

Discussion Guide for Positions and Interests

“A problem clearly stated is a problem half solved.” Dorothea Brande (1893-1948)

- What is a “Position?” Describe examples of “positions.” How can “positions” limit thinking about solutions?
- What is an “Interest?” Describe examples of “interests.” How can “interests” expand the possibility of solutions?
- What kinds of questions can help us move from position statements to understanding interests?
- How can a position statement (use your examples above) be restated as in terms of possible interests? Can you think of ways to state all the interests identified as coming from positive intentions?
- Have you taken a position on services to your child (or services your program might provide)? Can you uncover and clarify your interests (positively stated) so that the position you have taken might be only one solution?

“A problem well stated is a problem half solved.” Charles F. Kettering (1876 - 1958)