

Caregiver Connection

A monthly publication for Washington State foster and adoptive families and relative caregivers produced by the Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration and the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence.

APRIL 2015



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CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH: IF YOU SEE IT, SAY IT

*"For these are all our children and we will profit by or pay for whatever they become."
- Author James Baldwin*

In 2014, Children's Administration received more than 106,000 reports of child abuse and neglect, a significant increase from 2012. Of the 106,000 reports, about 40 percent – some 42,000 – were accepted for investigation.

On any given day in Washington, about 8,400 children are living in foster care. About double that number enter the foster care system annually.

Washington's figures reflect the national numbers. In 2013, about 3 million cases of child abuse and neglect were reported, according to the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

Somewhere in our country, a case of child abuse is reported to a state agency about every 10 seconds. About 680,000 children were found to be victims of child maltreatment. That's enough to fill 10 modern football stadiums, reports the national organization, Child Health.

In addition, it is estimated that about 40,000 children in Washington state are living with relatives such as grandparents or aunts and uncles because of abuse and neglect issues. It is statistics like these that led Child Health to help create Child Abuse Prevention Month each April as a way to bring this crisis and its effects to public attention to raise awareness.

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Each person has the power to make a difference in the life of a child.

If you are in Olympia in early April, look for the 1,000 pinwheels placed around the state Capitol Campus. They are the symbol of Child Abuse Prevention Month and a reminder of the words of author and "Teen Whisperer" television personality Josh Shipp:

"Every kid is one caring adult away from being a success story."

IF YOU SEE IT, SAY IT

Continues from previous page...

Deanna Bedell, an Office Chief for Washington's Children's Administration, says that the increase in the number of calls about abuse and neglect in our state reflects a rise in the use of heroin, the number of soldiers returning from combat, increased publicity about high-profile events and cuts to the social safety net.

Health and Human Services provides these definitions of abuse and neglect:

- Neglect is failure to provide for a child's basic needs.
- Physical abuse is physical injury as a result of hitting, kicking, shaking, burning or otherwise harming a child.
- Sexual abuse is any situation where a child is used for sexual gratification. This may include indecent exposure, fondling, rape or commercial exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.
- Emotional abuse is any pattern of behavior that impairs a child's emotional development or sense of self-worth, including constant criticism, threats and rejection.

The federal agency says about 80 percent of reported incidents involve neglect; the other 20 percent are abuse. More than 1,500 children nationwide die every year from abuse or neglect, it says.

According to the agency, the increased short-term and long-term risks to children who suffer the trauma of child abuse include:

- ◇ Depression and suicide attempts.
- ◇ Substance abuse.
- ◇ Developmental disabilities and learning problem.
- ◇ Social problems with other children and with adults.
- ◇ Teen pregnancy.
- ◇ Lack of success in school.
- ◇ Domestic violence.
- ◇ Chronic illnesses, including heart disease, cancer and lung disease, among others.



You can learn more about that subject by viewing a video on Racial Disproportionality at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fb32deeM4UU&feature=youtu.be>

For a young person's perspective on abuse, click on this link for a short music video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8LNSAtuC7-w>

What can individuals do to help keep children from being in harm's way?

If you see it, say it.

This is especially true for "mandated reporters," those individuals who are legally required to make a call to report abuse and neglect if they suspect it is occurring. Foster parents, other caregivers, teachers, doctors, daycare workers and all state Department of Social and Health Service employees are among those who must report possible abuse and neglect.

In Washington, figures show that about 68 percent of all calls about possible abuse and neglect are made by mandated reporters. Children's Administration says the first place to report a possible case of abuse or neglect is your nearest local Children's Administration office.

You can use this link to get the phone number:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/dshs/f2ws03apps/caofficespub/offices/general/OfficePick.asp>

At night or on weekends, call 1-800-562-5624.

The call you make is referred to as an "intake."



The person taking your call will make an initial assessment of what action, if any, to take. That decision is then reviewed by a supervisor and a decision on future action is made within four hours – two hours, if workers believe a child is in imminent danger, Bedell said.

Bedell says, "Before you call, be prepared to provide as much information as possible. The higher the quantity of the information, the higher the quality of the intake."

According to a Children's Administration brochure, questions you may be asked are:

- ⇒ The name, address and age of the child/children.
- ⇒ The name and address of the child's parent, guardian or other persons having custody of the child.
- ⇒ The nature and extent of the abuse or neglect.
- ⇒ Any evidence of previous incidents.

Any other information that may be helpful in establishing the cause of the child's abuse or neglect and the identity of the perpetrator. Bedell said the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence, which trains caregivers in our state, has adopted the slogan of "recognize, record and report" as a good way to handle any possible abuse or neglect situation. The word "record" means to document your information in writing as much as you can, she said.

Recognize, record, and report

CONSULTATION TEAM MEETINGS:

ANOTHER WAY TO MAKE YOUR VOICE

HEARD

In 2007, the state Legislature created a requirement for top-level Children's Administration leaders to consult regularly with foster parent representatives from across the state. That directive led to the Children's Administration Foster Parent Consultation Team, informally known as the "1624 Team," in reference to the bill that established it.

The statewide team meets quarterly to discuss foster parent issues of statewide concern. Local issues are discussed at regional consultation team meetings.

Minutes from the statewide meetings are posted on the Children's Administration website: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/foster-parenting/foster-parent-1624-consultation-team-minutes>

A list of members of the statewide team, along with their contact information, can be found on the resource page near the end of the Caregiver Connection. The statewide members also help coordinate the regional teams.

You are encouraged to contact team members if you have questions, comments/feedback, or suggested solutions to issues being discussed by the consultation team.

After the last statewide meeting, Jennifer Strus, assistant secretary for Children's Administration (CA) sent the following memo to CA staff with a reminder about the importance of supporting foster parents as they care for children.



"Foster parents are critical to the success of child welfare services; without them we cannot do our jobs. Foster parent recruitment and retention is everyone's business here at CA, and in order to retain good caregivers, we need to include them in the decisions we make about the children in their care, and more than anything, show them the respect and support they need for the vital part they play in a child's life.

Sadly, I heard comments at our recent Foster Parent 1624 Consultation Team meeting that some foster parents do not feel valued, their opinions are dismissed, and they frequently are left in the dark about the child's case plan, staffings and court hearings. While these may be isolated occurrences, they have a ripple effect, with the possibility of creating, in some foster parents, a negative perception about our staff.

*The lack of foster homes makes life difficult for CA staff. Children wait in offices, and workers spend late nights searching for placements. Without good foster parents, we have a difficult time serving the children who need us most. Ensuring foster families are treated respectfully is an **expectation**. This responsibility is shared by everyone in CA from the (DSHS) Secretary and me, to each of you.*

I am proud of the work you do with the children and our caregivers. Foster parents appreciate open, timely and honest communication from CA staff members. Please join me in letting our caregivers know they are a vital partner and a resource we admire, respect and appreciate!"



CHEER ON THE MARINERS AT WE ARE FAMILY DAY

Caregivers can get an early look at what is expected to be an excellent Seattle Mariners team at We Are Family Day, April 26 at Safeco Field.

The Mariners finished one game out of the playoffs in 2014, and many baseball experts have pegged them to win their division this year and make a run at the World Series. 2015 is the seventh year caregivers have been honored at Safeco as part of the traditional kickoff to Foster Care Month in May and Kinship Caregiver Day (May 20). The event is a partnership between the Mariners and Children's Administration and other organizations from the child welfare community. Discounted tickets for the 1:10 p.m. game against the Minnesota Twins can be purchased online and are \$12 for the 300-level seats, \$27 those at the 100-level. To purchase, go to http://seattle.mariners.mlb.com/sea/ticketing/special_event.jsp?group=wearefamily

As of the first week in April 1700 tickets had been sold. Those who want to attend are encouraged to buy their tickets early, Ticket sales close Friday, April, 24 unless the game sells out early, which is a possibility this year.

A pre-game caregiver recognition ceremony will be from 10 to 11 a.m. at Ellis Pavilion, on the First Avenue South side of the stadium. Doors for the pre-game event will open at 9:30 a.m.

The pre-game event includes:

- Free raffle-ticket drawings for a number of prizes, including a signed baseball provided by the Mariners and a chance to have your picture taken out on the field

- Free T-shirts with the "We Are Family Day" logo.

- Free bag of popcorn for each family attending the event.

- Special resources for caregivers.

- An appearance by the Mariner Moose, who will help with the festivities and be available for photos. He is expected about 10:35 a.m., in time to help with the raffle drawings.

- Talks by young people who have been part of the foster care, relative care and adoptive care system. Introduction of the youth who has been selected to throw out the first pitch on behalf of the We Are Family event.

The day also includes:

- Tables with vendors and resource information on the mezzanine level behind the Mariners' bullpen.

- An acknowledgement of caregivers on the large screen behind center field.

- State park passes for those who do not have either their foster care license or license card to show when they use state parks. The YMCA again will have free swim passes available at the game for its facilities across the state, in recognition of Foster Care Month.

- After the final inning, the Mariners will be showing The Lego Movie for all who want to stay.

- Groups or individuals wishing to participate as vendors, provide information or contribute a raffle item can contact Amy Gardner at michaelamy52@msn.com or 360-200-2102.

For further information, contact Meri Waterhouse, meri.waterhouse@dshs.wa.gov or 360-902-8035.

OH BROTHER—NATIONAL SIBLING DAY



Brother and sisters for life. Violet and Jasmine (identical twins) surround the third member of their triplet group, Richie, celebrating birthdays at Camp To Belong Washington.

April 10 marks National Sibling Day, the perfect occasion to connect with your own siblings! Usually, our parents die before us and our children remain after we're gone. It is with siblings that we often share our life journeys. Siblings are those with whom we laugh, cry, squabble and socialize as we learn to live in the world.

And for foster parents and relative caregivers, it serves as a reminder of these bonds and the importance of helping children in their care remain connected to their brothers and sisters. For social workers, it is an opportunity to reflect on the value of placing siblings together whenever it is safely possible to do so. If you have a child placed in your care, please remember to talk with the social worker about the sibling visit plan. This tool helps ensure sibling visits happen twice each month. A handy tip card about keeping siblings connected and tracking their contacts is available to help caregivers. Find it at

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SESA/publications/documents/22-066.pdf>

CA can reimburse caregivers up to twice per month up to \$7.03 per child per visit for a child's activities that take place during visits with siblings placed separately in out-of-home care.

Examples: Admission to sports activities, museums, parks, classes, snacks.

Request your reimbursement on the Caregiver Monthly Mileage form.

APPLY NOW FOR CAMP TO BELONG

On the last night of Camp To Belong Washington, one young camper stood up to say what camp meant to her and how difficult it would be to separate from her brother the next day.

Tears flowed, not words.

She literally could not articulate the emotions she felt. For the other campers and counselors, she did not have to. They were crying with her. As those at the campfire silently sympathized, her brother came up and hugged her for many long seconds."

Such is the strength of the sibling bond.

That bond will be strengthened again this year for 100 campers attending Camp To Belong Washington August 10-15 at Miracle Ranch in Port Orchard. Campers 8 to 18 are eligible for the camp, which reconnects brothers and sisters who may not see each other often. Young people in foster, relative and adoptive care are eligible if they are separated from one or more of their siblings who is in foster care.

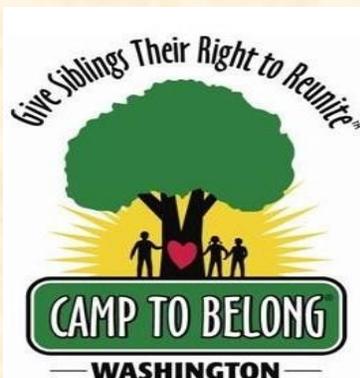
Applications will be available for campers and counselors at the Foster Family Connections (FFC) website, www.fosterfamilyconnections.org. Camper applications will be accepted **from April 1 to May 17**; counselor applications can be submitted any time until camp, but for camp planning purposes, sooner is better. Social workers have been notified the applications are now available on line.

FFC runs the camp, with financial and logistical support coming from Children's Administration, many private donors and volunteers.

Among those volunteers are counselors. They stay in the cabins with the campers and help coordinate their activities during the day. Potential counselors must be 18 or older and obtain a background check.

"My experience was so great I told my husband it was the best week of my life," said one counselor. "I love the camp itself, but the focus of this camp makes it a million times better."

If you would like to be a counselor, or know someone who would, you can apply at the FFC website or by contacting Deb Kennedy, deb@fosterfamilyconnections.org



Caregiver Mileage

It's time to submit your monthly mileage form to your social worker.

If you have questions about allowable mileage use this link

http://www.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/ms/forms/07_090.pdf.

Please remember: Children's does not reimburse for mileage over 90 days old.

BECOME A FOSTER PARENT



IS THERE ROOM IN YOUR HOME FOR A FOSTER CHILD?

Share this message with others!

Throughout Washington, foster parents are needed to love, coach, mentor, wipe tears, celebrate, support and encourage children and youth living outside their home due to abuse and neglect. Could you, your family or a friend make a difference in the life of a child? Maybe you could even deal with some teen drama!

Are you ready to learn more about becoming a foster family?

Washington's foster parent recruitment phone line, 1-888-KIDS-414,

provides information and can answer many of your or your friends' questions. Take a minute to call, because you don't know what you're missing!

Information on becoming a foster parent is available at the Children's Administration website:

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/>

**CAREGIVERS: CHILD INFORMATION
PLACEMENT REFERRAL FORM**

Are you getting the Child Information Placement Referral form when a child is placed with you? Caregivers should receive this form anytime a child is placed in their home. If you don't receive it, contact the child's worker, or your placement coordinator.

WHAT	WHEN	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE
Child Information / Placement Referral (DSHS Form 15-300)	<p>Prior to or soon after initial placement (within 24-72 hours)</p> <p>When the child changes placement</p> <p>When new information is known about the child's needs</p>	Social Worker, Placement Coordinator



**GETTING IN TOUCH WITH YOUR
SOCIAL WORKER**

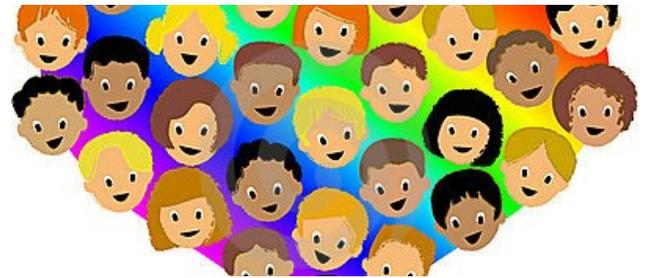
Need to contact your social worker? The Children's Administration website has a list of staff members by region.

You can access the list at

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/foster-parenting/childrens-administration-staff-directories>

The lists are updated regularly and also include supervisors for individual social workers.

**SHARE WITH THE COURT HOW
CHILDREN IN YOUR CARE ARE DOING**



Partner the Parrot reminds you to watch for the next court date or ask for the date from your child's social worker so you can provide the most current information to the court about how the child in your care is doing. Ask about the date at the next Health and Safety visit with the child's worker. Use the Caregivers Report to the Court <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/foster-parenting/important-forms-caregivers> to share your information with the court.



It's your best chance to share with the judge – who has final say over a child's case – what you have observed in the life of that child, how she/he has improved and what would help you help the child. Stick to just the facts and your observations; don't use words like think, feel or believe, as they are value related words.

The court date is listed on the first page of each child's Child Information Placement Referral form that is given to you when he or she comes into care. If you haven't received this form (DSHS 15-300), for the child in your home, contact your social worker to obtain one.

Your comments can always be submitted in writing or you can come to court, although the judge decides who can speak at court hearings.

As the child's day-to-day caregiver, you have the most up-to-date information about him or her. Please share it with the court so the judge can make the best decision about him or her.

**USING YOUR STATE
PARK PASS THIS
SUMMER**



Washington State Parks is partnering with Children’s Administration to offer free state park passes to licensed foster parents and relatives caring for a state-dependent child (one who has a Children’s Administration social worker).

A wallet ID card identifying the foster parent or relative caregiver of a dependent child serves as the park pass card. This program is only good at Washington’s state parks. It is not good for use in federal sites or parks in other states. The wallet card is available through Children’s Administration.



- Licensed foster parents receive their wallet card when they become licensed. If you haven’t received one, contact your licensor.
- Relatives caring for a dependent child must request a card through the Children’s Administration Headquarters office.

Contact Michelle Christiansen at: Chrisma@dshs.wa.gov, \ or 360-902-7989.

The system works like this:

Overnight park visits

If you plan to stay overnight, take your official wallet card identifying yourself as a foster parent or your foster care license to the park to show to park rangers. You will also need to show a drivers’ license or other photo ID. Like everyone else using state park campgrounds, you likely will need reservations for an overnight stay, especially during the summer.

Day park visits

If you are going for a day visit, display your official card on your car’s dashboard so the ranger can see it. If you don’t have a card identifying yourself as a foster parent, call your licensor to request one. If you are a relative caregiver with a dependent child or a foster parent who does not have an identifying card, you are eligible for a free pass to carry with you to the park.

A couple important points:

The park pass program is intended children in foster care and their caregivers’ family. Please do not allow others to use your pass. If you must change or cancel your reservations, please notify the park reservation system in advance so others can use your spot.

Adoption Support Payment Process

Dates

Below are the dates your adoption support payments process for the rest of 2015. Paper checks will be mailed on the process date. Direct Deposit payments deposit to your account within 2-4 business days after the process date. ***This only applies to***

Service Month	Process Date
May	April 24
June	May 22
July	July 1
August	July 24
September	August 25
October	September 24
November	October 26
December	November 20
January 2016	December 23



Remember, your July adoption support check always comes late...because the state fiscal year begins on July 1

....

Washington State government is unable to spend money reserved for the new fiscal year until the fiscal year actually begins. This year July 1st falls on a Wednesday. The check for July will be issued on July 1st.

You should receive your check within a couple of days after that – depending on how far you live from Olympia, WA. Remember on July 4th, post offices and banks are closed and that may affect the date you receive your payment.

Families receiving adoption support are encouraged to consider Direct Deposit for the monthly adoption support payment.

If you have any questions, please call 1-800-562-5682. Press 2 to contact the Adoption Support Program.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

MONTHLY HEALTH AND SAFETY VISITS

SUPPORTING PLACEMENT STABILITY

The CA worker's monthly visits with children and caregivers are important to help maintain placement stability. The visits provide a chance for you and the social worker to talk about services that might be needed for the child and support for you. Visits offer the worker a time to observe how you and the child interact in your home and provide an update on the child's permanent plan.

The social worker can provide information about:
upcoming court dates,
scheduled Shared Planning Meetings, and
how parent-child visits are going.

Everyone's time is valuable and social workers and caregivers have multiple appointments and responsibilities to juggle.

In order to make the most of the monthly visits, have information readily available such as dates of therapy appointments, medical/dental appointments and results of these appointments, how often the child is visiting parents or siblings (if placed apart), activities the child is participating in, changes in the child's eating or sleeping routines.

Writing down the information will allow time to talk about any changes in the child's behavior and what supports you feel you need to manage the child in your home.

Support might include additional training for you, respite, or in more difficult situations, case aide time. Try sending a list of questions to the worker prior to the visit. It gives the worker time to find the answers or complete referrals and report back to you at the time of the visit.

This reduces phone tag or back and forth emails that can cause frustration.



Here are some common topics you will talk about with the child's worker:

- progress in school,
- services,
- any health issues,
- recent medical/dental visits,
- interest in outside activities, and
- social/emotional development,
- your observations of the child's response to visits with parents, and
- ideas about how to make the parent/child visits better for the child.



If you work outside the home, or have several children in your home, or have children participating in extracurricular activities, scheduling the monthly visit can be a challenge. We all know how hectic it can be picking children up from daycare, preparing dinner, assisting with homework or preparing to attend other activities. We don't want the monthly visit with the worker to seem like another task added to this very busy time for you and your family. If you work locally, suggest you could meet the social worker during your lunch hour. Then when the social worker comes to see the child in your home, the focus will be on the child.

The worker can meet with the child privately, allowing you time to start dinner or assist other children in the home with homework or other tasks. Scheduling the next visit before the social worker leaves your home is helpful. Offer one or two possible dates and times in case an emergency arises for you or the worker. Workers try to complete their monthly visits in the first two weeks of the month to accommodate emergencies or scheduling conflicts with other families.

Another worker may do the monthly visit up to four times a year. This helps make sure visits take place during months the assigned worker has annual leave, trials, or illness. However, an alternate worker should not complete the visit two months in a row.

If you and the child in your home are not receiving monthly visits by the CA worker, it is important to report the information to the worker's supervisor. Children may also be seen outside of the home but the **majority** of the health and safety visits should be taking place in your home.

Child safety is the primary mission of CA and monthly visits are designed to address this goal.

Every child and every caregiver must be seen by a CA worker monthly.

In order to support you in meeting the health, safety and wellbeing needs of the child placed in your home and meet policy requirements, it is very important to be

Family and Friends WORKING



2015 Pacific Northwest Caregivers Conference,
May 15-17, 2015—Great Wolf Lodge (near Centralia)

Hop on the training opportunities available for foster parents, relative caregivers and other participants at the Pacific Northwest Caregiver's Conference, May 15-17 at Great Wolf Lodge near Centralia.

Foster parents need training hours to maintain their licenses. Beyond that, they and other caregivers will have the opportunity to learn more about specific topics that affect the children in their care.

conference theme, "Family and Friends Working Together." Other subjects include: self-care; special education; safe sleep/purple crying; telling kinship stories; keeping a paper trail; transition, grief and loss; adolescent services; and extended foster care.

Ongoing training across the state is provided by the

[Alliance For Child Welfare](#),

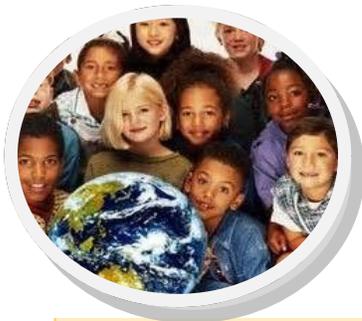
If you can't attend the conference, visit the website for times, dates

and locations of sessions near you.

An annual conference highlight, the Night of Shining Stars ceremony, will honor social workers, caregivers and other supporters of child welfare Saturday night.

For the younger set accompanying their caregivers, KidsKamp will be in full swing each day. Don't forget: To enable planning, kids must be signed up before the conference begins.

To sign up and for more information on the conference, go to www.fpaws.org



Everyone who attends the conference will be able to attend several training sessions, including one around the

COLLEGE?

Make It Happen! will
be June 23-25 at

Pacific Lutheran

University in Tacoma.

*The event is free, but
those attending must
preregister.*

COLLEGE SUCCESS FOUNDATION

Again this June, the College Success Foundation's Make It Happen! will give youth and alumni of the Washington foster care system an opportunity to visit a college campus and learn more about making the dream of higher education a reality.

Make It Happen! is a three-day, two-night event on a college campus that explains what getting into and going to college is all about.

While registration is not yet open, keep the dates free and check the Foundation's website for the opening of registration this spring.

Topics that will be covered include:

- Choosing high school classes that will best prepare you for college.
- Learning about Washington's colleges and universities.
- Applying to college.
- Applying for financial aid and scholarships.
- Support programs available to Washington foster youth.
- Strategies for connecting your education to career opportunities.
- Tips to help youth succeed in college.
- Other life skills needed by young adults as they move out on their own.

"Although our top priority is for youth who attend to learn about college, there is fun stuff, too," the foundation says. "... youth who attend will participate in team-building activities and will be given free time with other participants, peer mentors and staff in order to build a community with those who share similar experiences."

Many of the assistants -- peer mentors, staff, volunteers and inspiring speakers -- were in foster care themselves.

More information about the event is available at

www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/wa/make-it-happen/faqs

Caregiver Training



The Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence at the University of Washington provides training for caregivers in the support of children in their care. We have made changes to our website.

New Automated Course Schedule and Course Catalog

This can be found at:

allianceforchildwelfare.org

Course **Schedule** provides easy access to scheduled trainings for caregivers.

Course **Catalog** provides a complete list of all trainings not currently scheduled. Tell us if you are interested in a course not yet scheduled.

New automated course schedule requires setting up profile or account with password one time. An individual email address is necessary to create a profile and to register for classes.

Search function includes type of course, topics, locations, training group, even a map to



Additional Resources

Washington State's Kinship Navigators

Helping grandparents and relatives raising children

Locate information, resources, and a link to your local Kinship Navigator for support at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/dshs/f2ws03apps/kinship/kinshipmap.asp>

Foster Intervention Retention and Support Team (FIRST):

Offers neutral third party advice and support for foster parents when dealing with allegations or a licensing violation.

⇒ EASTERN WASHINGTON (Region 1) call 509-928-6697

⇒ WESTERN WASHINGTON (Regions 2 and 3) call 253-219-6782

⇒ Email (covers all of Washington)

FIRST@olivecrest.org

Foster Care Critical Support and Retention Program

This program was developed to help retain foster parents who care for sexually reactive children, physically assaultive children, or children with other high-risk behaviors. Short term therapeutic and educational interventions are available to help support the stability of the placement. This service is free of charge and is provided through Olive Crest. Contact the child's worker if a referral would help you in handling the behaviors of the child in your home.

If you would like to learn more about the available services contact Kathleen Walter, Olive Crest's Critical Support Clinician 425-1612 ext. 1356 or Kathleen-walter@olivecrest.org



FPAWS:

Foster Parent Association of Washington State FPAWS is an all volunteer, non-profit association, led by experienced caregivers who provide support and helpful services to all caregivers (foster, adoptive, and kinship) in Washington State.

Contact FPAWS at www.fpaws.org or

1- 800-391-CARE

FOSTER PARENT AND CAREGIVER CRISIS AND SUPPORT LINE:

1-800-301-1868

Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU):

FWB CCU can help answer health-related questions or help you with health related issues for children/youth in your care.

Contact information:

1-800-422-3263 ext. 52626 or

360-725-2626 (8:00 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.) or

e-mail: fwbccu@dshs.wa.gov.

CA Foster Parent Consultation Team (1624) Regional Representatives - 2015



Regional representatives have been elected to serve in positions on the statewide Children’s Administration Foster Parent Consultation Team – informally known as the “1624 team” – for 2015.

Meeting four times a year with top-level CA management to discuss issues of statewide concern to foster parents, the representatives serve as the voices of foster parents to the management of Children’s Administration (CA). They also help coordinate regional consultation teams.

Name	E-mail	Phone
Melissa MacDougall, Reg. 1 North	MM@mplawpllc.com	509-846-6405
Kerry Bryant, Reg. 1 North	KB0254@AOL.COM	509-262-0728
Jessica Hanna, Reg. 1 South	Jhanna1124@gmail.com	509-899-3329
Audra Krussel, Reg. 1 South	Audra11@mindspring.com	208-3409956
Shala Crow, Reg. 2 North	Shala-Crow@olivecrest.org	360-220-3785
Deena Parra, Reg. 2 North	Deena-Parra@olivecrest.org	360-572-4271
Shannon Mead, Reg. 2 South	Shannon.mead@gmail.com	206-856-1508
Joanne Moran, Reg. 2 South - Alternate	Joanne-Moran@olivecrest.org	206-856-8533
Gerald Donaldson, Reg. 2 South	gwdonaldson@seattleschools.org	425-488-6036
Talya Miller, Reg. 2 South - Alternate	Mytie5683@aol.com	206-786-1491
Michael Thomas, Reg. 3 North	mlthomas253@hotmail.com	253-298-1860
Matthew Wilke, Reg. 3 North	wilkemj@yahoo.com	253-651-1617
Ashleigh Barraza, Reg. 3 North - Alternate	ashleigh.barraza@yahoo.com	619-847-8370
Ryan Cook, Reg. 3 South	ryancook@comcast.net	360-953-8944
Amy Gardner, Reg. 3 South	michaelamy52@msn.com	360-200-2102
Beth Canfield, FPAWS	bethcanfield@comcast.net	360-990-1011
Mike Canfield, FPAWS	mkbeth@comcast.net	360-990-1255





Fostering Together Regional Recruitment and Retention Staff

Fostering Together liaisons are here to provide help and support to foster parents and relative caregivers all across Washington! Bring them your questions on training, licensing, finding resources or supports for new or challenging placements, or whenever you have a need. If you have questions contact those listed below for assistance – they are here to help you. Also, check out their website for much more information, www.fosteringtogether.org, and ask about their FaceBook on-line support groups in your area – they will help you get signed in.

REGION 1 NORTH

- ◆ Amber Sherman (Regional Coordinator and Spokane Liaison)
Amber-Sherman@olivecrest.org 509-499-2456
- ◆ Derek Cutlip (Community Involvement)
Derek-Cutlip@olivecrest.org 509-290-0406

FOSTER PARENT LIAISONS

- ◆ Meaghan Flowers (Spokane, Lincoln counties)
Meaghan-Flowers@olivecrest.org 509-991-9692
- ◆ Ruth Harris (Stevens, Pend Oreille and Ferry Counties)
Ruth-Harris@olivecrest.org 509-675-8888
- ◆ Wendy White (Wenatchee Chelan counties)
Wendy-White@olivecrest.org 425-422-6557
- ◆ Dena Drury (Whitman, Garfield, Asotin counties)
Dena-Drury@olivecrest.org 509-288-2639
- ◆ Melissa MacDougall (Okanogan county)
Melissa-MacDougall@olivecrest.org 509-322-5573
- ◆ Lisa Boorman (Grant, Adams counties)
Lisa-Boorman@olivecrest.org 208-484-5725

REGION 1 SOUTH

- ◆ Dru Powers (Regional Coordinator)
Dru-Powers@olivecrest.org 509-928-6697

FOSTER PARENT LIAISONS

- ◆ Michelle Broweleit (Kittitas County)
Michelle-Broweleit@olivecrest.org 509-899-2309
- ◆ Tyann Whitworth (Yakima and Klickitat Counties)
Tyann-Whitworth@olivecrest.org 509-656-4838
- ◆ Beth McCance (Benton and Franklin Counties)
Beth-McCance@olivecrest.org 509-380-4139
- ◆ Jennifer Christensen (Walla Walla and Columbia Counties)
Jennifer-Christensen@olivecrest.org 509-629-1262



Fostering Together Regional Recruitment and Retention Staff

REGION 2

Shala Crow (Reg. Coordinator / Community Involvement)	
Shala-Crow@olivecrest.org	360-220-3785
Deena Parra (Support Assistant)	
Deena-Parra@olivecrest.org	253-219-6782

FOSTER PARENT LIAISONS

◆ Leilani McClure (NE King county)	
Leilani-McClure@olivecrest.org	425-681-2094
◆ Sheila Taie (Native American Community South King county)	
Sheila-Taie@olivecrest.org	206-297-7434
◆ JoAnne Moran (West King county, Community Involvement)	
Joanne-Moran@olivecrest.org	206-856-8533
◆ Angela Pitts-Long (Central District)	
Angela-Pitts-Long@olivecrest.org	425-614-6176
◆ Christina Urtasun (Island, San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom Counties)	
Christina-Urtasun@olivecrest.org	360-720-0969
◆ Megan Harp (Smokey Point and Everett)	
Megan-Harp@olivecrest.org	425-350-3839
◆ Stephanie Hanson (Sky Valley)	
Stephanie-Hanson@olivecrest.org	360-805-1094

REGION 3 NORTH

Leeann Marshel (Regional Coordinator)	
Leeann Marshel@olivecrest.org	360-909-0421
Michelle Fowler (Support Assistant)	
Michelle-Fowler@olivecrest.org	360-772-1955

FOSTER PARENT LIAISONS

◆ Erika Thompson (Pierce county)	
Erika-Thompson@olivecrest.org	206-406-2398
◆ Althea Sanders (Pierce county Involvement)	
Althea-Sanders@olivecrest.org	208-691-4502
◆ Jeanie Johns (Kitsap county)	
Jeanie-Johns@olivecrest.org	360-265-3398
◆ Niki Hatzenbuehler (Mason and Thurston Counties)	
Niki-Hatzenbuehler@olivecrest.org	253-219-3355
◆ Linda Cortani (Jefferson and Clallam Counties)	
Linda-Cortani@olivecrest.org	360-640-0869
◆ Brenda Taylor (Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties)	
Brenda-Taylor@olivecrest.org	360-589-9383
◆ Niki Favela (Cowlitz, Lewis and Wahkiakum Counties)	
Niki-Favela@olivecrest.org	708-653-8912
◆ Kim Glover (Clark and Skamania Counties)	
Kim-Glover@olivecrest.org	360-433-7150



Training for current and potential new foster parents statewide is provided by [The Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence](#). Following is the Contact information for the Trainers in your Region.

In addition, the [Alliance website](#) has updated training information for caregivers, along with other valuable information.

REGION	NAME	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
R1 Spokane & surrounding areas	Jan Hinkle-Rodriguez, Supervisor Leon Covington, Trainer Nancy Leigh, Trainer, Renee Siers, Trainer Amber Sherman, Registrar	janh5@uw.edu leonc44@uw.edu Leighn2@uw.edu siersr@uw.edu trainingregistrar@gmail.com	509-836-5499 509-363-2410 509-846-8645 509-363-3399 509-363-4821
R1 Yakima, Tri-Cities, Ellensburg & surrounding areas	Jan Hinkle-Rodriguez, Supervisor Ryan Krueger, Trainer Eileen Angier, Registrar	janh5@uw.edu krry300@uw.edu	509-836-5499 509-358-3096 800-876-5195
R2 Bellingham, Everett, Mount Vernon & surrounding areas	Yolonda Marzest, Supervisor Julie Gelo, Trainer Joan Sager, Trainer	ymarzest@uw.edu jkg@uw.edu sagerj2@uw.edu	206-923-4955 425-339-1811 360-738-2305
R2 Seattle Metro Area	Yolonda Marzest, Supervisor El-Freda Stephenson, Trainer Emma Nierman, Trainer	ymarzest@uw.edu elfreda@uw.edu enierman@uw.edu	206-923-4955 206-923-4922 206-923-9414



ALLIANCE FOR CHILD WELFARE STAFF (continued...)



REGION	NAME	EMAIL	TELEPHONE
R3 Tacoma, Bremerton, Puyallup & surrounding areas	Arthur Fernandez-Scarberry, Supervisor	sart300@uw.edu	206-276-4549
	Linda Falcocchio, Trainer Luanne Hawley, Registrar	falcol@uw.edu caregiver.training.tacoma@gmail.com	253-983-6474 253-881-1207
R3 Tumwater, Olympia, Centralia, Long Beach, South Bend, & surrounding areas.	Penny Michel, Trainer Linda Bales, Registrar	mpen300@uw.edu	360-725-6788
		resource.family.training.r3@gmail.com	360-485-8146
R3 Aberdeen, Forks, Port Angeles & Shelton	Vacant		
R3 Vancouver, Camas, Stevenson & Kelso	Colleen Cornman-Wilcox, Trainer	cm39@uw.edu	360-993-7991
	Kim Glover, Registrar	ruregistered3@gmail.com	360-326-3864

