

HOME TEAM BRAINSTORM SEG. 15

INTRODUCTION: We've designed this exercise with the assumption that some of you have not yet begun to build your Home Team. For those of you who may already have a dozen or more individuals on your Home Team, we hope you will still take this opportunity to once again consider additional people who could be a support to you and your son/daughter.

STEP ONE: Below are a number of categories that will help you think of individuals who could be a part of your Home Team. As you think of each category, write down any individual who comes to mind. Do so without any evaluation whatsoever as to whether you think they would be able to help. Just put their name down and then keep thinking of others.

FAMILY

PARENT'S FRIENDS

NEIGHBORS

COWORKERS

SON/DAUGHTER'S FRIENDS

PARENTS OF THOSE FRIENDS

SCHOOL TEACHERS/STAFF

CLUBS/TEAMS/SCOUTS

YOUTH LEADERS

COACHES

THERAPISTS

CHURCH COMMUNITY

STEP TWO: Pick three people from the lists you created above, and reach out to them this week. Some of you might not want to impose upon them or for some other reason be anxious about reaching out. **Please, trust in our experience and take action.** After over a decade of helping families create Home Teams, we have found that the #1 response from a vast majority of Home Team members are feelings of gratitude and honor to have been asked.

When you speak with them, we encourage you to:

1. Tell them a little bit about your son/daughter and family's situation.
2. Explain the basic concept behind the Home Team.
3. Invite them to be a member of your Home Team, and how they can help.
4. Let them know you are a part of their "Home Team" as well, and that you hope they will always feel comfortable reaching out to you for support.
5. Tell them you'll be adding them to the Family Bridge so they can stay connected to how your son/daughter is doing and even send letters of encouragement. Give them a heads up that the invitation will be coming via email from "The Family Bridge."

STEP THREE: Once you've talked with them and they have accepted your invitation, add them to your Family Bridge by going to the "My Team" page and clicking on "Invite New Member." Then, simply follow the instructions.

STEP FOUR: Rinse and repeat! Invite three more people each week until you've added 12 people to your Home Team.