

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

**STANDING ORDER REGARDING ASSESSMENT
AND PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PURSUANT TO
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CALIFORNIA CORE PRACTICE MODEL**

FILED

AUG 06 2014

DAVID H. YAMASAKI
Chief Executive Officer/Clerk
Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

BY: Irene Lal DEPUTY

Pursuant to a settlement entered in the case of *Katie A. v. Bonita, et. al.* by the California Department of Social Services, the California Department of Mental Health, and the California Department of Health Care Services, have implemented the Pathways to Mental Health Services, California Core Practice Model ("Model"). The Model mandates that in each county the child welfare and mental health departments jointly work to provide mental health assessments of children who are in foster care or at imminent risk of foster care placement and provide mental health treatment to those who meet specific criteria under the Model.

The Santa Clara Department of Family and Children's Services and the Santa Clara Department of Mental Health ("Agencies") have developed a program for provision of the assessment and services pursuant to the State mandate.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED,

1. The Agencies, the Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System and, any other entity contracted by the Agencies for this purpose, are authorized to conduct preliminary mental health assessments of any child who is in protective custody, is ordered placed in out-of-home care, or is the subject of a dependency petition for the purpose of determining eligibility for mental health treatment under the Model.
2. Based on the outcome of the preliminary mental health assessment and/or other health information available, the Agencies, the Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System and, any other entity contracted by the Agencies for this purpose, are authorized to provide medically necessary mental health treatment to those eligible under the Model. Those services may be authorized by the child's parent(s) or the child, if aged twelve or older and the conditions of Family Code § 6924 or Health and Safety Code § 124260 are satisfied. If a child aged twelve or older, or a parent is unable or unwilling to authorize that services be provided, the supervising social worker may submit an application and order for juvenile court approval for treatment.
3. In performing the assessments and providing treatment under the Model, the Agencies are authorized to share information in order to provide and coordinate the most comprehensive and informed treatment to the child.

Dated: 8/6/14

Shawna Schwarz
Judge of the Superior Court

SHAWNA SCHWARZ