

**PART II:  
APSR Report FY 2005**

**(5) International Adoptions**

**Children's Administration  
Department of Social and Health Services**

## **Annual Progress and Services Report FY 2005 International Adoptions**

**Although Children's Administration (CA) does not directly provide international adoption services,** the Division of Licensed Resources (DLR) does license international adoption agencies operating within the state of Washington.

**CA provides** post permanency services to children and families through Child Protective Services, Child Welfare Services, and Family Reconciliation Services to help meet the safety, permanence and well-being needs of all children and families whether the family was formed by birth, adoption or other avenues. These services are available to residents of Washington State and can be accessed by contacting the local DCFS office. Services could include referral to appropriate services for example to counseling, respite care when approved, family preservation services, and social work services. Other appropriate services may be identified through referrals within the community to assist families who have adopted internationally, or to assist families in locating international adoption services.

**The Washington State Council's Adoption Information Exchange** brochure offers information and resources for services to Washington families who are pursuing an international adoption or who have already adopted internationally. This material identifies services for all areas of adoption, with specific information helpful to families who are contemplating an international adoption or those who have already returned with a child from another country. The brochure helps families identify agencies which can provide pre-placement home studies for international adoptions, as well as post-placement reports if required by the foreign government, once the child is placed with the adoptive family. Six support groups are operated privately in support of Washington families to meet the needs of their internationally adopted children. Other services which can be identified are: culturally competent parenting classes; attorneys with adoption specialties; physicians knowledgeable in assisting families with international medical records; physicians specializing in medical care for children with problems typically seen in international adoptions; speech, language and learning services for children of international adoption; county courts providing information and legal forms for families completing "pro se" international "re-adoptions"; counseling professionals assisting children, teens and adults with histories of abuse, neglect or institutionalizations; local and national adoption search and reunion resources.

**The implementation of the adoption "Nag Screen" in CAMIS** in October 2004 is a computer alert that reminds CA social workers to gather information on adoptions that may be international placements. This also allows CA to keep statistics on international adoptions.

- **There were no children** who were adopted from other countries and entered into state custody as a result of the disruption of the placement for adoption or the dissolution of an adoption during FY 2005.