



# Quality Parenting Initiative

County of Yolo

## Partnership Agreement

Children need caregivers who provide loving and skillful parenting and that honor their loyalty to the biological family and their need to develop and maintain permanent lifelong connections. The purpose of this document is to articulate a common understanding of the values, principles and relationships necessary for the wellbeing of the children under the jurisdiction of the Yolo County Juvenile Court.

### RESOURCE PARENT EXPECTATIONS

#### Caregivers and Agency Staff Will Work Together as Respected Partners

- Caregivers will work together with agency staff in a professional manner.
- Caregivers will respect the privacy and confidentiality of all information related to the child and family.
- Caregivers will share all relevant information and will provide input for the child's case plan in a timely manner.
- Caregivers will participate in all child and family team meetings and court hearings relevant to the child's needs.
- Caregivers will obtain and maintain records that are important and relevant to the child's well-being.

#### Nurturing Children and Youth

- Caregivers will provide skillful parenting by utilizing all resources and training available to them.
- Caregivers will learn about the child's culture and ethnicity to support the child's connections.
- Caregivers will fully incorporate the child into their family activities
- Caregivers will give notice to remove the child only if the removal is demonstrated to be in the best interest of the child or poses a safety risk to the child, caregiver or others in the home.
- Caregivers will participate and adhere to the child's transition plan developed by the team members.

#### Supporting Families

- Caregivers will respect and support the child's ties to family (parents, siblings, extended family members) and other significant relations. They will assist the child in maintaining these relationships through facilitating appropriate visitation and other forms of communication in accordance with the case plan.
- Caregivers will facilitate a smooth transition to another placement by sharing information about the needs of the child.
- Caregivers will support reunification for the child with the biological family by encouraging their participation in medical related care, school and other important activities.

#### Strengthening Communities

- Caregivers will advocate for children with the child welfare system, the court and community agencies, including schools, child care, health and mental health providers and employers.
- Caregivers will participate in the child's educational, psychological and medical care.
- Caregivers will support the child's school success through activities which may include, participating in school activities and meetings, back to school nights, school events, assisting with school assignments, meeting with teachers, and coordinating school transportation.

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ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT, *Caregiver*

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Date

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Date

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## AGENCY STAFF EXPECTATIONS

### Caregivers and Agency Staff Will Work Together as Respected Partners

- Agency staff will work with the caregiver in a professional manner.
- Agency staff will share in a timely manner all relevant information regarding the child and family.
- Agency staff will support and facilitate the caregiver's participation in team meetings.
- Agency staff will provide timely notification to the caregiver for court hearings.

### Nurturing Children and Youth

- Agency staff will provide the caregiver with the resources and support they need to provide skillful parenting.
- Agency staff will participate in and adhere to the child's transition plan developed by team members.
- Agency staff will support the child's connections to culture and ethnicity.

### Supporting Families

- Agency staff will support the caregiver by working together as a team to support the family's reunification process and respect the caregiver's input.
- Agency staff will provide the caregiver with the information, guidance and support necessary to help transition the child from an out of home placement.

### Strengthening Communities

- Agency staff will support the caregiver's role as an advocate for the child with community partners.
- Agency staff will share with the caregiver information about the child's health and well-being.
- Agency staff will share information and support the caregiver's participation with the child's educational needs.
- Agency staff will work with the caregiver in facilitating appropriate community opportunities to allow the youth to learn and practice life skills and have hands-on experience in preparation for the transition to adulthood.

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ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT, *Social Worker*

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Date: