County of San Diego

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 for the child's case plan.
- Caregivers will respect the privacy & confidentiality of all information related to the child & family.
- Caregivers will participate in all 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 child's culture & ethnicity to support the child's connections.
- Caregivers will fully incorporate the child into their family activities, including vacations.
- Caregiver will not give notice to remove child unless the removal 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.
- Caregiver will participate and adhere to the child's transition plan developed by team members.
- Caregivers are expected to take advantage of all trainings they need to improve their skills as excellent parents.

Supporting Families

- 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, and will assist the child in maintaining these relationships through facilitating appropriate visitation and other forms of communication in accordance with the case plan.

Strengthening Communities

- Caregivers will advocate for children with the Agency, the court, and community agencies.
- 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 and youth to learn and practice life skills and have hands-on experiences in preparation for transition to adulthood.

X	Date
ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT, Caregiver	

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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 and family within the County established guidelines.
- Agency staff will support and facilitate caregiver participation in all 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 all 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 barriers to full participation in 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.

Supporting Families

- Agency staff will support caregivers by working together as a team by communicating the family's reunification plan.
- Agency staff will support a smooth transition plan for the child by sharing information about him/her, and support contact between the child and initial foster family.
- Agency staff will provide caregivers with information, guidance and support necessary to fulfill their responsibility.

Strengthening Communities

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

X	Date:
ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT, Agency Staff	