**FAMILY INTEGRATED CARE STRATEGIES FOR TEACHING**

* It is important that we have respect for our families, be positive and have an empathetic concern for the individuality of the learner
* It is important that our families have respect for us as health care providers
* It is important that we empower our families; empowering allows parents to recognize and develop their own abilities in order that they can meet their own needs, solve their own problems and mobilize their own resources to feel in control of their own lives
* It is important to create an environment that is conducive to learning; learning can be emotionally exhausting ⎯ establish privacy, limit noise and disruption and most importantly give enough time to teach
* It is important to avoid prolonged teaching situations; introduce the information slowly, allow and acknowledge accomplishment, and reinforce all teaching steps
* It is important to set mutual goals which are agreed upon by teacher and learner
* It is important to draw on the learner’s past experiences ⎯ ask how she or he best learns. Is it through verbal repetition, written material or picture format? Make use of all forms of teaching material and methods. Involve family members or friends for support. They can be instrumental in encouraging and helping to reinforce learning material
* It is important to allow learners to make mistakes. Learning takes time. People do not readily gain comfort or confidence with new material
* It is important to evaluate your teaching ⎯ask questions and allow for feedback
* It is important to be aware of a learner’s verbal and nonverbal responses