

Supplemental Handouts

Following are copies of each part of the Family Profile to be completed by family members of prospective foster or adoptive families. Copy the appropriate parts of the Profile, depending upon the composition of each family in your group.

TIPS-MAPP Family Profile

Part 1- General Information

	Prospective Parent 1	Prospective Parent 2
Name		
Social Security #		
Date of Birth		
Race/Ethnicity		
Gender		
Occupation		
Employer		
Employer Address/ Phone		
Hours of work		
Highest Grade Level Completed		
Marital/Committed Status		
If married or committed, date and place of ceremony		
Religious Affiliation		
Email Address		

Home Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Phone Parent #1: _____

Cell Phone Parent #2: _____

Directions to Your Home: _____

My Family Now -- Others in the Home

(Use additional paper if necessary.)

Name	Date of Birth	Gender	Race/ Ethnicity	Occupation/ School Grade	Relationship to Parent 1	Relationship to Parent 2

My Family Now -- Our Adult Children Living Away From Home

(Please write names and addresses for each. Use additional paper if necessary.
If other than biological, specify relationship.)

1.	
3.	

Sensitive Subjects

As a partner in the foster care or adoption team, you may find that the special circumstances of the child placed in your home will require that you talk with the child or child welfare workers about what we call "sensitive subjects." These sensitive subjects concern things about which people don't often talk about. In foster care and adoption work, these sensitive subjects may be about separation, divorce, death, sexual issues including sexual abuse, mental illness, angry emotions, sad emotions, and the use of alcohol or drugs.

Because we are making a very important decision together about your family's fostering or adopting, we will be discussing subjects that often are not discussed outside the family. We don't want to offend you or make you feel uncomfortable, but we do need to know in order to help you and us in the decision-making process. With this explanation in mind, then, please answer the questions in the Profile as openly and as honestly as you can. Thank you.

Family Motivation and Personal Loss:

1. What has initially brought you or motivated you to your decision to apply to become a foster and/or adoptive parent(s)?

2. What type of experience do you have with children, either with children you are currently parenting or with other's children?

3. Have you ever applied for foster care or adoption previously? Have you ever had an adoption home study completed?

4. If yes to question #3, what agency did you work with and what was the outcome?

Agency Location	Outcome of Contact

5. If you are married or a part of a couple, what losses have you experienced together? For example, have you experienced the loss of fertility or the death of a close family member or friend during your time together as a couple?

6. How did you cope with the losses you experienced together?

7. What significant personal losses have you experienced as an individual in your lifetime? How did you cope with your emotions during this time(s)?

Prosepective Parent 1: _____

Prosepective Parent 2: _____

Has anyone in your family ever been convicted of a felony?

1. Has anyone in your family ever been convicted of a felony?

Yes No If "yes," please explain:

Financial Information on Household Members

1. Please describe how financial decisions are made in your family and give an example:

2. Is your family experiencing heavy debt or financial stress due to creditors or lawsuits?

Yes No If "yes," please describe how this is affecting you and your family.

3. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy?

Yes No If "yes," please describe when and why it occurred.

4. Will you be able to financially provide for your family as well as for one or more additional children for six to eight weeks until the first foster care maintenance payment arrives?

Yes No

Comments: _____

5. List all sources of family income in the table:

Income amount (before taxes)	Earned by	Source of income
Total Monthly Income		\$

6. Does your family have medical and vehicle insurance coverage?

Yes No

Please list the type of coverage and insurance company:

Auto: _____

Home: _____

7. Are you willing to place an adopted child on your health insurance coverage?

Yes No

Comments: _____

Medical and Personal Information on Household Members:

1. Is any family member currently under the regular care of a doctor?

Yes No If "yes," please explain:

2. Is anyone in your family taking medicine prescribed by a doctor?

Yes No If "yes," please list medications and reasons for taking them

Name of person taking medication	Name and dosage of medication	Reason for medication
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3. Does any family member have any serious or chronic medical condition?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

4. Does any family member now have, or previously had, nervous or emotional difficulties?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

5. Is any family member currently under the care or receiving services from a psychologist, psychiatrist or other therapist?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

6. Does any family member use drugs (other than prescribed by a doctor)?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

7. Has any family member received treatment for drug abuse?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

8. Does any family member drink alcohol? If yes, what is the frequency and approximately how much alcohol is consumed?

Yes No If "yes," what is the frequency and approximately how much alcohol is consumed? _____

9. Has any family member received treatment for alcoholism?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

10. Has any family member experienced sexual abuse or attack?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

11. Has any family member ever been sexually involved with a child?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

12. Is any family member planning to be admitted to the hospital soon?

Yes No If "yes," please explain.

13. Please list the name, address and phone of family physician(s):?

References

Please give three references who have known you for three years or more. Relatives may be given, but only one reference should be a relative. Please include at least one reference from school personnel if you have school-age children, as well as one employer reference.

Employer Reference:

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

School Reference:

Name of School _____

Child's Name and Grade Level _____

Teacher's Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Relative Reference:

Name _____

Relationship _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

References

Personal Reference:

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Other Reference:

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Special Projects

There are several things we need you to attach to the back of your Profile.

1. Please give us a picture of you and all members of your household (pets, too, if possible). We would like a picture of your house too, so you may want your picture to be in front of your house, or give us a second photo of the house itself. These photos may be used to prepare a child who would come to your family.
2. Please write a short letter to a child who might be coming to live with you, telling the child some things that you think they might want to know about your family. The picture and letter would be used by a child welfare worker who places a child in your home to help prepare the child and the child's birth family for your family. You will have an opportunity to make any changes to this letter at the end of the meetings, if you wish.
3. Please also write a short letter or note to the parents of a child who may be placed with you. In this note, please tell the parents some things about yourself that would help them trust you to take care of their child.
4. Scrapbook. Many foster and adoptive families have found another fun way to help prepare a child to move into their homes. The family makes a scrapbook or album with pictures of where family members and the child would sleep, eat, play, etc. Notes here and there might tell what the family does for fun or where the child will go to school. This album can really help you and the child welfare worker make the placement less scary for the child. Why not start yours today?

All information in this Profile is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Date

Signature

Signature

All adults who will share parenting responsibilities must sign the Profile.

Personal Profile Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

Personal Profile My Family History

(To be completed individually by the prospective foster or adoptive parent)

Name of person completing this section: _____

1. Who were all the people who lived with you (birth date and relationship) when you were between the ages of:

- A. Birth through five years old:

Name	Birth Date	Relationship	Name	Birth Date	Relationship

- B. Six through eleven, if different:

Name	Birth Date	Relationship	Name	Birth Date	Relationship

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

C. Twelve through fifteen, if different:

Name	Birth Date	Relationship	Name	Birth Date	Relationship

D. Sixteen until you left home, if different:

Name	Birth Date	Relationship	Name	Birth Date	Relationship

2. Was there anyone not in your home or immediate family with whom you were especially close, and why?

3. Of all the people you listed in Questions 1 and 2, where are these people now and how often are you in contact with them? (use extra paper if needed)

4. Of all the people listed above, to whom were you the closest and why?

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

5. What ages of your childhood did you like most, and why?

6. What ages of your childhood did you not like, and why?

7. With whom did you have the most difficulty getting along, and why?

8. When you were growing up, what were ways for members of your family to show the following feelings:

A. Happiness _____

B. Love/Affection _____

C. Anger _____

D. Disappointment _____

E. Frustration _____

F. Sadness/Depression _____

G. Stress _____

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

9. Compared to other families you have known, both as a child and as an adult, would you say your family was happier or less happy than most families?

10. What family traditions with which you grew up do you still keep today, and why? Are there new traditions, and why?

11. Are there family traditions with which you grew up that you do not keep, and why?

12. Think back to the time when you left home to be on your own

A. How old were you? _____

B. Why did you leave? _____

C. How did you and your family feel about your leaving? _____

13. If you have been previously married or lived together in an intimate relationship, please complete questions 13-16. If not, go to question 18.

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

	Marriage or Relationship #1	Marriage or Relationship #2
Name of Spouse or Significant Person		
Date of Marriage or Beginning of Relationship		
Place of Marriage		
Reason Marriage or Relationship Ended (e.g., divorce, death)		
Date Marriage or Relationship Ended		

List other marriages or significant relationships here:

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

14. Please list any children you have, from previous marriages or relationships, who do not currently live with you.

Name	Date of Birth	Where they live, with whom	Relationship to you (birth child, stepchild, adopted, not legally related)

15. What contact do you have with the persons listed in Questions 13 and 14? How do they feel about your desire to become a foster parent or adoptive parent?

16. Identify your emotions about the ending of your marriage(s). Describe how you handled those emotions.

17. If you have remarried, or entered into a new relationship with someone other than your children's father/mother, how did your children adjust to the new person?

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

18. How did you meet your spouse or the person with whom you are living?

19. How long have you:

- A. Known each other? _____
- B. Been married or coupled? _____
- C. Been living together? _____

20. What do you think was the main reason you married or entered into a relationship with this person and the main reason you have stayed together?

21. What do you like most about your spouse or partner? What do you think your spouse or partner likes most about you?

22. What would you most like to change about your spouse or partner? What do you think your spouse or partner would like to have you change?

23. What do you most like about being married and/or committed to someone?

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

24. What do you least like about being married and/or committed to someone?

25. What would make you want to consider a divorce or an ending of the relationship?

26. How much time during the week do you and your spouse or partner have alone together, and do you think this is enough time?

27. What was the biggest disappointment or loss you have had in your life and how did you cope with it?

Who is aware of this loss? _____

28. How and by whom were you disciplined

A. as a child under the age of six? _____

B. as a child when you were between six and twelve? _____

C. as a child when you were as an adolescent? _____

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

My School and Work History

1. How many grades did you complete in school (junior high, high school, college, graduate school)?

2. If you did not complete high school, what were the reasons?

3. If you have attended college, what was your field of study and what degree did you receive?

4. What kinds of school experiences did you like most (for example, what subjects, what activities)? Please explain.

5. What parts of school were most difficult for you (what classes, what activities)? Please explain.

6. How important will grades and school performance be for the child placed in your home?

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

7. What are your school expectations for a child placed in your home?

8. How do these expectations differ from those you have of your own children?

9. Since leaving school, please list (from first to current job).

Places You Have Worked	Job Title	Length of Stay	Reason for leaving

10. Of all the jobs listed, which did you like best and why?

11. Of all the jobs listed, which did you like least and why?

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

12. If you are currently employed, please describe your job?

A. What do you do at work? _____

B. How long would you like to keep this job? What are your plans to look for another job within the next few years?

C. How do you think becoming a foster parent or an adoptive parent might affect your work?

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

**My Interests in and Expectations
of Foster Parenting or Adopting**

1. What made you think about becoming a foster or adoptive parent at this time?

2. Have you ever been in foster care? _____ Were you adopted? _____

Do you know anyone who has been in foster care or adopted? _____

If yes to any of these questions, please explain. _____

3. If yes, how did your own experience or contact with these people affect your interest in foster care or adoption? _____

4. What do you believe to be the major differences between foster care and adoption?

5. If you are interested in only foster care, what helped you decide to provide only foster care?

6. If you are interested in possibly adopting through the foster care program, what are your concerns? _____

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

7. If you are interested in only adopting, why do you prefer to adopt rather than foster?

8. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, under what circumstance (if any) might you later consider adopting a child? _____

9. If you are interested in becoming an adoptive parent, under what circumstance (if any) might you later want to foster? _____

10. Are you or have you experienced fertility issues? Yes No
If no, are you planning to have a child or children by birth in the future? Yes No

If yes to either question, please explain _____

11. As you think about becoming a foster or adoptive parent:

A. What do you think you will like most? _____

B. What do you think you will like least? _____

C. What do you think others in your family will like best and least about having a new child in your home? _____

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

12. If you have parenting experience, what have you enjoyed most about being a parent?

13. What have you disliked most about being a parent? _____

14. What childhood ages do you or would you most enjoy parenting? _____

15. What childhood ages do you or would you least enjoy parenting? _____

16. What forms of discipline do you find to be most effective? _____

17. Under what circumstances do you think it is OK to spank or physically discipline a child?

18. Please list any agencies which you have previously contacted to become a foster parent or adoptive parent.

Agency/location	Outcome of contact

Personal Profile (continued)
Prospective Foster or Adoptive Parent

19. Imagine that today is the day you are going to meet the child or children who will be placed in your home. Please describe this child: age, sex, personality, appearance, family background, siblings, etc.?

20. Have you ever been a parent to someone else's child? _____

My Family Now – About Family Relationships

(The following information should be filled out together by all the adults in the family)

1. How do you think having a child in your home will change you and/or your family's lifestyle?

2. In your current family structure, what are ways you show the following emotions? For single individuals please also list the people in your life now who would be most likely to know if you were feeling :

A. Happiness _____

B. Love/Affection _____

C. Anger _____

D. Disappointment _____

E. Frustration _____

F. Sadness/Depression _____

G. Stress _____

3. How are decisions made in your family?

4. For couples what causes the most arguments, and how are arguments ended?

Family Profile: Part II (continued)

5. How is work in your family divided up, and what happens when someone doesn't want to do their part?

6. If you have children now in your home? (If no children in home, skip to question 7)

A. Who takes care of your child(ren) when you are not at home? _____

B. How will this plan change after a child is placed in your home? _____

C. If you and/or partner had a serious illness or injury, or you died, what arrangements have you made for the care of your birth child(ren), children you are fostering or adopting? Are these plans in the form of a written or verbal agreement?

7. If you or your family had some kind of financial, emotional, or health problem whom could you or do you turn to for help?

8. What reaction does this person have to your desire to become a foster family or adoptive family?

Family Profile: Part II (continued)

9. How do you think becoming a foster family or adoptive family will affect the following situations:

A. The amount of free time you have or the amount of time you and your partner have alone together? _____

C. The amount of time you have with the children already in your home? _____

D. The ways chores are divided in your household? _____

E. The condition of your home? _____

F. The way you or your family members express feelings of anger, disappointment, stress, and sadness/depression _____

G. The amount of money you have? _____

H. Your relationship with your friends? _____

10. What do you think will be the most positive change foster care or adoption will have on you, your relationship with your partner or your family?

Family Profile: Part II (continued)

11. What parts of foster care or adoption do you think might be most difficult for you, your relationship with a partner or your family?

12. If you are currently single and were to get married, what impact would being a foster parent or adoptive parent have on your marriage plans?

13. What role does spirituality or religion play in your life?

14. How difficult would it be for you to help a child continue in a religion other than your own? What if the child has no formal religious experience?

15. Our agency tries to place children with families who can best meet the needs of the child. We match your strengths and descriptions of the type of child you can best parent with the children who need placements. Please describe the child that you feel would best fit into your family. Be as specific as possible. Consider the following in responding to this question:

What would the child look like?

16. Would the child you described be accepted by your relatives, friends and neighbors? Why or why not?

Family Profile: Part II (continued)

How would you help the child fit into your family while feeling good about who he or she is?

What are your experiences with people who are different from you or your family? What experiences have you had with other cultures?

17. How can you help a child maintain connections with a culture that is different from your own?

For single parents:

1. How long have you been a single parent? _____

2. What were the circumstances that caused you to be a single parent?

3. Who are the important adults/role models in your child(ren)'s lives in addition to you?

Family Profile: Part II (continued)

My Family – About The Home And Community

1. Imagine that we are going to describe your home and neighborhood to a child we are going to place with you, or to the parents of that child. How would you like for us to describe your home and community?

2. Every family has rules (for example: no swearing, no walking around the house barefoot). Regarding the rules in your home:

A. What rules can sometimes be broken? _____

B. What rules can never be broken? _____

3. Describe any pets you have. Please give the type of pet, name, and how long the pet has been in your family.

4. If a child placed with you were afraid of your pet(s), or became allergic to the pet, what would you do?

5. How do you handle privacy and nudity in your home?

Family Profile: Part II (continued)

6. What is your relationship with your neighbors?

7. Have you mentioned your interest in becoming a foster or adoptive parent to your neighbors?

Yes No

If yes, how do your neighbors feel about your becoming a foster family or adoptive family?

8. Who are the people who most regularly visit your home or whose homes you regularly visit?

9. How have these people reacted to your desire to become a foster or adoptive family?

10. Type of home (check one):

Apartment Duplex Single-Family House

Mobile Home Other _____

11. How long have you lived in your present home? _____

12. Please draw a floor plan of your home and identify the room where a new child would sleep. (This floor plan may be used by a child welfare worker to help the child get ready to move into your home.)

13. Is your house free of lead paint? Yes No

Comments: _____

Family Profile: Part II (continued)

14. Where are smoke alarms located? _____

15. Do you have private well water? Yes No

If yes, how often is it tested? _____

16. How do you get to the following places?

A. Grocery store _____

B. Doctors' offices _____

C. Hospital _____

D. Department Store _____

E. Place of worship _____

17. Do you have a car seat for infants and toddlers? Yes No

If you do not have one and you are interested in fostering or adopting infants and toddlers, how will you arrange to have and use one for them? _____

18. How many children can your car hold? _____

19. What are the ways in which a new child placed in your home might cause some challenges or concerns in keeping your home and housekeeping standards?

20. Have you discussed your desire to foster or adopt with close relatives?

Yes No

If yes, how did they react? If no, what are your plans? _____

Personal Profile

(To be completed by the prospective foster or adoptive mother or father for each child in the home.)

My Child Now – About the Child

Name of person writing this section: _____

Name of child: _____

1. Please give five words that best describe this child: _____

2. How does this child show:

A. Happiness _____

B. Love/Affection _____

C. Anger _____

D. Disappointment _____

E. Frustration _____

F. Sadness/Depression _____

3. What does this child most like to do? _____

4. How would your child's teachers describe the child? _____

5. What do you do most with this child? _____

Personal Profile (continued)
My Child Now – About the Child

6. What does this child think of foster care or adoption? _____

7. In what ways will your foster care or adoption experience be good for this child?

8. What are some of the concerns you may have about how foster care or adoption will affect this child? _____

9. What is the biggest disappointment or loss this child has ever experienced, and who or what helped this child with it? _____

Personal Profile Young Person 12 and Older

Personal Profile My Opinion

(For a young person 12 years of age and older)

Dear _____:

Hello. I am a child welfare worker from a Department of Social Services, a place that helps children and families. My job is to find families for children whose parents can't take care of them. Your parents have talked with you about having such a child come to live in your home. I am going to try to find the child who would fit into your family.

You can help me to do this by telling me something about yourself. Would you please answer the questions on this next page so that I can learn more about you?

Thank you for helping me.

Sincerely,

Personal Profile (continued)

Young Person 12 and Older

1. Please give five words that describe your personality: _____

2. Please give five words that describe how you look: _____

3. In what ways are you like your parents? (Both your Mother and Father.)

4. In what ways are you different from your parents? (Both your Mother and Father.)

5. What do you like best about school?

6. What do you like least about school?

7. Do you like to spend your time with lots of friends, a few friends or mostly by yourself?

8. If a new child comes to live with your family, what will you tell your friends about who the new child is?

Personal Profile (continued)
Young Person 12 and Older

9. Imagine that today I am bringing the new child to live at your house. What do you hope this new person will be like?

Boy or Girl: _____

How old: _____

Likes to do: _____

Looks like: _____

10. Imagine that today I am bringing the new child to live at your house. As I am driving over, what would you like for me to tell this child about you and your family?

11. What would you like to know about the child or children?

Personal Profile

Young Person under 12

Personal Profile

My Opinion

(For a child under 12 years of age)

Dear _____:

Hello. My job is to find families for children whose parents can't take care of them. Your parents have talked with you about having such a child or children come to live in your home. I am going to try to find the child who would fit into your family.

You can help me to do this by telling me something about yourself and your family. You can tell me in one of two ways.

You can draw a picture of you, your house, and your family. In this picture, would you please draw in the new child or children who would be coming to live with you?

or

You can write a story about you, your home, and your family. Would you please include the new child in your story?

Please write your story or draw your picture on the back of this page. Thanks!

Sincerely,

Name _____ Age _____