

CAPP Parent and Legal Guardian Informed Consent

Official Title of Project: Evaluation of the Permanency Innovation Initiative: California Partners for Permanency II

Principal Investigator: Dr. George Gabel

Institution Conducting the Research: Westat

Date

Dear Potential Participant,

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has asked Westat, a research organization, to do a study on how child welfare services are helping families like yours. They want to know if the services you receive help children safely stay out of foster care or safely leave foster care sooner. One of the ways you can help us learn to better serve you and your children is by filling out the enclosed questionnaire.

If you agree to participate, please fill out the questionnaire, put it in the enclosed pre-paid envelope, and drop it in any United States Postal Service mailbox. You will be mailed a \$50.00 Visa gift card to thank you for your time and responses.

Your responses will not be provided to your social worker, cannot be used in court and will not affect your child welfare case.

Thank you for your participation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the study for?

The study will help us learn if the services you get from child welfare help your children safely stay out of foster care or safely leave foster care sooner.

How do I participate? How does the study work?

We are asking you to agree to let Westat gather information about you and your family. Westat will get this information through this questionnaire. The questionnaire asks questions about how you work with your social worker and the support and service you receive from your social worker. Other questions will be about other family members' and friends' involvement with your child's case and how hopeful you feel about your child returning home.

The questionnaire will take about 36 minutes to answer. You can skip questions that you do not feel comfortable answering. There are no right or wrong answers. We just want you to answer the questions honestly. If you do not answer all the questions on the survey, or if we cannot understand your answers, Westat may contact you by telephone or mail to better understand your responses.

What are the possible risks and discomforts?

This questionnaire has questions that may make you feel upset or uncomfortable. If that happens please speak to your social worker. You can also skip questions that you do not want to answer.

Will everything I tell you during the study be kept private?

We will keep your information private to the extent permitted by law. We will not include information that specifically names you or your family in any reports. All responses will be compiled with responses from other families and will be used for research only.

To help us keep your information private, we received a Certificate of Confidentiality from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. With this Certificate, no one can force us to share information that may identify you, even in any court or legal proceeding or under a court order or subpoena. We are mandated reporters, so if we are informed of any abuse or neglect we are required by law to report this information to child welfare. We are also required to report to authorities if we are concerned that you might harm yourself.

What are the benefits to participating in the study?

Your participation will help (*insert CAPP agency name*) find better ways to serve families and children.

Are there other ways to participate in the study?

There are no other ways to participate in the study other than completing this questionnaire.

Could I be injured by participating in the study?

We do not expect that you will experience any injuries because of participating in the study. Therefore, no treatment will be available to address any injuries.

Does Westat have a conflict of interest with the Department of Social Services (DSS)?

Westat has no financial or other relationships with (*insert CAPP agency name*) that will affect conducting this study, including interpreting and reporting the study results.

Will I get anything for taking part in the study?

We will mail you a \$50.00 Visa gift card to thank you for participating once we receive your mailed survey.

I would like to participate in the study, but I have questions. Who can I contact?

If you have any questions about the study, or would like to complete the questionnaire by telephone, please call Westat at 1-855-538-6735. They are available from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. PST and are happy to speak with you.

If you have any questions about your rights as person taking part in the study, please contact the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects at (916) 326-3660. You can also learn more about your rights as a part of the study from the *Research Participant's Bill of Rights* document in this packet.

Do I have to take part in the study?

You do not have to be in the study. You can stop being in the study at any time. Your choice will not affect your case or the services that you and your family get. We hope that you will be part of the study so that we can learn ways to better serve families.

Participation Decision

I have received a copy of the Research Participant’s Bill of Rights, and I agree to take part in the survey.

Yes No

If you answered yes to the question above, please sign below and proceed to complete the questionnaire.

_____ Print Your Name Here

_____ Signature _____ Date

Mailing Address for Incentive

Please list the address for Westat to mail the \$50.00 Visa gift card.

Name: _____

Address Line 1: _____

Address Line 2: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Phone (please include area code): (_____) – _____ – _____

Date of IRB approval of this consent: TBD

Expiration date of IRB approval of this consent: TBD

OMB NO: TBD

EXPIRATION DATE: TBD

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .6 hours per respondent. These estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Participant's Bill of Rights for Non-Medical Research

You have been asked to participate in a research study. Any participant in a research study has the right to:

- a. Be told the nature and purpose of the study.
- b. Be given an explanation of what will happen during the study and of how the research participant is expected to participate.
- c. Be given an explanation of any risks or discomforts that may be experienced as a result of participating in the study.
- d. Be given an explanation of any benefits that may be expected from participation in the study.
- e. Be told of other appropriate choices that may be better or worse than being in the study, and be told of the risks and benefits of those other choices.
- f. Have the opportunity to ask questions about the study or about your participation in it, both before agreeing to participate in the study and during the course of the study.
- g. Be told that you may withdraw your consent and participation in the study at any time, and that your withdrawal will not affect your services.
- h. Be told that you may refuse to answer any question.
- i. Be given a copy of the signed and dated consent form.
- j. Be free of pressure when considering whether to consent to, and participate in, the study.
- k. Be informed, upon request, about the results of the study.

3. In the last 3 months, this social worker has asked about relatives and other people in my life who are helping me.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

4. In the last 3 months, this social worker has asked me about supports and services that my *child* needs.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

5. In the last 3 months, this social worker has asked me about supports and services that my *family* needs.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

6. In the last 3 months, this social worker has tried to learn about my family's values, beliefs, culture and traditions.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

7. In the last 3 months, this social worker has respected my family's values, beliefs, culture and traditions when making decisions about supports and services for us.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

8. In the last 3 months, this social worker has tried to understand the things that have had a major impact on our family.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

9. In the last 3 months, this social worker has been honest.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

10. In the last 3 months, this social worker has been respectful.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

11. In the last 3 months, this social worker has made an effort to understand the grief and pain my family is feeling as a result of my child being placed in foster care.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all



Section B

These questions ask you about the people in your life, such as family members and other people in your community or tribe who work closely with you and support you during your Child Welfare Services case. These are people other than your Child Welfare Services social worker or other child welfare staff. Your social worker may sometimes call this group of people your "circle of support." Please think about the people who have played an important role in helping and supporting your family during your involvement with Child Welfare Services **over the past 3 months**.

12a. Please indicate whether each person below has been helping you by marking Yes, No, or NA. Mark N/A (Not Applicable/Does not apply) if the person is deceased; or you don't have a brother, a sister, etc.; or if the person is not in your life.

Person Category	12a. Is this person a part of your circle of support?		
	Yes	No	N/A
Your mother	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your father	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your sister(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your brother(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your grandparent(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your adult child(ren)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your cousin(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your stepmother	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your stepfather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your aunt(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your uncle(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your friend(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbor(s)/co-worker(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your child's father/mother	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The family of your child's father/mother	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your child's teacher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Your counselor(s) or therapist(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spiritual leader/advisor, minister, pastor or priest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elder(s), leader(s), member(s) of your community or tribe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



12b. Which 3-5 persons in your circle of support have been the most helpful to your family during your involvement with Child Welfare Services over the past 3 months? (You may mark up to 5 boxes below.)

Relationship Codes		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Your mother	<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Your stepmother	<input type="checkbox"/> 14. Your child's father/mother
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Your father	<input type="checkbox"/> 9. Your stepfather	<input type="checkbox"/> 15. The family of your child's father/mother
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Your sister(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 10. Your aunt(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 16. Your child's teacher
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Your brother(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 11. Your uncle(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 17. Your counselor(s) or therapist(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Your grandparent(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 12. Your friend(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 18. Spiritual leader/advisor, minister, pastor or priest
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. Your adult child(ren)	<input type="checkbox"/> 13. Your neighbor(s)/ co-worker(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19. Elder(s), leader(s), member(s) of your community or tribe
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Your cousin(s)		



13. In the last 3 months, my circle of support and I have worked together to find solutions to the problems my family is facing.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

14. In the last 3 months, my circle of support has helped me do what I need to do to bring my child home and to close my family's case.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

15. In the last 3 months, my circle of support and I have worked as a team to develop services and supports that respect my family's way of life, our preferences, and our priorities.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

16. In the last 3 months, when I'm in meetings with Child Welfare Services about my child, my circle of support and I have had the opportunity to express our goals for my family.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

Section C

These questions ask about how you feel about your family's future in relation to your child coming home. Think about the child involved with Child Welfare Services that you identified at the beginning of the questionnaire when you answer these questions. Please your response.

17. In the last 3 months, I have gotten the support I needed to help me with my feelings in this situation.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

18. In the last 3 months, my child has gotten the support he/she needed to deal with his/her feelings about this situation.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

19. I believe I can influence the decisions that are being made about my child's future.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

20. I believe that my child will have family and other loving relationships to support him/her through his/her life.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all



21. I believe that my child will be able to live safely with me without Child Welfare Services being involved.

- a. Yes → **CONTINUE TO QUESTION #22**
- b. Maybe → **CONTINUE TO QUESTION #22**
- c. No → **SKIP TO QUESTION #26**

22. I believe that friends and family will give me the help and support that I need to care for my child at home.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

23. I believe I can handle most of the difficulties I might face in caring for my child when he/she comes home.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

24. I believe I can count on myself to manage things well at home when my child comes home.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

25. I believe I can make plans for my family's future and take steps to make those plans come true.

- a. Very much so
- b. For the most part
- c. Somewhat
- d. Only slightly
- e. Not at all

Section D

Case Activities with Family and Friends

You may have children involved in Child Welfare Services *other than* the child you named at the beginning of the questionnaire. Please answer these next questions about *any* of your children.

26. I have told my social worker about family or friends who may be able to help my child(ren) and me reunite and stay together as a family.

- a. Yes → **CONTINUE TO QUESTION #27**
- b. No → **SKIP TO QUESTION #29**

27. These family members or friends are helping my child(ren) and me reunite and stay together as a family.

- a. Yes
- b. No

28. The family or friends that I have identified have participated with me in one or more team meetings with my social worker.

- a. Yes
- b. No



29. Case Activities with Community Representatives

In the questions below, Community and Tribal representatives include the following:

- Teachers
- Counselors or therapists
- Spiritual or Church leaders or advisors, such as ministers pastors or priests
- Other community leaders or elders
- Other tribal representatives

29a. I have told my social worker about Community or Tribal representatives who are important to my child(ren) or our family.

- a. Yes → **CONTINUE TO QUESTION #30**
 b. No → **SKIP TO QUESTION #32**

30. Community or Tribal representatives are helping my child(ren) and me reunite and stay together as a family.

- a. Yes
 b. No

31. Community or Tribal representatives have participated with me in one or more team meetings with my social worker.

- a. Yes
 b. No

Case Activities with You

32. With my social worker, I have identified ways to change my behavior so my child(ren) can be safe in my care.

- a. Yes
 b. No

33. I have taken steps to change my behavior so my child(ren) can be safe in my care.

- a. Yes
 b. No

34. My social worker and I have talked about how I am changing my behavior so my child(ren) can be safe in my care.

- a. Yes
 b. No

35. I have completed one or more supervised visitations with one or more of my child(ren).

- a. Yes
 b. No
 c. I have not been cleared for visitation with my child(ren).

36. I have completed one or more unsupervised visitations with one or more of my child(ren).

- a. Yes
 b. No
 c. I have not been cleared for visitation with my child(ren).

37. I have completed one or more overnight visitations with one or more of my child(ren).

- a. Yes
 b. No
 c. I have not been cleared for visitation with my child(ren).



Section E

38. How many children do you currently have involved with Child Welfare Services?

Number of children

39. Thinking about the child named at the beginning of the survey, what is this child's gender?

- a. Male
 b. Female

40. What is this child's date of birth?

 / /

Month

Day

Year

41a. Is this child Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish?

- a. Yes
 b. No

**41b. What is this child's race?
(Please mark one or more)**

- a. American Indian
 b. Alaska Native
 c. Asian
 d. Black or African American
 e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 f. White
 g. Other

Please specify:

42. What is your relationship to this child?

- a. Biological mother or father
 b. Adoptive mother or father
 c. Relative guardian

Please specify:

- d. Non-relative guardian

Please specify:

43. What is your gender?

- a. Male
 b. Female

44. What is your age?

years

45a. Are you Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish?

- a. Yes
 b. No

**45b. What is your race?
(Please mark one or more)**

- a. American Indian
 b. Alaska Native
 c. Asian
 d. Black or African American
 e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 f. White
 g. Other

Please specify:

You have reached the end of the questionnaire.

Have you: ___ Completed all sections of the questionnaire?
___ Signed the Informed Consent?
___ Included a mailing address for the incentive?

Please place this survey in the pre-paid envelope and place in any United States Postal Service mailbox.

Thank you for participating.

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