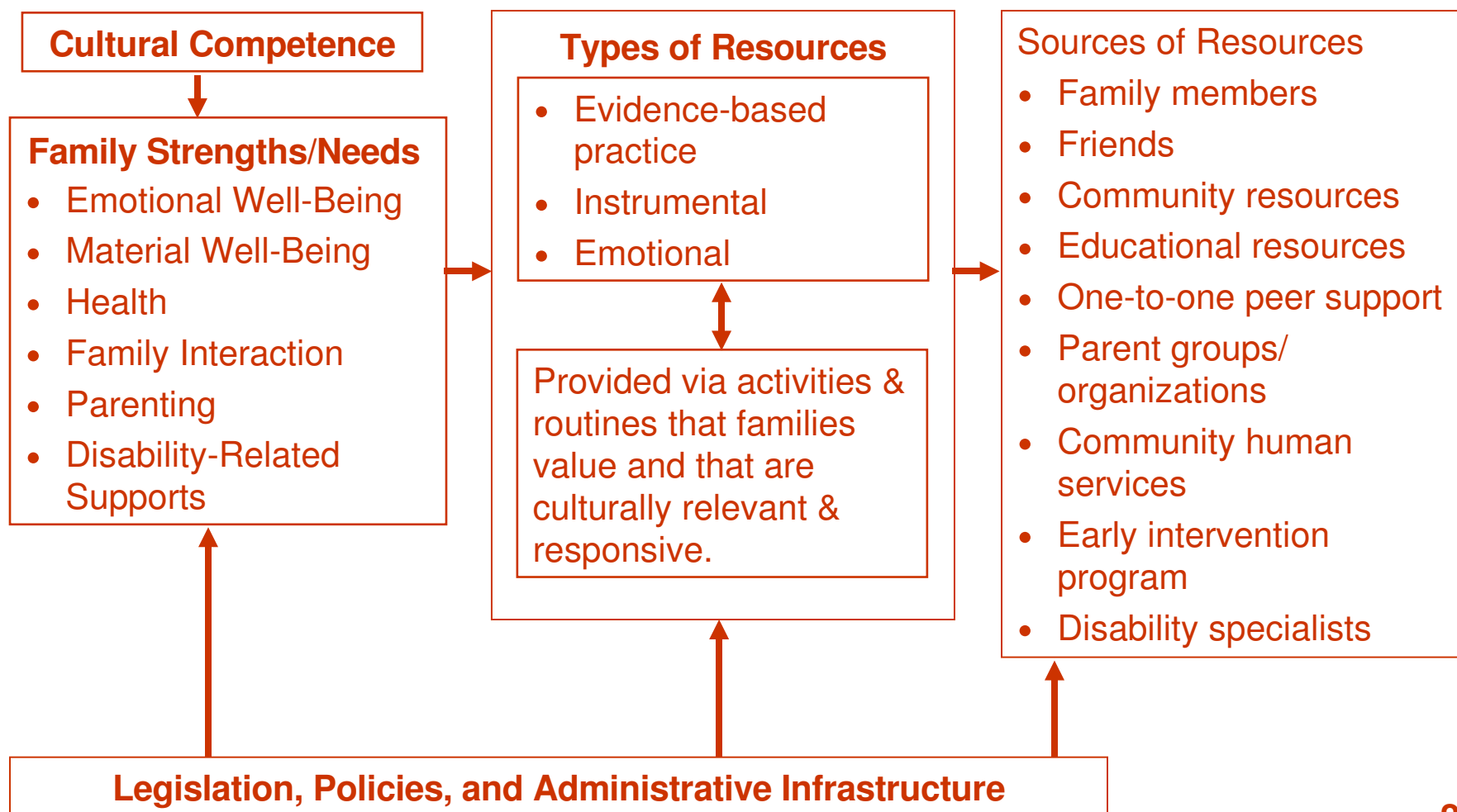


Supporting Family B

(With same need but different support preferences as Family A)



Component 3: Measure Outcomes – Family Outcomes Logic Model



Family Outcomes Logic Model (cont.)

Immediate Outcomes (ECO)

Parenting

- Understand child's special needs
- Help children develop and learn

Disability-related supports

- Know rights and advocate effectively

Emotional Well-Being/Family Interaction

- Have support systems

Disability-Related Supports/Health

- Access desired services

Long-Term Outcomes

- Enhanced family quality of life
- Enhanced family and community inclusion
- Enhanced child outcomes

Emerging Consensus Definition of Family Support

Family support includes evidence-based practice, instrumental, and emotional resources to build on family strengths and address needs related to emotional well-being, material well-being, health, family interaction, parenting and disability-related supports. It is provided in the activities and routines that families value and in which they and their child want to participate. It derives from different sources including family members, friends, community resources, education resources, one-to-one peer support, parent groups/organizations, community human services, early intervention program, and disability specialists. It must be provided in culturally competent ways.

Emerging Consensus Outcomes of Family Support (cont.)

The immediate outcomes of family supports are reflected in the Early Childhood Outcomes Center's five recommendations. The long-term outcomes are enhanced family quality of life, family and community inclusion, and child outcomes.