



AWASHISHEWIIGIIHIWAYWIIN

SOCIAL SERVICES FRAMEWORK

VISION & MISSION

VISION

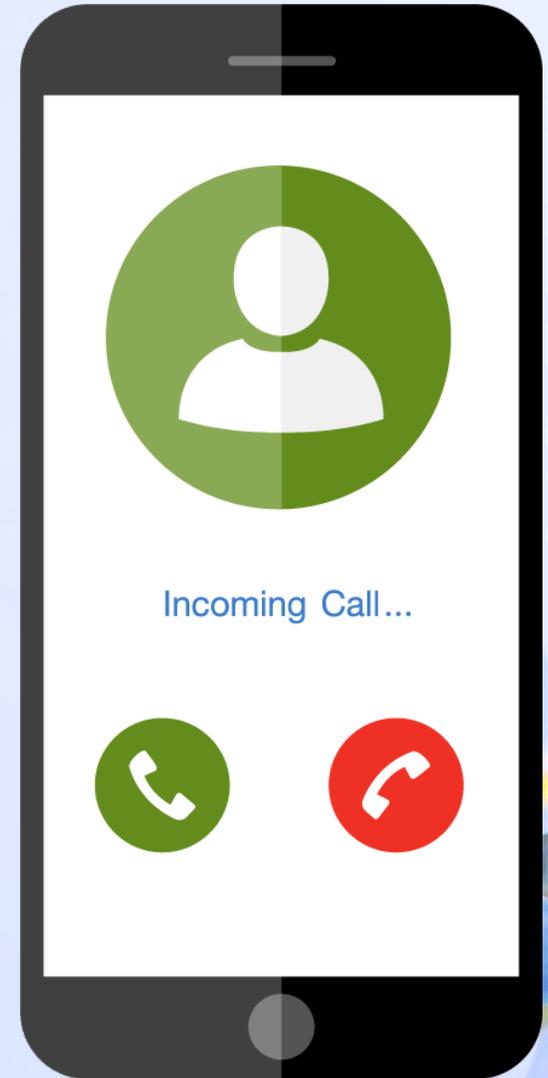
Healthy
strong,
spiritual,
families
together.

MISSION

- Children are a gift from the Creator, it is our sacred responsibility to protect, love, teach and honour them.
- Awashishewiigiihiwaywiin will support children and families to restore family connection and unity.
- We will empower our children, families, parents and communities by wrapping them in a blanket of love, care, trust and support.
- We acknowledge and understand our family systems.
- We are culturally-based and rooted in a historic understanding of Anishnawbe way of life.

INTAKE

- We are voluntary and clients can self refer
- A call is made to our intake worker and she takes needed information and demographics and makes sure client qualifies for service
- Manager is consulted and intake is handed to Family support worker to make contact
- If there is an existing Band rep workers will reach out to them to seek input and direction
- All information is logged in our database



FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER

- Consent to service is completed with client. If no consent to service signed we cannot assist and file is closed
- Review of issues and interview done to assess situation
- Plan is made to address immediate issues and prevent further issues
- Worker will usually complete release of information forms for the following agencies:
 - Ontario Works/ODSP
 - Child welfare agency Dilico/Tikinagan
 - Landlords
 - Other community supports eg: Beendigen, ONWA etc.



FORMS



Awashishewiigihiwaywiin
(Social Services Framework) P: (807) 344-4575 Ext: 2383 233 Court St S, 2nd Floor
F: (807) 346-3682 Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2X9

INFORMED CONSENT FOR SERVICES Awashishe-Wiigihiwaywiin

I, _____

Date of Birth: _____
(dd/mm/yyyy)

Consent to the following services:

as _____ discussed _____ with _____
(Name of Service Provider)

I have been informed that it may be necessary for Matawa Awashishe-Wiigihiwaywiin staff to consult with one another and to work collaboratively to enhance care. At times this may require consultation with your registered community, Matawa First Nations Management and all its subsidiaries.

It is my understanding that Matawa Awashishe-Wiigihiwaywiin includes the following services to which I am entitled to participate: I have initialed the services that may share my personal information and specified any limitations.

- Advocacy
- Parenting
- Brief counselling
- Goal setting
- Reunification planning

Specific Limitations:

Issues relating to services have been explained to me. I understand that identified service providers who work with me, or on my behalf will consult both with me and with each other about my needs. I understand that the identified service providers will have information about me but only as necessary for us to plan, provide and evaluate my services.

I understand that I can withdraw this consent at any time.

Signature of Individual, Parent(s), Guardian(s), Substitute Decision Maker _____ Date (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Signature of Service Provider _____ Date (dd/mm/yyyy) _____



QMS#: SSF FOR 001 Department: SSF Issue Date: Jan 16, 2020 Revision #2/Date: Feb, 16 2021 Approved by: R Haliuk, Program Manager



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(Print your name and relationship if you are Parent/ Guardian/ or Substitute Decision Maker)

For _____, Date of Birth _____
(Self/ or Name of person) (dd/mm/yyyy)

Address _____, and Phone Number _____

Do hereby give consent to _____

TO RELEASE/OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING: _____

TO/ FROM: *Matawa First nations Social Services Framework Department staff*
(Name/ Title/ Organization)

This information will be used for the following purpose(s): _____

I understand the purpose for disclosing this personal health information, and that I can refuse to sign this consent form or later withdraw my consent.

(Signature of Client, Parent(s), Guardian(s), or Substitute Decision Maker) (Date: dd/mm/yyyy)

(Witness Name, Signature, and Title) (Date: dd/mm/yyyy)

***Please note: A substitute decision-maker is a person authorized under PHIPA to consent, on behalf of an individual, to disclose personal health information about the individual.**

PLEASE NOTE: This Authorization is valid for 6 months 12 months and pertains to the disclosure of information that is specific to services received on or before the date signed. It can be amended or withdrawn at any time by written notification to Matawa Social Services Framework. Note: if not designated above, the validation is good for 6 months only.



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FAMILY HISTORY/LONG FORM INTAKE

- We complete a long form intake that discusses many issues
 - Addictions
 - Family of origin
 - Family violence
 - Trauma
 - Past child welfare involvement

This allows the workers an opportunity to discuss issues and get to know the client and family better. It also assists in goal planning. This may take many meetings to complete the full long form intake.



ROLES OF BAND REPRESENTATIVE

- A Band Representative acts on behalf of our children and our First Nation with all child welfare matters within Canada. We help families better understand the child welfare system and guide them through legal matters. We ensure that customary care is the first option for families involved with any child welfare agency within our country.
- We cannot get involved in family law(custody) matters or criminal matters. We can assist with direction if needed or call legal aid if the family is involved with a child welfare agency.



ROLES OF BAND REPRESENTATIVE

- We support families that are going through any process with any child welfare organization. Our goal is to help families reunite with all parties working together. We cannot intervene if a child is at risk, but we can ensure that children remain with family or community.
- We understand that contact between children and their family is of the utmost importance. We advocate for children and families to have regular contact and provide the families with a clear understanding of the legal process to gain access.



ROLES OF BAND REPRESENTATIVE

- We provide support to families that are going through the court system with a clear understanding of all options. We ensure that our members understand that they have a choice of customary care or applying for a lawyer who will represent your case within the judicial system.
- We can take part in plan of care meetings for Matawa children. We are available to attend visits either in person or by phone while a child welfare worker is in the home. We can take part in alternate dispute resolutions or Talking Together Circles either in person or by phone or video chat.
- We can help families and community understand the Child and Family Services Act and Part 4 of the Child and Family Services Act.





WHY CAN'T A BAND REPRESENTATIVE GET INVOLVED WITH CRIMINAL CASES AND FAMILY LAW (custody)?

- A Band Representative can only act on behalf of a family under the Child and Family Services Act due to legislation. Part 4 of the Child and Family Services Act allows our First Nations to step in and become involved with our families and children. Legislation with family law and criminal law, which is different, does not give a First Nation the authority to step in with any other legislation.

ADDRESSING ISSUES

INCOME

- Assist with completing OW applications
- Assist with ODSP applications
- Use of phone to book appointments
- Bus tickets to attend appointments
- Budgeting
- Completing income tax and making sure families are receiving child tax and other tax benefits such as Trillium and GST

HOUSING

- Completing housing applications DSSAB and Native Peoples housing
- Follow up regarding arrears
- Providing rental lists and bus tickets for viewings
- Accessing start up or discretionary benefits for furniture through OW/ODSP
- Housing security for first and last months rent through OW/ODSP

ADDRESSING ISSUES

FOOD SECURITY

- 211 where to get food in Thunder Bay
- Emergency dry goods provided to last a couple of days
- Informed about programs they can access through us community kitchens, good food box
- Will not provide gift cards or PO's directly to client
- Budgeting

ADDICTIONS

- Assistance in completing treatment applications
- Referrals for drug and alcohol assessments
- Harm reduction
- Safety planning for children and family

ADDRESSING ISSUES

PHYSICAL HEALTH

- Access to primary care through health coop
- Walk in clinic
- Transportation provided for medical appointments
- Teaching baby care
- Jordan's principal applications

MENTAL HEALTH

- Wellness check ins
- Goal planning
- Referrals for counselling
- Jordans principal applications
- Access to Matawa mental health team
- Transportation provided

ADDRESSING ISSUES

FAMILY VIOLENCE

- Education regarding VAW
- Understanding the VAW/CAS agreement when police are attending to the home
- Referrals to community programs: I am a kind man, living free from violence, child witness, shelters, victim witness
- Support through court process
- Understanding no contact orders and restraining orders

PARENTING

- We offer in house parenting programs if required for service plans
- Caring dads certified facilitators
- Triple P parenting certified instructor
- Individual support with workers to address parenting issues
- Ensuring children enrolled in school

ADDRESSING ISSUES



CONNECTION TO CULTURE

- Provide traditional medicines to families upon request
- Connect to elders
- Cultural programming beading, ribbon skirts and shirts, medicine picking, crafts, education at events, drumming

ON ON ONE SUPPORT

- Crisis intervention
- Crisis counselling
- After hours support

WORKING WITH CHILD WELFARE

- Always request a service plan from agency
- Review service plan with clients
- Revise service plan as needed
- Request case conferences
- Advocate for family needs
- If all service plan goals have been met request case closure and letter
- Family support worker often added to safety plan for families
- Advise clients that accepting PO's from agencies keeps their files open longer
- Our workers are present during home visits
- Clients advised that they do not have to let child welfare into the home without worker present
- Review any documents requiring signature and consult lawyer if needed

DOCUMENTATION

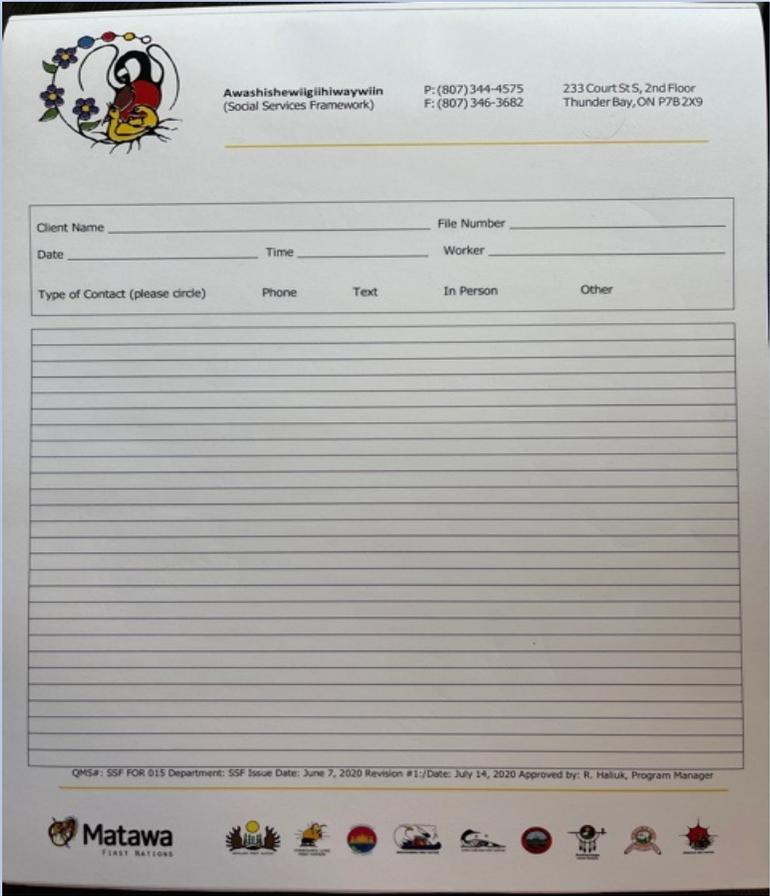
WHY

- Vital for our work
- Can be called in as evidence in court proceedings
- Can be used if an inquiry into a death happens
- Reference for tracking work
- Continuity if worker changes
- Permanent record of client provisions provided
- Provides a narrative of care and assistance provided

WHAT

- Date and time of every encounter
- Text, phone, email or in person
- Details of contact
- Any supports provided
- Copies of ID, rental agreements, service plans and receipts from purchases for the family or copy of PO's
- All signed documents and agreements

Documenting

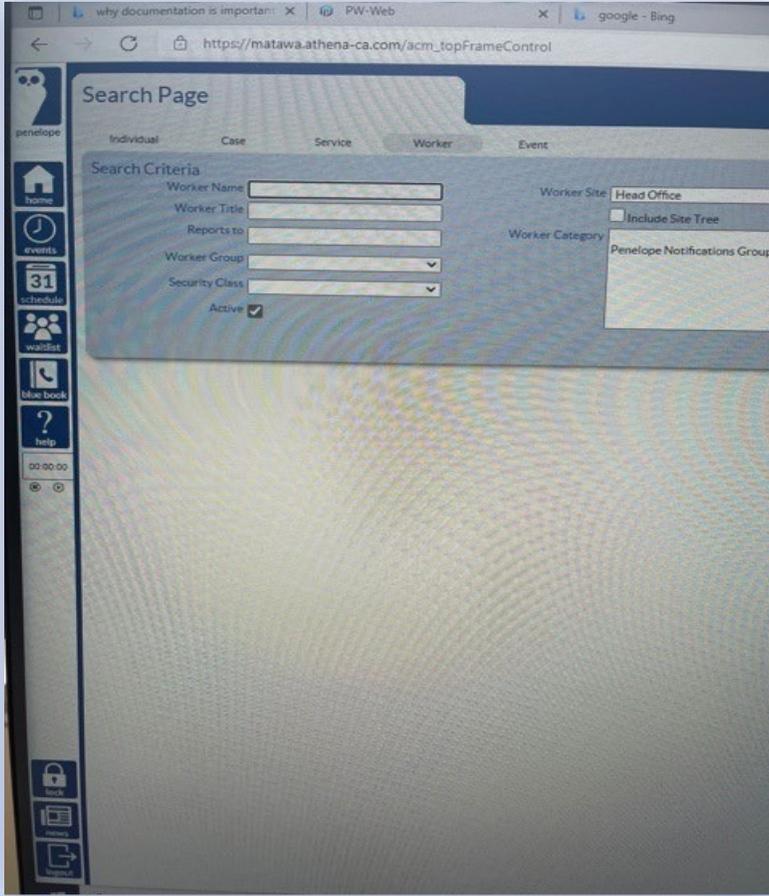


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Client Name _____ File Number _____
Date _____ Time _____ Worker _____
Type of Contact (please circle) Phone Text In Person Other

QMS#: SSF FOR 015 Department: SSF Issue Date: June 7, 2020 Revision #1/Date: July 14, 2020 Approved by: R. Haliuk, Program Manager



why documentation is important | PW-Web | google - Bing

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penelope

Individual Case Service Worker Event

Search Page

Search Criteria

Worker Name _____ Worker Site Head Office
Worker Title _____ Include Site Tree
Reports to _____ Worker Category Penelope Notifications Group
Worker Group _____
Security Class _____
Active

home events 31 schedule waitlist blue books help 00:00:00 lock



CLOSING A FILE

- We will close a service file with us if requested by client
- If client has not been responsive for some time (not returning calls or messages)
- If client is abusive towards worker
- Children have aged out
- No longer in service area
- Letter always sent to notify of closure



Goals

- Our goal is always to build capacity in our families so they no longer have the threat of child welfare involvement through the creation of opportunities for independence not reliance on our program or others
- Increase skills and abilities to care and nurture children
- We never want to enable clients to continue with destructive lifestyles
- Empower not enable





Aroland First Nation



CONSTANCE LAKE
FIRST NATION



GINOOGAMING FIRST NATION



LONG LAKE #58 FIRST NATION



Neskantaga
First Nation



WEBEQUIE FIRST NATION

