
County of Sonoma Partnership Agreement

Children need normal childhoods as well as loving and skillful parenting that honor their loyalty to their biological family and their need to develop and maintain permanent lifelong connections.



RESOURCE PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Caregivers and Agency Staff Work Together as Respected Partners

- Caregivers will conduct themselves in a professional manner and will work together with Agency staff as a respected partner.
- Caregivers will share all relevant information and will provide input to Agency staff.
- Caregivers will respect the privacy and confidentiality of all information related to the child and family.
- Caregivers will participate in team meetings and court hearings.
- Caregivers will obtain and maintain records that are important and relevant to the child's well-being.

Nurturing Children and Youth

- Caregivers will provide excellent parenting by being trauma informed.
- Caregivers must be willing and able to learn about the child's culture, ethnicity, and religion to support the child's connections.
- Caregivers will fully incorporate the child into their family activities, including vacations.
- Caregivers will not give notice to end placement for the child unless it is demonstrated to be in the best interest of the child, or poses a safety risk to the child, caregivers, or others in the home.
- Caregivers will participate and adhere to the child's transition plan developed by team members.
- Caregivers are expected to take advantage of trainings & support groups to strengthen their skills as parents.
- Caregivers will participate in the child's medical, psychological, and dental care.

Supporting Families

- Caregivers will partner with biological family for the best interest of the child.
- Caregivers will facilitate continuity for the child with biological family by encouraging participation in medical related care, school, and other important activities.
- Caregivers will facilitate a smooth transition to another placement by sharing information about the needs of the child.
- Caregivers will respect and support the child's ties to family (parents, siblings, extended family members), and other significant relationships.
- Caregivers will facilitate appropriate visitation and direct communication (e.g., phone, text, email, pictures) with the child's family.

Strengthening Communities

- Caregivers, as members of a Child & Family Team, will advocate for children with the Agency, the court, and community partners.
- Caregivers will support the child's school success; including: participating in IEP meetings, attending school events, school conferences, assisting with school assignments, and advocate/support tutoring.
- Caregivers will provide developmentally appropriate opportunities to allow children to learn and practice life skills and have hands-on experiences in preparation for transition to adulthood.

X _____ Date _____
ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT, *Caregiver*

Partnership Agreement

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AGENCY STAFF EXPECTATIONS

Caregivers and Agency Staff Work Together as Respected Partners

- Agency staff will conduct themselves in a professional manner and will work together with Caregivers as a respected partner.
- Agency staff will share all relevant information regarding the child.
- Agency staff will support and facilitate Caregiver participation in team meetings and court hearings.
- Agency staff will provide timely notification to the Caregiver for team meetings and court hearings.
- Agency staff will provide an alternative way for Caregivers to participate in team meetings if the Caregiver cannot be present.

Nurturing Children and Youth

- Agency staff will provide Caregivers with the services and support they need to be excellent parents.
- Agency staff will support Caregivers in overcoming any barriers to full participation in their family life and activities.
- Agency staff will participate and adhere to the child's transition plan developed by team members.
- Agency staff is expected to remain current on trauma informed practice.
- Agency staff will support the child's connections to culture, ethnicity, and religion.

Supporting Families

- Agency staff will support Caregivers and biological family in partnering for the best interest of the child.
- Agency staff will support Caregivers by working together as a team and communicating the reunification plans.
- Agency staff, along with the Caregiver, will develop and support a smooth transition and reverse transition plans for the child.
- Agency staff will provide Caregivers with information, guidance, and support necessary to fulfill their responsibilities.

Strengthening Communities

- Agency staff will support the Caregiver's role as an advocate, and respect their input as a member of the Child & Family Team.
- Agency staff will share with the Caregiver information about the child's health and well-being.
- Agency staff will support and facilitate the Caregiver's participation with all of the child's educational needs.
- Agency staff will support the Caregiver's decisions that meet the prudent parent standards.
- Agency staff will work with Caregivers in facilitating appropriate opportunities to allow children to learn and practice life skills and have hands-on experiences in preparation for transition to adulthood.

X _____
ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT, *Agency Staff*

Date: _____