



## Final Strengths/Needs Worksheet

Now that you are completing the PS-MAPP Group Preparation and Selection Program, some of your original feelings about foster care and adoption may have changed. Please discuss your ideas on the following issues:

1. We have spent much time discussing the dynamics of both foster care and adoption. Based upon what you know about your family right now, are you willing and able to commit to being a foster family, an adoptive family, a foster/adoptive family or some other child and family advocate? Explain below what role you are ready to commit and why you feel that role is the right one for you and your family.

The role to which we are ready to commit:

How we know the role is the right one:

2. Considering the “Twelve Criteria for Successful Fostering and Adopting” and all the abilities developed during the PS-MAPP program, what do you see as your family’s major strengths in assuming the role you have chosen?

How has your thinking about your strengths changed since meeting 1? (The criteria and skills are listed at the end of this handout for your reference.)

3. Thinking about the “Twelve Criteria for Successful Fostering and Adopting” and all the abilities developed during the PS-MAPP program, in what aspects of the new role do you think you will need the most help?

4. As you know, children who are placed in foster and adoptive homes have many special needs and present some real child-management challenges. Which special needs or behavior challenges do you feel best prepared to handle?

What special needs or behavior challenges do you feel least prepared to handle?



6. Many of the children needing homes today have special needs. If you have decided you can be a foster or adoptive parent and given your own family's strengths and needs, could you parent the following?

	Could parent without help	Could parent with help	Could not parent
a. Child who wets the bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Child who is HIV positive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Child who is of another race than your family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Child who has a history of running away	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Child who has been involved with juvenile court as an offender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Child who has used drugs or alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Child who is intellectually disabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Child who must use a wheelchair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Child who is blind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Child who expresses interest in homosexual relationships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Child who is transgendered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Child who has a terminal illness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Other special needs. Please specify:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. If you have decided you can be a foster or adoptive parent, imagine that the child welfare worker is at your door with the child you are planning to adopt. Please describe the child. For example: physical appearance, family background, personality, and school ability.

8. You and your family have contributed much time and energy to this program. What has kept you going, involved, and committed?

9. If you have decided you can be a foster or adoptive family and/or a child/family advocate, what will you need to keep you going, involved, and committed?

10. As a result of the PS-MAPP Group Preparation and Selection Program, are there other ways you think you might be able to help children who have been abused, neglected or emotionally maltreated?

- Be a mentor for a youth planning to leave care
- Provide respite care
- Provide clerical support
- Be a recruiter
- Serve as a guardian ad litem or court appointed special advocate (GAL/CASA)
- Be a Big Brother/Big Sister
- Provide transportation support
- Be a political advocate
- Raise funds
- Volunteer for group care facilities
- Provide foster care/adoption in the future
- Foster parent review board
- Other (please specify):

If you have decided that now is not the time to be a foster or adoptive parent, would you like us to keep information about your family on file? If so, for how long?