



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 child welfare agency or the court *may* soon do one of the following for a court dependent child: *Not offer family reunification services or terminate parental rights.*

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.

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.



Free

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, or call our office at (415) 491-2200 or toll free at (888) 633-1411.

