



MEADE COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA
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Dear Parent:

Enclosed please find the Child in Need of Supervision (CHINS) Application which you requested for your child.

South Dakota Law SDCL 26-8B-2 defines a Child in Need of Supervision as a child who is habitually truant from school; who has run away from home; whose behavior is such as to endanger his/her own or other's welfare; or who is otherwise beyond the control of his/her parent.

A Child in Need of Supervision proceeding is similar to other court proceedings in that the child is entitled to legal representation (for which the parent is obligated to pay) and the State must present evidence and sworn testimony to prove the CHINS Petition.

A CHINS Petition, therefore, is appropriate only when all other avenues have been explored.

In order to determine if there is a legally sufficient basis upon which to file a formal CHINS Petition, we ask that you complete the Application **with as much detail as possible**. Failure to supply us with specific behaviors and dates may result in rejection of your CHINS Application. Once your Application is received, an attorney will review the Application for completeness and specific elements of undesirable behavior of the child. A meeting will be set up with you and the child, with a prosecuting attorney. At that time, our office will let you know if we feel that a CHINS Petition is necessary. You and your child will receive a Summons and Petition within approximately two weeks.

Sincerely,

Meade County State's Attorney Office

CHILD IN NEED OF SUPERVISION (CHINS) ASSESSMENT

CHILD'S NAME: _____

CHILD'S SEX: _____

CHILD'S DATE OF BIRTH: _____

CHILD'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO.: _____

TRIBAL AFFILIATION (if any): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CHILD'S PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: _____

CHILD'S FATHER (name, address, phone): _____

CHILD'S MOTHER (name, address, phone): _____

PARENTS RELATIONSHIP (circle one): MARRIED DIVORCED SEPARATED

CHILD'S SCHOOL (name and town): _____

NAME OF CHILD SCHOOL COUNSELOR (if any): _____

1) If the child attends school, what kind of grades is he/she getting? _____

2) Is the child involved in extra-curricular activities? _____ If so, please specify _____

3) Is the child habitually absent from school? _____

If so, give specific dates and details: _____

4) Has the child ever been suspended, expelled or dropped from school? _____ If so, give the

specific date(s) and the reason(s) _____

5) Does the child habitually run away from home? _____
If so, give dates and length of absence: _____

6) Was an official runaway report filed with the Police Department for each runaway? _____ In not,
why not? _____

7) If your child has been a runaway, did you know where the child was at? _____ If so, give name
and address, if known and any other details: _____

8) Does the child use illegal drugs or consume alcohol? _____ If so give specific
details _____

9) Is there any history of alcohol and/or drug abuse in your family? _____ yes _____ no

10) Have any family members been placed in "in-patient" drug or alcohol treatment? _____ yes
_____ no

11) Has the child ever been arrested or issued a juvenile citation in Meade County or elsewhere?

_____ If so, give dates, location and
reason for arrest: _____

12) Have you ever been involved in the Juvenile Court System with this or any other child? _____ yes
_____ no. If yes, give name, date and reason for prior Juvenile Court involvement: _____

13) Have you ever had contact with the Department of Social Services, Child Welfare Division, concerning
this child or any other family member? _____ yes _____ no. If yes when and who was the assigned
case worker? _____

14) Has this child ever been in foster care, group care, residential treatment, or in-patient drug/alcohol
treatment? _____ yes _____ no. If yes, please give inclusive dates of placement, and reason for
placement:

15) What kind of discipline do you (and/or your spouse) use to attempt to control the child's undesirable
behavior? _____

16) Have you and/or your spouse ever attended parenting classes? _____ yes _____ no. If yes, with whom and when? _____

17) Is the child exhibiting any other type of behavior that concerns you, that was not covered in the above paragraphs? _____ yes _____ no. If so, give specific details: _____

18) What is the length of time undesirable behavior has been occurring? _____

19) What event (if any) caused the undesirable behavior to begin? _____

20) Are you now, or have you ever been, involved in any type of counseling with your child? _____ yes _____ no. If yes, give counselor's name, inclusive dates of counseling and number of sessions attended: _____

21) What community agencies have you contacted for help with your child, prior to filing this CHINS?

22) Does your child have any learning disabilities or physical handicaps? _____

23) How did you hear about the CHINS Petition? _____

24) Do you understand that the filing of a CHINS Petition is a formal, legal proceeding in which the child is entitled to legal representation (for which the parent is obligated to pay) and in which the State must present evidence and sworn testimony to prove the CHINS Petition? _____ yes _____ no.

25) Do you understand that, if the child is found by the Court to be a CHINS, custody and guardianship of your child may be transferred to someone else? _____ yes _____ no.

26) Do you understand that, if a CHINS Petition is filed, you may be responsible for the costs of:

- a) Attorney's fees for your child;
- b) Counseling;
- c) Testing and psychological evaluations;
- d) Group or foster home expenses;
- e) Medical, dental and eye care.

Do you or your child receive Social Security? _____ yes _____ no. If so do you understand that Social Security check may be bound over to the Court to help defer placement costs? _____ yes _____ no.

27) Do you understand that if your child is found to be a Child in Need of Supervision, the Court may order you, your spouse, and any siblings into family counseling; parenting classes and/or drug/alcohol

counseling; and that the family will be required to cooperate with the Court Services Officer who will be assigned to the case? _____ yes _____ no

28) Do you understand that if the child is found to be a Child in Need of Supervision, your failure to comply with the Order of the Court or your failure to comply with the Order of the Court or your failure to cooperate with the Court Services Officer, may subject you to Contempt of Court proceedings?

_____ yes _____ no

Parent Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date