

WEIGHTED VOTING ACTIVITY

Goal: To make a collective decision by quantifying preferences of a person with disabilities and his or her family

Roles: 1 facilitator
team members

Materials: flipchart paper
markers
tickets
overhead projector (optional)
transparency (optional)

Process:

1. The facilitator reviews the activity with team members.
2. A copy of the issues is posted for all team members to use as a reference.
3. The facilitator passes out voting tickets to team members. The number of tickets for each team member is 1-1/2 more than the number of issues. For example, if there are 5 issues, each team member would receive 6 or 7 voting tickets.
4. The facilitator draws a grid on flipchart paper. Columns represent each issue and rows represent team members.
5. The facilitator asks each team member how many voting tickets he or she wants to spend on issue A, issue B, etc. until all the issues are covered. While the team member is responding, the facilitator collects the voting tickets and writes the corresponding number on the grid.
6. Once every team member has used all of his or her tickets, the facilitator sums the number of "votes" and writes the sum at the bottom of each column.
7. The facilitator presents the issues with the highest totals to the team (up to five or six) and writes these issues on a separate sheet of flipchart paper for team members to review.
8. A whip approach is used by asking each participant to say one word or two words about the issue or they can say "Pass" if they can't think of something to say. The facilitator should do a quick check using a whip approach to ensure that all team members are in agreement before moving forward. For example, to ensure that all team members are in agreement with the weighted voting outcomes, the facilitator would ask the first person to say agree, disagree, or pass. Each participant reports their level of agreement one at a time or states, "Pass."

WEIGHTED VOTING CHART

**Team
Members**

A B C D E F G H

TOTALS								

Issues

A.

E.

B.

F.

C.

G.

D.

H.