

# LINKAGES GAIN SERVICES WORKER ROLE

## The co-located Linkages GAIN Services Worker (GSW) will:

- ❖ Be physically co-located full-time at designated Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) office, and report to a GAIN Services Supervisor.
- ❖ Participate in *priority* Team Decision Making (TDM) Meetings. *Priority TDM = Case mutual to both DPSS & DCFS, family potentially eligible to CalWORKs, and/or caretaker relative potentially eligible to CalWORKs.*
- ❖ Serve as a resource to Children's Services Workers (CSWs).
- ❖ Provide case consultation to CSWs on individual cases and DPSS programs & services.
- ❖ Serve as a liaison to DCFS/DPSS staff to facilitate connection between CSWs and CalWORKs/GAIN workers for ongoing service coordination.
- ❖ Refer CalWORKs/GAIN participants to their case-carrying worker for appropriate GAIN/Welfare-to-Work (WtW) services, including Specialized Supportive Services (SSS). Make direct referrals to SSS (mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence) and negotiate/sign GAIN activity agreement for participants needing immediate services.
- ❖ Assess participant's current WtW/GAIN plan and determine if additional services should be added so child(ren) can remain safely in the home.
- ❖ Initiate Family Reunification/AB 429 notification referral to DPSS with input from CSW/Supervising CSW.
- ❖ Provide CalWORKs Eligibility Worker (EW) relevant information to facilitate benefits coordination between the CSW and EW.
- ❖ Provide case carrying GSW relevant information to facilitate ongoing service coordination between the CSW and GSW, if an open DPSS case exists.
- ❖ Consult with the DCFS Liaison from DPSS District offices or GAIN Regions as needed.
- ❖ Contact GAIN Scheduling Clerk to register participants in GAIN as appropriate.
- ❖ **TDMs:** Screen family/caretaker relative for potential eligibility to CalWORKs, General Relief, Food Stamps, and/or Medi-Cal, if no existing DPSS case.
- ❖ **Outside TDMs:** Screen family/caretaker relative for potential eligibility to Food Stamps and/or Medi-Cal, if no existing DPSS case.



## The co-located Linkages GSW will NOT:

- ❖ Become the assigned worker for any DCFS case.
- ❖ Become clerical support for CSWs.
- ❖ Be the assigned CalWORKs/GAIN worker while serving as the Linkages GSW.
- ❖ Have the capacity to accompany Emergency Response (ER) CSWs on initial contact referrals.