

CANS FAMILY LETTER

Dear Family,

To help us in the work we do together, I have completed the **Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)** assessment based on the information shared with me. The attached CANS is considered an assessment tool that helps us to figure out your strengths and to identify the areas that we will work on together. Over time, we will be making updates to the assessment to reflect the changes in your life. The CANS helps us to:

- Identify your strengths so we can leverage them for positive change
- Determine what we need to work on
- Explore if there are any educational needs
- Identify any supports the family may need
- If applicable, support placement decisions
- Develop a comprehensive plan to support safety, permanency, and well-being

If you are a part of a **Child and Family Team (CFT)**, the CANS results are shared with team members which may include the Child Welfare Protective Services Worker or Probation Officer. In the CFT meeting we will talk about the CANS so we can all work together.

Thank you.

(Clinician Name)

(Date)



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File in Client Record

Copy of the CANS Family Letter and CANS results were offered to:

- | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child/Youth on _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Documented in Progress Note _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Caregiver on _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Documented in Progress Note _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare on _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Documented in Progress Note _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Probation on _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Documented in Progress Note _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> NA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CFT Discussion on _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Documented in Progress Note _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> NA |

Comments: _____

For children and youth involved in Child Welfare Services (CWS), the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) disseminated an All County Letter (ACL) No. 18-85 mandating that the CANS assessments be shared between County placing agencies and Mental Health Plans (MHPs).

The ACL identifies parameters around sharing specific CANS items. When an Authorization to Disclose Protected Health Information (including the 04-24A; 04-29) is in place, our local process allows for the providers to release the full CANS to the placing agency.

County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency
Mental Health Services

9/19/18

Client:

Case#:

Program: