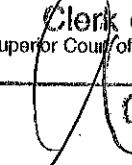


FILED
APR 23 2019

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

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

**STANDING ORDER AUTHORIZING FOSTER AMERICA FELLOWS PROGRAM
STAFF ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL JUVENILE CASE INFORMATION
MAINTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

The Santa Clara County Social Services Agency/Department of Family and Children's Services ("SSA/DFCS") has contracted with Foster America, A Project of Tides Center, to design and implement research and evaluation projects. These projects will provide SSA/DFCS with insights that inform and shape strategies and policies to ensure the agency meets its mandates and improves outcomes for children and families involved in the child welfare system in Santa Clara County.

Foster America Fellows will be skilled applied researchers working with SSA/DFCS to:

- Conduct research on new and existing programs to understand effectiveness and identify avenues to strengthen outcomes (examples of programs include wraparound services, substance use treatment, and the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI)).
- Analyze linked datasets related to program evaluation and outcome research.
- Analyze data to strengthen performance on Federal and State measures.
- Pursue improved outcomes for children and families of color, specifically non-English speaking families, setting an equity-focused research agenda.
- Analyze program pre/post survey data.
- Collaborate with the Foster Youth Aligned Action Network (FYAAN) to analyze educational data for foster youth.

The specifics of the above-described projects are still under development, but in order to accomplish the intended outcomes, the Fellows will need access to confidential information maintained by SSA/DFCS. The Fellows will utilize the information to construct foundational studies and accomplish outcome studies, the purpose of which is to evaluate programs provided to families that are involved with DFCS. DFCS intends to utilize the program evaluations in their Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) initiative.

To that end, it is requested the Fellows be allowed access to confidential information in the form of standardized variables maintained in CWS/CMS, the child welfare administrative database. The requested access is for active child welfare cases as well as those that are closed. Examples

of the variables include information such as: whether client is engaged in voluntary services or under court supervision, case service status (Family Reunification, Family Maintenance), services received by client (such as Wraparound, Linkages, Public Health Home Visitation Program), placement information (including placement type and reason for placement change), and demographic information such as client name, client date of birth, client gender, client race, client primary language, and child's grade level.

It is also requested that Fellows be allowed access to confidential information in the form of pre/post surveys, in addition to information gained from linking child welfare administrative data from CWS/CMS to other agency administrative datasets.

Fellows will not access any information contained in the narrative fields in the child welfare administrative database. Fellows will not access the following documents (this is not an exhaustive list): social worker contact notes, visitation notes, reports prepared for court hearings, drug test results, case plans, minute orders, psychological evaluations, case correspondence, and treatment status reports obtained from providers. Fellows will not have direct contact with any parent/child/family whose information they have accessed and reviewed.

The shared data will remain the property of SSA/DFCS and will remain on the premises of the SSA. The Fellows will not remove any information or data from SSA's physical premises or store or share the information and data outside SSA's networks or operations.

Finding good cause for the exchange of this information for the purpose described herein,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED,

1. The SSA/DFCS is authorized to provide Foster America Fellows access to confidential client information maintained by SSA/DFCS for children and families involved in the child welfare system and being served, in some capacity, by DFCS. The Fellows are not authorized to access narrative confidential juvenile case information, including documents described in this Order, housed electronically or in hard-copy format, for children and families involved in the child welfare system and being served, in some capacity, by DFCS.
2. The shared data will not be physically removed from the SSA/DFCS building locations at 333, 353, and 373 West Julian Street, San Jose, California.
3. The shared data remains the sole property of SSA/DFCS and will not be re-disclosed by Foster America to any entity other than SSA/DFCS.

This order expires on June 30, 2020.

Dated: 4/23/19

Shawna Schwarz
Judge of the Superior Court **SHAWNA SCHWARZ**