

Values, Goals & Outcomes

TDM is one of four core strategies of the Family-to-Family initiative. Family-to-Family, and the Tehama County Department of Social Services are committed to improving outcomes for children in out-of-home care. We believe family inclusion in the case planning process is integral to their success based on the principles that:

- Children need families.
- Families need the help of strong, nurturing communities.
- Child welfare agencies are more able to help children and families when working together.

Together, with you and our community, we are striving for successful outcomes for our children, including ensuring that:

- Children are safe with their families.
- Children are able to stay in their own schools and communities, even if out-of-home placement is necessary.
- Children are placed with extended family or friends when the birth family is not an immediate option.
- Siblings are placed together whenever possible and appropriate.
- Children experience the least number of placement moves possible.

Family-to-Family is an initiative of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Your Team Decisionmaking Meeting

We appreciate your willingness to participate on short notice.

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Social Worker: _____

Social Worker's Phone: _____

Guidelines for an Effective Meeting

- All participants contribute to the process, being direct, honest and respectful of others.
- Each participant will have the opportunity to be heard.
- Participants make a commitment to support the decision made, even if the consensus of the group is not unanimous.

Team Decisionmaking (TDM)

Family & Youth Participation in Case Planning

TEHAMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
CHILD WELFARE

Child Welfare Offices 530-527-1911
TDM Scheduling 530-528-4152



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CHILD WELFARE

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Team Decisionmaking

What is TDM?

TDM is a meeting that:

- Brings together people who are interested in and care about the family.
- Is held to ensure that the best possible decision is made regarding a child's care and placement.
- Focuses on the safety and needs of the child and family, as well as preservation of community and family connections.

When does a TDM occur?

A TDM occurs when:

- A child's safety or well-being in the home is of concern & the child is at risk of being removed.
- A child has been removed from their own home.
- A child is in out-of-home care and a change in placement is required, requested or being considered.
- A child is soon to be reunified with their family/guardian or otherwise exit out-of-home care.



Who attends a TDM?

- Parents/Guardians/Family Members
- Child/Youth, as appropriate
- Resource/Foster Parents
- People who support the family
- Social Workers & Supervisors
- Community Representatives
- Service Providers
- TDM Facilitator
- Others identified by the family or Social Worker

What happens at a TDM?

Meetings are 1-2 hours maximum. A trained facilitator guides the meeting process, which includes:

- Introductions
- Establishment of meeting guidelines
- Identification of:
 - The child's strengths and needs
 - The family's strengths and needs
 - Available community resources
 - A plan for the child's immediate safety
- Placement options

What are the benefits of a TDM meeting?

Better placement decisions are made because:

- Broader participation, such as by parents, extended family and community members leads to creative ideas and workable solutions.
- People and places important to the child are acknowledged and respected.
- Parents/Guardians are involved in the decision-making.
- More information becomes available and valuable information about the child is shared.
- Children are more likely to remain with family, at their school, and in their community.



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