# FAMILY DEVELOPMENT MATRIX

## Status Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thriving</td>
<td>Living in housing of choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spends less than 50% of income on rent or mortgage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has adequate housing space and rooms for family size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feels safe and secure in home and neighborhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Takes measures to maintain household in a safe and livable condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Owns property or has maintained tenancy for more than one year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Shelter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safe and/or Self-Sufficient</td>
<td>Lives in or has access to adequate housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spends less than 50% of income on rent or mortgage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has some choice in housing options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feels safe and secure in home and neighborhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has adequate space and rooms for family size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tenancy is secure for one year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Food & Nutrition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stable</td>
<td>Housing is not hazardous, unhealthy or overcrowded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spends less than 50% of income on rent or mortgage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing options may be limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feels safe and secure in home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All housing and utility costs are paid and up to date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has telephone or access to a telephone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tenancy is secure for more than six months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Transportation & Mobility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At Risk and/ or Vulnerable</td>
<td>Has current and valid drivers license</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing is not hazardous, unhealthy or overcrowded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spends more than 50% of income for rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing options are severely limited or non-existent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Living in unsafe and overcrowded conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May have a recent eviction or utility shut off notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feels unsafe in home and neighborhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May be dependent upon housing assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tenancy is secure for six months or less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Health & Safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Crisis</td>
<td>Is homeless or on the verge of being homeless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spends more than 50% of income for rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing options are severely limited or non-existent</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Living in unsafe and overcrowded conditions</td>
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<tr>
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## Social & Emotional Health & Competence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Crisis</td>
<td>Is hungry common</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has a serious lack of resources to obtain food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evidence of or diagnosis of malnutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has a severe eating disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No one is preparing meals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Is extremely obese or severely underweight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Family Development Matrix

- **Family Development Matrix**
- **Status Level**
- **Shelter**
- **Food & Nutrition**
- **Transportation & Mobility**
- **Health & Safety**
- **Social & Emotional Health & Competence**

**STRONG BEGINNINGS PROGRAM**
Developed by the Orange County Shelter and Hunger Partnership for California Department of Health and Human Services
### FAMILY DEVELOPMENT MATRIX

**Status Level**

- **Thriving**
- **Safe and/or Self-Sufficient**
- **Stable**
- **At Risk and/or Vulnerable**
- **In Crisis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status Level</th>
<th>Income &amp; Budget</th>
<th>Family Relations &amp; Parenting</th>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Adult Education &amp; Development</th>
<th>Children/Youth Education &amp; Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Benchmarks</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Thriving** | - Sufficient earned income to allow family choices for non-essential purchases  
- Able to save 10% of income  
- Established relationship with insured financial institution  
- Has a good credit rating  
- Expects to increase income level within one year | - Has a strong supportive family with positive family identity  
- Mutually agreed upon rules and expectations  
- Conflicts are easily negotiated  
- Is nurturing and consistently cares for family members  
- Children are happy and socially well-adjusted  
- Children enjoy parents | - Possesses marketable job skills and positive work experience  
- Constant development of transferable job skills  
- Permanent employment by secure business offering a comprehensive benefit package  
- Has made steady advancement in career of choice  
- Has solid job search and retention skills | - Has post secondary education or training  
- Parents speak, read and write English  
- Mutually agreed upon rules and expectations  
- Conflicts are easily negotiated  
- Is a leader among other students | - Has little or no absenteeism  
- Has high grades in most subjects and passing marks in every subject  
- Has a positive attitude toward education |
| **Safe and/or Self-Sufficient** | - Sufficient earned income to meet basic family needs  
- Plans and sticks to a monthly budget  
- Saves when possible  
- Able to obtain a secured line of credit  
- Pays bills on time, delays purchases to handle debt load  
- Has a good credit rating  
- Anticipates continuous current income level for at least one year | - Supportive family with a generally positive identity  
- Has realistic rules and manageable conflict  
- Usually provides sound, nurturing care for family members  
- Children are unusually happy and outgoing; little violence or aggression  
- Children are consistently able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home  
- Children unusually happy and outgoing; little violence or aggression  
- Children are consistently able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home  
- Children unusually happy and outgoing; little violence or aggression  
- Children are consistently able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home | - Has attained marketable job skills  
- Is employed by a secure business offering some benefits  
- Has employment with potential for advancement  
- Has or can easily develop job retention skills  
- Has job search skills  
- Has limited income  
- Has an income barely adequate to meet basic needs  
- Has no savings  
- Has limited ability to obtain credit  
- Has unpaid bills  
- Has an overwhelming debt load | - Some family members speak, read and write English  
- Have or are pursuing a high school diploma or equivalent education  
- Enrolled in adult education, English as a Second Language, Vocational Education or College  
- Values education for children | - Absenteeism is not high enough to be a concern  
- Has passing marks in all subjects  
- Has a positive attitude toward education |
| **Stable** | - Has an income barely adequate to meet basic needs  
- Plans and sticks to a monthly budget  
- Has no savings  
- Able to obtain limited secured credit  
- Generally pays bills on time  
- No anticipated decrease in family income | - No abuse or neglect of any kind  
- Learning positive family dynamics  
- Care of family members is adequate  
- Little violence or aggression  
- Children are sometimes able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home  
- Children unusually happy and outgoing; little violence or aggression  
- Children are consistently able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home  
- Children unusually happy and outgoing; little violence or aggression  
- Children are consistently able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home | - Considering or in the process of developing more marketable job skills  
- Has seasonal, part time or temporary employment  
- Has employment with limited advancement potential  
- Has understanding of job search skills  
- Can search for a job with assistance  
- Wages are sufficient to meet most family needs | - Considers personal education needs and options  
- Has or is pursuing a high school education  
- Has limited English skills  
- Can set and pursue some career and personal education goals with assistance  
- Values some education for children  
- Anticipates continuation of current income level for at least one year | - Has some absenteeism but it is not impeding educational performance  
- Is performing at a minimum educational level  
- Has some discipline problems  
- Making adequate progress in reading, writing and arithmetic skills  
- Has an average attitude toward education |
| **At Risk and/or Vulnerable** | - Has a limited income  
- Is sometimes unable to meet basic needs  
- Has spontaneous and inappropriate spending habits  
- Has no savings  
- Has limited ability to obtain credit  
- Has unpaid bills  
- Has an overwhelming debt load | - Outside placement of children is threatened  
- Children have run away from home  
- Unrealistic or non-existing rules  
- Inadequate care  
- Risk of abuse or neglect  
- Children are unhappy, withdrawn, violent or aggressive  
- Children have run away from home  
- Children unusually happy and outgoing; little violence or aggression  
- Children are consistently able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home  
- Children unusually happy and outgoing; little violence or aggression  
- Children are consistently able to relate to parents  
- Children have run away from home | - Has limited job skills  
- Has inadequate employment with no benefits  
- Has no advancement potential  
- Has disciplinary or performance problems at work  
- Has free job search or retention skills  
- Wages are insufficient to meet family needs | - Has less than a ninth grade education  
- Has severely limited English skills  
- Does not set or pursue educational or career goals  
- Anticipates continuation of current income level for at least one year | - Has a high absenteeism rate  
- Is performing below educational level or is falling in one or more subjects  
- Has continued discipline problems  
- Exhibits gang related behavior  
- Does not get along with other students  
- Has a poor attitude toward education |
| **In Crisis** | - Has very little money and cannot meet basic needs  
- Unable to obtain credit  
- Has unpaid bills and collectors calling  
- Is dependent upon public assistance | - Existence of child or spousal abuse, neglect or violence  
- Foster care or other placement of child has occurred or is imminent  
- Intervention of criminal justice system is required to deal with family violence or abuse | - Has limited job skills  
- Has inadequate employment with no benefits  
- Has no advancement potential  
- Has disciplinary or performance problems at work  
- Has free job search or retention skills  
- Wages are insufficient to meet family needs | - Is unemployed or unemployed  
- No minimum or no job skills  
- Has negative work history  
- Has negative work ethics or attitude  
- Has no job search or retention skills | - Is unemployed  
- Has no English skills  
- Has no interest in or access to educational remediation  
- Does not stress or value education for children | - Has a high absenteeism rate  
- Drops out of school  
- Has a poor attitude toward education  
- Has serious development deficiencies  
- Has serious behavioral problems |