

FILED
MAY 07 2018

Clerk of the Court
Superior Court of CA County of Santa Clara
BY _____ DEPUTY
A. DUARTE

**Santa Clara County Juvenile Court
Standing Order Authorizing Implementation of a Cultural Broker Program**

The Department of Family and Children's Services of the County of Santa Clara (the Department) continuously strives to improve and refine the services offered to at-risk families in Santa Clara County. Language barriers, cultural differences, and lack of a supportive network can present significant challenges to effective communication and understanding between child welfare social workers and at-risk families and can impede successful reunification. Cultural Broker Programs throughout the State of California, particularly in Fresno County, San Diego County, and Orange County, have been effective at improving communication and understanding between social workers and at-risk families.

Cultural Brokers assist social workers and the assigned families in cases where language barriers and cultural differences could impede social workers from effectively assessing and serving at-risk families. Cultural Brokers assist by, among other things, facilitating engagement between the family and the Department, bridging the gap between families and service providers, and supporting and educating families about the child welfare system processes.

FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Department is authorized to implement a Cultural Broker Program in the County of Santa Clara in partnership with ConXion to Community, The Unity Care Group, International Children Assistance Network, and other appropriate community organizations. Participation by the family in the Cultural Broker Program is voluntary.

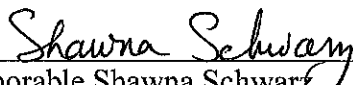
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Cultural Brokers be thoroughly screened by their employer and trained by the Department. Training for Cultural Brokers shall include a juvenile dependency overview, an overview of Department policies and procedures, and instruction on the law regarding child abuse reporting and confidentiality of child welfare information.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Cultural Brokers execute a signed Cultural Broker Pledge of Confidentiality wherein they acknowledge the following: 1) receipt of a copy of this Order; 2) an understanding that Cultural Brokers are multidisciplinary personnel team members who may not share or repeat confidential information with nonparties; and 3) an understanding that a willful violation of the prohibition against sharing confidential information could result in their being found in contempt of court and or prosecuted for violating the confidentiality provisions of California Penal Code section 11167.5.

This order will expire on 5/4, 2021.

SO ORDERED:

Dated this 4 day of MAY, 2018.



Honorable Shawna Schwarz
Supervising Judge of the Juvenile Court