



THE SDM[®] SYSTEM AND CHILD WELFARE DECISION MAKING

Introduction to WebSDM for Tribal Social Workers

The Structured Decision Making[®] (SDM) system is a suite of research- and evidence-based assessment tools used by social workers across California to help support consistent and equitable decision making at key points in the child welfare system. Accurate completion of SDM assessments requires intentional collaboration with the child's family and network to ensure a balanced and rigorous assessment at each decision point. When an Indian child is involved, statute requires county social workers to actively engage the child's tribe(s); this is both for Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) noticing and to support collaborative assessment and shared decision making whenever possible.¹

To ensure California tribal partners have access to the tools and supports used by county social workers to guide their decision making, Evident Change and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) are offering the Introduction to WebSDM training webinar for tribal partners. The training will focus on supporting collaborative assessment and shared decision making for Indian children and families, with an overview and foundations of the SDM system. Training will support tribal social workers in accessing the WebSDM training site to support collaborative assessment with county social workers at each decision point. Participants will practice using this system and troubleshoot any challenges to collaborative assessment in their jurisdictions with peers across California.

- **Option 1**—Tuesday, June 28, 2022; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm PT. Register [here](#).
- **Option 2**—Wednesday, July 13, 2022; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm PT. Register [here](#).

To support maximum participation, these sessions will cover the same training content. Please register for only one session.

Please join us! Contact Claire Crowley at ccrowley@evidentchange.org with any questions.

¹ WIC 224.2 (a); ACL No. 20-38