

Child-Specific Recruitment Services in Washington State

The Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) utilize child-specific recruitment to identify permanent homes for dependent children or youth as quickly as possible and decrease the amount of time a child or youth spends in foster care. The service requirements vary based on whether or not the child or youth is legally free (LF), or if the primary plan has been changed to adoption and the court approves recruitment services, or **both** parents consent to recruitment services.



RECRUITMENT SERVICE NAME	AVAILABLE SERVICE (WHAT IS IT?)	REFERRAL CRITERIA FOR CHILDREN/ YOUTH AND THEIR LEGAL STATUS	REFERRAL PROCESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Northwest Adoption Exchange (NWAEE) <i>Previously known as Washington Adoption Resource Exchange (WARE)</i></p>	<p>The photo listing website featuring youth in the Pacific Northwest who are seeking permanency. Photo listing sites do not include direct contact with youth.</p> <p>NWAEE offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A specific login for home studied Washington State families and Washington State caseworkers. • A way for potential adoptive families to learn more about children and youth from Washington, Oregon, and Alaska. • Assistance with referral to AdoptUSKids; a national photo listing website. 	<p>Prior to becoming LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is primary legal plan and • Child or youth are not in an identified adoptive home and • There is a court order allowing for this recruitment service or written permission from both parents or legal guardians using the form <i>Release and Consent for Child Specific Recruitment</i> (DCYF 09-611) available online at www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/forms/09-611.pdf <p>LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is the primary legal plan and • Child or youth is not in an identified adoptive home 	<p>After creating a caseworker profile or logging in as a caseworker, download and complete the form for registering youth through the link and send to nwae-wa@nwresource.org.</p>	<p>Help with completing the form or needing professional photos of the child or youth, call 1-800-927-9411 or nwae-wa@nwresource.org.</p> <p>A chat feature for answering questions quickly is available at www.nwae.org.</p>



RECRUITMENT SERVICE NAME	AVAILABLE SERVICE (WHAT IS IT?)	REFERRAL CRITERIA FOR CHILDREN/ YOUTH AND THEIR LEGAL STATUS	REFERRAL PROCESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Wendy's Wonderful Kids (WWK)[®]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child-focused and evidence-based recruitment model • Provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A thorough review of the case file – An assigned recruiter who conducts monthly in-person contact with the children or youth and involve the youth's voice – Searches youth's existing network – Monthly contact with assigned caseworker – Identification of potential adoptive or guardianship families and additional supports through diligent search – Assessment of adoption readiness for the child or youth – Adoption preparation of the child or youth and the family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependent or Dependent Legally Free Adoption, APPLA, or EFC are a legal plan and • Child or youth is not in an identified adoptive or guardianship home and • Youth are between ages 9 -17 or age 8 and younger and with special needs or part of a sibling group 	<p>Email Jacki Christl at jacki.christl@dcyf.wa.gov with the name of the child/youth and the case number. Jacki will review the case for eligibility and if eligible, will assign the case to a recruiter.</p>	<p>Direct questions about the referral or recruitment services to Jacki Christl at 360-995-3092 or jacki.christl@dcyf.wa.gov.</p>
<p>Adoption Consortium</p>	<p>Interactive presentation of children and youth in need of a permanent placement and families who want to adopt.</p> <p>The presentation is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held via Zoom on the third Tuesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to noon. • Completed by the caseworker or someone who knows the youth • May include the family themselves or the home-study writer • Only involves DCYF employees, home-study writers (private and Licensing Division), and potential adoptive families. It does not include the youth 	<p>Prior to becoming LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is the primary legal plan and • Not in an identified adoptive home and • There is a court order allowing for this recruitment service or written permission from both legal parents by using the form <i>Release and Consent for Child Specific Recruitment</i> (DCYF 09-611) available online at www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/forms/09-611.pdf <p>LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is primary legal plan and • Child or youth is not in an identified adoptive home 	<p>If you would like to present a youth during consortium, please fill out the registration form online at https://airtable.com/shr1ld4NUzggRGZvl and someone from NWAEE will be in touch. If the youth need to be registered with NWAEE, please contact the team at nwae@nwresource.org or log into your NWAEE account to download the youth registration form or ask direct questions. The Zoom invite will be sent to you along with the schedule the Friday prior to consortium.</p>	<p>*If you are unable to present the child or youth at the scheduled time on the day of consortium, ensure someone will present on Zoom and be able to respond to questions.</p>

RECRUITMENT SERVICE NAME	AVAILABLE SERVICE (WHAT IS IT?)	REFERRAL CRITERIA FOR CHILDREN/ YOUTH AND THEIR LEGAL STATUS	REFERRAL PROCESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>In-Depth Profiles</p>	<p>Interactive youth-led program run by NWAE. The benefits of this allow the child or youth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be creative on how they want to present themselves to potential families rather than just using a photo and written profile on NWAE • To have some control over their lives • To be engaged in their recruitment <p>Profile possibilities are endless. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poetry • Art • Podcasts • Videos of the child or youth doing something they love, e.g., fishing, make-up tutorials, cooking tutorials, etc 	<p>Prior to becoming LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is the primary legal plan and • Child or youth is not in an identified adoptive home and • There is a court order allowing for this recruitment service or written permission from both legal parents by using the form <i>Release and Consent for Child Specific Recruitment</i> (DCYF 09-611) available online at www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/forms/09-611.pdf • At least 9 years of age and able to contribute to a collaborative storytelling project in a developmentally appropriate way and • Registered with NWAE <p>LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is the primary legal plan and • Child or youth is not in an identified adoptive home and • At least 9 years of age and able to contribute to a collaborative storytelling project in a developmentally appropriate way and • Registered with NWAE 	<p>Reach out to the team at indepthprofiles@nwresource.org.</p>	<p>Reach out to the team at indepthprofiles@nwresource.org.</p>

RECRUITMENT SERVICE NAME	AVAILABLE SERVICE (WHAT IS IT?)	REFERRAL CRITERIA FOR CHILDREN/ YOUTH AND THEIR LEGAL STATUS	REFERRAL PROCESS	CONTACT INFORMATION
<p>Kids Fest/ Family Fest</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A gathering of children or youth needing permanent homes and potential adoptive families • Allows potential families and youth to meet each other in a fun setting • Seen in the movie “Instant Family” • Currently held in only a few locations in Washington and normally arranged by the local Rotary Club 	<p>Prior to becoming LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is the primary legal plan and • Child or youth is not in an identified adoptive home and • There is a court order allowing for this recruitment service or written permission from both legal parents by using the form <i>Release and Consent for Child Specific Recruitment</i> (DCYF 09-611) available online at www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/forms/09-611.pdf. <p>LF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption is the primary legal plan and • Child or youth is not in an identified adoptive home 	<p>To learn when events are held, contact Julie Pettit at Julie.Pettit@dcyf.wa.gov or 360-690-6026.</p>	

DCYF does not discriminate and provides equal access to its programs and services for all persons without regard to race, color, gender, religion, creed, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, age, veteran's status, or presence of any physical, sensory, or mental disability.

If you would like free copies of this publication in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations at 1-800-723-4831 or email communications@dcyf.wa.gov.