



## Why have I been referred to Permanency Planning Mediation (PPM)?



A referral to Permanency Planning Mediation (PPM) was made because a social worker, attorney, CASA, or the court believe the child(ren) would benefit from a continuing connection with members of their family of origin if adoption or guardianship occurs in the future.

If you are being offered PPM services, the court *may* soon decide to terminate parental rights or establish legal guardianship for a child.

## What is Permanency Planning Mediation (PPM)?



**Voluntary**

Mediation is a **conversation guided by a trained mediator** to help the child(ren)'s family of origin and their potential adoptive parents/legal guardians work together to make a plan for maintaining family connections if adoption or guardianship takes place.



**Confidential**

Mediation is **voluntary**, and you can stop mediating at any time. Your choice to participate will not affect any court dates or decisions.



**Free**

PPM Mediators are **neutral** and independent from the court and child welfare agency. The process is **confidential**, and what you tell the mediator will not be shared without written permission.

PPM takes place over a period of **60-90 days** to provide time for thoughtful decisions and to seek advice from people you trust.



**Neutral**



**Collaborative**



**Child-Focused**

## Why participate in PPM?



PPM provides the opportunity, before final decisions about adoption or guardianship are made, to create a **long-term contact plan** on behalf of the child(ren). If all agree, this plan would be detailed in a written agreement and filed with the court only *if* adoption or guardianship occurs.

## Who participates in PPM?



Members of the **family of origin** and the **potential adoptive parents/legal guardians** are the primary parties to the mediation. You may invite a **support person**, such as your attorney, counselor, relative, or a friend, to meet with you and the mediator.

## Will I meet with the other family?



The mediator meets **one-on-one** with parties. However, if all parties agree, they may meet together in a neutral setting or by video.

## Where does the mediation take place?



The mediator can meet with you remotely or in person at any location that is **safe, confidential, and convenient**.

## How can I learn more about PPM?

Talk with your mediator, visit our website at [www.consortforkids.org](http://www.consortforkids.org), or call our office at (415) 491-2200 or toll free at (888) 633-1411.

