

Strengths/Needs Worksheet – After Meetings 1 and 2

In the left column are the Criteria for Mutual Selection of resource families. By the end of Meeting 2 you should have had the chance to begin developing some of the “Twelve Criteria for Mutual Selection.” Remember no two families are alike. Every family has or can develop many skills which will be helpful in their new roles. You and the agency you are working with will mutually assess your willingness and ability to be successful resource families. We have included one example of a strength and need related to the criteria of “Know the Children.”

Criteria for Mutual Selection	Family <i>strengths</i> which will help us accomplish this ability	Family <i>needs</i> to be met in order to grow in our ability to do the task
<i>Example:</i>	<i>Now that we have completed the first two meetings, we feel like we have a better idea of the real reasons child need foster care and adoption services. We think we have some skills for identifying strengths and needs of children in care. (3 criteria)</i>	<i>I always believed that people who abuse their children don't deserve to be parents. After these meetings, I realize I need to understand why abusive situations happen without judging the parents. (3 criteria)</i>
2. Communicate effectively – Use and develop communication skills needed to foster or adopt.		
3. Know the children – Identify the strengths and needs of children and youth who have been abused, neglected, abandoned, and/or emotionally maltreated.		
4. Build strengths; meet need – Build on strengths and meet needs of children and youth who are placed with you.		

Abilities Developed During Meetings 1 and 2

Following are the abilities developed or enhanced during Meetings 1 and 2 of the PS-MAPP program:

- ◆ Explain what is expected of them in the mutual selection/preparation process (for example, roadwork, attending meetings, family discussions, etc.).
- ◆ Explain the purpose of the “Criteria for Foster and Adoptive Parent Selection.”
- ◆ Explain their role as resource parents providing either foster care or adoptive care.
- ◆ Explain the concept of well-being as stated in federal and state law.
- ◆ Give some reasons how and why children come into the foster care system.
- ◆ The rights of parents of children in foster care.
- ◆ Define shared parenting and alliance building.
- ◆ Explain how alliance building relates to shared parenting.
- ◆ Determine benefits of alliance building.
- ◆ Communicate a willingness to support children’s connections to their birth families.
- ◆ Begin to assess their own strengths and needs in helping a child move from temporary placement to a permanent family.
- ◆ Identify a child’s needs, as expressed by their behaviors, to build on their strengths and meet their needs (cycle of need).
- ◆ Explain the normal stages of development for children through adolescence (Erikson’s stages of development).