

Family and disability: crisis intervention from an ecological mode (pp. 525-541)

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Crisis intervention for families of persons with disabilities should be understood based on the variability between one family and another, and across different cultures and the various stages of the family life cycle. It is known that at each stage, as well as in transitions, families and individuals facing stressful events develop specific strategies to deal with them. Thus, at first, when the diagnostic is made, parents are faced with an uncertain future for their child, and with the ignorance of the causes and consequences of this diagnostic. This article proposes a way to apply a crisis intervention based on the Ecological Model for the stage when parents are informed about the birth of a child with intellectual disabilities, and illustrates the components of survival, identification and expression feelings, cognitive domain and adaptation of the family. The timely and relevant accompanying by the professional team could contribute to the family bearing the stress inherent at this stage and can generate functional adaptations that will facilitate the development of the disabled individual.