

Who to Contact

*Resources for Foster Parents
and Kinship Caregivers*



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES



INTRODUCTION

Knowing who to contact for different needs can be really hard for foster parents and kinship caregiver in a large child welfare system. This guide lets caregivers know who to contact about different topics.



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Caregiver Support

CaRES

The Alliance Caregiver Retention, Education, and Support (CaRES) program is DCYF's partner in supporting foster parents and kinship caregivers. Caregivers can reach out to CaRES at any time to ask questions, seek support and advice, or ask for a listening ear.

- Contact CaRES by emailing alliancecares@uw.edu or calling (206) 221-4913
- Visit the CaRES website at alliancecares.org to learn more about:
 - Topic-based or local support groups
 - Community resources
 - CaRES staff, mentors, and specialists
 - Publications and opportunities to enrich your fostering or kinship experience!

Foster Parent Alliance of Washington State (FPAWS)

The **Foster Parent Alliance of Washington State (FPAWS)** is a non-profit organization made up of current and former caregivers that provide support to foster and kinship families throughout Washington State. FPAWS runs a foster care support line available at 1-800-391-CARE or 1-800-391-2273. For general information, visit the FPAWS website at www.fpaws.org.

Complaints and Concerns

- **Caregivers Communication Guide**, https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/CWP_0073
- **Constituent Relations**, (360) 902-8060 or 1 (800) 723-4831, ConstRelations@dcyf.wa.gov
- **Office of the Family and Children Ombuds**, (206) 439-3870 or (800) 571-7321, www.ofco.wa.gov





Placement Related Needs

Placement

- Placement is managed by each region. Please use the contact information below to reach your region's placement team. You can find your region by viewing the map found here: <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/dcyfMap-counties.pdf>.
- Please be aware that you need to contact the young person's caseworker for discussions and questions about placement changes.
- Foster parents licensed by a CPA should contact their CPA's placement coordinator to discuss placement and placement requests.

REGION 1

Email Region 1 Home Finders at
HomeFindersSpokane@dshs.wa.gov

Geneva Prigan, Placement Supervisor
Cell: (509) 720-4203 or
Email: geneva.prigan@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 2

Email the Region 2 Placement Coordinators and Supervisor
dcyf.region2placementcoordinator@dcyf.wa.gov

Veronica Sandau, Placement Supervisor
Cell: (509) 876-1293 or
Email: dcyf.region2placementcoordinator@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 3

Email Region 3 Placement Desk at
dcyfdlforegion3placement@dcyf.wa.gov

Greta Sriviboon, Placement Supervisor
Cell: (425) 422-9268 or
Email: greta.sriviboon@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 4

Email Region 4 Placement Desk at
dcyfdlforegion4placement@dcyf.wa.gov

Shareece Hayes, Placement Supervisor.
Cell: 206-397-5056 or
Email: Shareece.hayes@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 5

Email Region 5 Placement Desk at
CAR3Placement-North@dshs.wa.gov

Kim Tengel, Placement Supervisor
Phone: (253) 260-0318 or
Email: kimberly.tengel@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 6

Email Region 6 Placement Desk at
dcyfdlforegion6placement@dcyf.wa.gov

Jennifer Sandrini, Placement Supervisor
Cell: (360) 827-2341 or
Email: jennifer.hines@dcyf.wa.gov



Monthly Transportation Reimbursement

- Caregivers should use the Monthly Transportation Reimbursement form to request reimbursement for transportation-related expense. The form can be found at: https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/forms?field_number_value=07-090&title=
- Caregivers can request transportation reimbursement for activities including but not limited to Family Time, medical and mental health appointments, court hearings, and child specific meetings. See the full list of reimbursable transportation expenses by viewing the Monthly Transportation Reimbursement form found at: www.dcyf.wa.gov/forms?field_number_value=07-090&title=
- Completed forms can be turned into the child's caseworker. The forms must be legible and signed in order for the caseworker to approve the reimbursement request.
- Forms can be emailed, mailed, handed to, or texted (least preferred method) to the caseworker.
 - To find the caseworker's email, mailing address, or phone number, please visit <https://fortress.wa.gov/dshs/ca/employeedirectory>
- To follow-up on a transportation reimbursement, please contact the caseworker or a fiduciary. You can find your fiduciary at this link: <http://insideca.dshs.wa.gov/intranet/pdf/policy/FAstaff.pdf>.
- Caregivers can contact a CaRES mentor for questions about the Monthly Transportation Reimbursement form.

Clothing Vouchers

- Please talk with your caseworker if you believe the young person in your care needs a clothing voucher.
- Clothing vouchers are available when a young person has an exceptional clothing needs not met through local community resources or the standard clothing allowance in the foster care monthly maintenance payment. You can read more about the clothing allowance in the document located here: https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/LIC_0045
- Find information about foster and kinship clothing banks and resources by contacting a CaRES mentor at alliancecares@uw.edu or reviewing their "Guide to Free and Discounts for Foster & Kinship Caregivers" found at: <https://alliancecares.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Free-and-Discounted-Resources-for-Foster-Kinship-Caregivers.pdf>

Foster Caregiver Reimbursement - Property Damage and Emergency Medical Expenses

Review the Foster Caregiver Reimbursement - Property Damage and Emergency Medical Expenses information sheet at: https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/FB_0011.

- Caregivers complete the Foster Caregiver Reimbursement and Claim form 18-400 at: https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/forms?field_number_value=18-400&title=.
- Other individuals who do not have a foster license use the Third Party Liability Claim form 18-400A at: https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/forms?field_number_value=18-400&title=.



Permanency Resources

Caregiver-Parent Partnerships

Family Connections Program at Amara including links to resources and guide: <https://amarafamily.org/programs-resources/family-connections/#:~:text=The%20Family%20Connections%20ProgramTM,collaborative%2C%20child%2Dfocused%20conversation>

General Permanency Information

Learn more about the different permanent plans and ongoing supports by reviewing the Permanency Planning Matrix here: https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/CWP_0088

Please visit the DCYF website to learn more about adoption: <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/adoption>

Learn more about adoption support by visiting: <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/adoption-support-program>

Read in-depth, youth driven profiles of young people needing at adoptive family on the Northwest Adoption Exchange <https://www.nwae.org>

To ask questions about a relative guardianship assistance program (RGAP) agreement including requesting a review or change to an RGAP subsidy amount, contact your regional guardianship specialist. You can find your region by viewing the map found here: <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/dcyfMap-counties.pdf>.

Kinship and Guardianship Program Manager:

Gene Delaplane

Phone: 360-688-0391 or

Email: gene.delaplane@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 1 Jessica Curry | jessica.curry@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 2 Dolores Cantu | dolores.cantu@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 3 Heidi Pless | heidi.pless@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 4 Joyce Thomas | joyce.thomas@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 5 June Berring | june.berring@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 6 Rachelle St. Peter | rachelle.st.peter@dcyf.wa.gov





Well-Being Resources

Educational Supports

Foster Care Education Program | K12Education@dcyf.wa.gov

Foster Care Education Program Manager

Terri Awoko

Phone: (360) 870-9783

Email: terri.awoko@dcyf.wa.gov

Regional Education Leads

REGION 1 Vincent Cardiel | vincent.cardiel@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 2 Monica Jenkins | monica.jenkins@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 3 Wryan Young | wryan.young@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 4 Donna LaFrance | donna.lafrance@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 5 Dawn Flammang | dawn.flammang@dcyf.wa.gov

REGION 6 Lori VanClifford | lori.vanclifford@dcyf.wa.gov

- Treehouse’s “Guide to Supporting Students in Foster Care” - <https://www.treehouseforkids.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/treehouse2017final2ndedinteractive.pdf>
- Treehouse Educational Advocacy - <https://www.treehouseforkids.org/our-services/eligibility>
- School District Foster Care Liaisons - <https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/access-opportunity-education/foster-care/foster-care-liaisonsdcyf-contacts>
- Join CaRES, Treehouse, and representatives from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) staff every third Wednesday of every other month from 6:30-8 p.m. for Education Resource Wednesdays. Learn more by visiting the CaRES website at <https://alliancecares.org/support-groups>, and scroll down the page until you see “Drop-in Discussions.”

Medical

- Apple Health Core Connections - <https://www.coordinatedcarehealth.com/members/foster-care.html>
 - Request “Health Care Coordination” by calling 1 (844) 354-9876
- Fostering Well-Being - <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/stakeholders/fostering-well-being>
- Join CaRES, Coordinated Care, and Harborview Medical Center staff every third Wednesday of every other month from 6:30 - 8 p.m. for Wellness Resource Wednesdays. Learn more by visiting the CaRES website at <https://alliancecares.org/support-groups>, and scroll down the page until you see “Drop-in Discussions.”
- Connect with CaRES Medically Complex Children Specialist by emailing alliancecares@uw.edu.





Foster Care Licensing

Submitting Applications and Home Study Questions

- Please contact the Alliance Caregiver Retention, Education, and Support (CaRES) program (alliancecares@uw.edu) for support and answers to general questions about getting licensed and home studies.
- For more in-depth questions about your unique circumstances or home, please use the email address from page 15 that corresponds to your region.
- Please contact private child placing agencies (CPA) directly to request an application or ask questions about the agency's licensing process and requirements.

Renewal

- Please contact your Licensing Division Safety and Monitoring (SAM) Licensors for questions or to renew your foster care license.
- If you don't know who your SAM licensor is, please email your local Licensing Division (LD) team using the email addresses provided on page 15.
- Families licensed by a child placing agency should contact their CPA licensor for questions and guidance on how to renew their license.

Transferring Your License From a Child Placing Agency (CPA) to DCYF Licensing Division (LD) or Vice Versa

- Washington is home to many CPAs who certify foster homes. Families can also get directly licensed by DCYF's Licensing Division. It is up to caregivers to choose to work with one agency, a CPA, or DCYF Licensing Division.
- To transfer your license from a CPA to LD, caregivers need to turn an application in to their local Licensing Division Assessment office. LD tries to use as much information as possible from the family's previous agency.
- Please use the email address from page 15 to get in touch with your local LD Assessment office.
- To transfer your license to a CPA instead of working directly with LD, please contact the CPA directly.
- Regional lists of CPAs can be found on the DCYF website at: <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/foster-parenting/become-a-foster-parent/licensing-process> under the heading under "Step 1" in the licensing process.





Investigations

- For neutral, confidential support, and information about the investigation process, please contact the Foster Intervention and Retention Support Team (FIRST) at 1 (866) 393-6186.
 - FIRST brochure - https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/CWP_0005
 - The Alliance Caregiver Retention, Education and Support (CaRES) program FIRST - <https://alliancecares.org/first>
- Review these resources:
 - Licensing Division Child Protective Services - https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/LIC_0008
 - Child Protective Services Investigations in State-Regulated Care - https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/LIC_0002

Families licensed by a child placing agency (CPA) should contact their CPA licensor.



For more in-depth questions about your unique circumstances or home, please use the email address below that corresponds to your region:

You can find your region by viewing this map:

<https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/dcyfMap-counties.pdf>

REGION 1

dcyf.fostercarelicensingregion1@dcyf.wa.gov
(509) 818-1060

REGION 2

dcyf.fostercarelicensingregion2@dcyf.wa.gov
(509) 585-3029

REGION 3

dcyf.fostercarelicensingregion3@dcyf.wa.gov
(425) 595-3469

REGION 4

dcyf.fostercarelicensingregion4@dcyf.wa.gov
(206) 923-4952

REGION 5

dcyf.fostercarelicensingregion5@dcyf.wa.gov
(253) 983-6473

REGION 6

dcyf.fostercarelicensingregion6@dcyf.wa.gov
(360) 725-6765

CONTACTS FOR SPANISH-SPEAKERS

Dirección de correo electrónico para personas que hablan Español

dcyf.fostercarelicensingespanol@dcyf.wa.gov
(509) 585-3029



Questions? Feedback?

If you have any questions or feedback about this resource, please contact
Caregiver Retention and Support Program Manager
Holly Luna at holly.luna@dcyf.wa.gov or 360-870-1423.

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