

Your Child's Shared Plan of Care

"Hopes and Dreams" and "Family Vision Statement" Versus Actionable Goals

Hopes and Dreams, Family Vision Statements

Most people have hopes and dreams for the future. Many parents of children, especially children with conditions that require frequent medical care, have ideas of how they would like this care provided. These ideas can guide decisions for treatment selection and more. Some parents think of these ideas as a "Family Vision Statement."

Examples of hopes and dreams for a young child:

- Ali wants to be an astronaut someday.
- Ben wants to go to college at UW-Madison.

Examples of family vision statements:

- We want Cameron to be as comfortable as possible and to know that he is loved.
- We want Felicity to be as independent as possible so that she can grow into a competent young adult.

Both of these might be located in your child's Shared Plan of Care in the "Who Am I?" section. Including these ideas helps remind plan readers what's important to you and your child. They can, and often do, change over time.

Actionable goals are different. These are steps that you and your child's care team can take together to improve his/her health or quality of life.

Examples of actionable goals:

- David will see a dentist within 2 months.
- Eve will be able to leave and enter the house easily using her wheelchair.

Actionable goals are found in the "Goals" section of the care plan. This section is sometimes called the "Negotiated Actions" section. Your child's care team will likely check this section of the care plan often to make sure goals are being met, or if they need to be changed.