

SEPTEMBER 2018

Caregiver Connection

A monthly resource for family caregivers, and foster and adoptive families in Washington state

Camp to Belong Washington 2018: Better Together

Like a scene from a movie, female campers who had spent the past two hours dressing up for Formal Night at Camp To Belong Washington emerged as a group from the woods where their cabins were located.

The guys – long since dressed and spiffed up for the big night – stood outside the dining hall. As they watched their sisters come out of the woods and cross the broad field toward them, one could almost hear the collective intake of breath.

Then came the spontaneous and sustained applause from their brothers and male counselors as the girls approached, creating one of those magical moments for which the sibling reunification camp is known by both kids and counselors alike.

“Wow. Just wow!” said one camper watching his sister and the other girls move toward them.

As sisters and brothers joined together to be escorted into the “restaurant,” decorated in swank worthy of a five-star bistro, they created the perfect picture of Camp To Belong’s 10th anniversary theme, “Better Together.”

The camp brings together brothers and sisters 8-18 separated due to foster, kinship or adoptive care.

The theme also was exemplified by the long-standing partnership that made the evening possible, a partnership between camp and the National Charity League of Lake Sammamish. The league’s members gathered dressy clothing and accessories, assisted kids in choosing their dream outfits for the event, then helped the girls get ready. Their dressy attire is a gift they get to take home.

The theme also is reflected in the partnership between the Department of Children, Youth and Families and the Camp To Belong Washington. The State provides financial and logistical support, camp leaders raise private money and hundreds of volunteers pitch in to help make camp a success.

No wonder the “Better Together” posters, some three dozen of them made by camp counselors, adorning the walls of the main meeting hall during camp week were popular. They displayed other people and items that were better together: Batman and Robin, salt and pepper, macaroni and cheese, cake and ice cream, and the Beatles, among them.

The camp has been held at Miracle Ranch in Port Orchard since 2009, and has reunited about 1,000 campers during that time. Close to 100 campers have come to camp each year, creating stronger bonds between brothers and sisters.



The Cox siblings – Renae, Kayden and Bryson – pose for a family photo at Camp To Belong Washington’s Formal Night in June.

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Transforming lives

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Camp to Belong Washington 2018 continued

It is truly a piece of the heart for those who attend – people like Leanna Weston of Spokane, who came first with her brother and sister as a camper and now – like her brother – returned as a counselor.

“Camp changed my life,” said Leanna, whose camp name is Blondie. “Being free to really be siblings is what kept me coming back.”

That feeling has not left, she said.

Sitting on a deck overlooking a lake full of enthusiastic swimming and boating campers, she reflected on what it has meant to her.

**“This is my family.
This is my happy place.”**

“The kids are so happy and so grateful to be here because they get to be with their siblings,” said Anna Wessel, a professional photographer who has taken sibling portraits for eight of the 10 years. One caregiver said after camp that she was so grateful for the picture Anna took of the siblings – describing it as the best one she had ever seen of her daughter.

The camp provides many of the usual summer camp activities: swimming, horseback riding, boating and archery.

But like Formal Night, it also gives the brothers and sisters opportunities to bond and create happy memories together.

During the week, campers pick out birthday presents for their siblings and exchange them at an all-camp birthday party.

“Hey, I hope I got you something you want,” one camper said excitedly to her sister as she began to unwrap the present.

At Carnival Night, campers with faces often painted dunk counselors, run through bouncy houses and consume vast quantities of cotton candy and popcorn. Santa hands out candy canes and takes photos with the campers that night, too.



Leanna Weston, a.k.a. Camp-To-Belong Washington Counselor “Blondie”

Thursday, campers 14 years of age and older get information about college, future job possibilities and other future opportunities. Meanwhile, their younger siblings watch a K-9 dog go through his paces, paint rocks and, this year, plant trees at Miracle Ranch.

During the week they also challenge each other to be hoisted higher on a rope swing and fly through the air in George-of-the-Jungle style, among the many camp activities.

While all the fun of just getting to be siblings - of being better together with no adults taking notes or making life-decisions about them –reminders still exist of the separation they endure.

At the first meal on Monday, they fill out a survey for the national camp organization, information camp leaders use to seek donations to bring together more separated siblings.

It can be painful to watch as the siblings struggle together to answer questions like “How many places have you lived?” and “How many siblings do you have?” For many kids, these would be easy questions; for these kids, they can be difficult reminders.

Friday night comes and thoughts of the Saturday morning separation hang over the closing campfire like a cloud. Often, Friday is the most emotional night as campers and counselors reflect on the journey they’ve just taken that might change their lives.



A “Better Together” poster created by a Camp To Belong counselor. Photo credit: Meri Waterhouse

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Voices of Children Ceremony: “Families are Complicated”

The Governor’s Mansion rang out with the excited voices of children who are being raised by grandparents and other relatives during a ceremony on July 24. The ceremony honored children who had produced prize-winning words or artwork thanking their relatives for giving them love, stability and a home.

The young people, accompanied by many family members, received a \$100 check from Twin Star Credit Union for winning the Voices of Children Contest. Each child also received a night’s lodging at Great Wolf Lodge at Grand Mound. The statewide contest has been sponsored for 15 years by Family Education and Support Service, based in Thurston County.

The six winning entries were shared earlier in the past three editions of the Caregiver Connection.

“We thank you for what you have done and continue to do,” said State Sen. Curtis King, R-Yakima, who presented the checks.

Also honored at the event was Mary Pleger, a long-time kinship navigator based in Yakima. The booklet that contains all the contest entries was dedicated to her.

The main speaker was Tara Urvina, 14, who knows personally the journeys young people take when they are raised by relatives. She was adopted by her grandmother Lynn and her late grandfather Lars. Lynn is a kinship navigator, and in that

role, helps grandparents and other relatives find their way through a complex system to provide resources and support for children in relative-care.

“Families can look very different,” said Tara, a contest winner nine years ago. After her parents could no longer care for her, she was connected with her grandparents and through them met other aunts and uncles.

They started attending a kinship support group. “That’s when I realized that lots of kids live with a family member who loves them – but didn’t give birth to them.”

It is estimated that for every child living in a foster home, 10 more are living with relatives.

In addition to families looking different, “families can be really complicated,” she said. Her relationships changed with adoption, but she still has a broad network of family members.

At Camp To Belong Washington, she reconnected this summer with a brother she had not often seen.

Her family relationships are hard to explain to people, because they don’t understand, she said.

“I think many of you in this room today probably do understand, though, and I think you know how fortunate we are to have relatives that were willing to change their plans and take us into not just their homes, but into their hearts,” she said.

She added: “Most ‘kinship kids’ have interesting families. The amazing thing is that we are still with our families today because they love us and have made the choice to keep us with them – no matter what!”



Four winners of the Voices of Children Contest, l-r Kemiya Bridges, Izzy-Miranda Munoz, Gracie Holden and Ayzha Ivory meet with Washington’s First Lady, Trudie Inslee, July 24 at the Governor’s Mansion in Olympia.

September 9th is National Grandparents Day

Hundreds of thousands of children are living with grandparents and other relatives when they can no longer live with their birth parents.

On September 9, we celebrate grandparents and the day set aside to honor them, just as their grandchildren were honored at an occasion earlier this summer for sharing stories about the safe and positive lives their grandparents are helping to create for them.



Olympia teen Tara Urvina, who has been raised by her grandparents, all dressed up for Formal Night at Camp To Belong Washington in June.

Camp to Belong continued from page 2

Said one camper: “I’m grateful because I only see my brothers once a month or every other month. Other camps, you don’t get much time with your siblings, but this camp really connected us and we learned about them. It’s great to see how they are growing.”

As their week together comes to a close, brothers and sisters work together putting together their picture memory scrapbooks and write words on pillows and quilts for their siblings to take home as reminders of their time together at camp.

The spirit of their sibling relationship, one of the longest connections we often have in life, was captured on the pillow from one sister to her brother.

“If you ever feel alone, here is something to hug and think of me,” she wrote “I want you to know you are never alone.”

Better together, indeed.

For more information about camp, go to www.camp Tobelongwa.org/.



The Importance of Licensing for Kinship Caregivers

Kinship caregivers caring for children with child welfare cases are highly encouraged to become licensed foster parents.

The monthly foster care reimbursement is the largest source of ongoing financial support available for kinship caregivers. This reimbursement is a minimum of \$573 per month per child. This is far greater than the child-only TANF grant available to unlicensed caregivers.

Help is available with the process! Call 1-888-543-7414 to get started. You will receive a response within 48 hours. Also, for assistance with this process, you can contact your foster care liaison who serves kinship and foster parents. Here are those contacts:

Eastern Washington area: EWU’s Fostering Washington:

- **Amber Sherman**, recruitment coordinator, 509-359-0874, asherman4@ewu.edu
- **Hayley Stoebner**, recruitment coordinator, 509 322-1191, hstoebner@ewu.edu

Western Washington area: Olive Crest’s Fostering Together:

- **Shala Crow**, program director and Region 2 supervisor, 360-220-3785, shala-crow@olivecrest.org
- **Leeann Marshel**, Region 3 supervisor, 360-909-0421, leeann-marshel@olivecrest.org



Relative Support and Service Funds: Supporting our Kinship Placements

By Shelly Arneson, Program Manager | Department of Children, Youth and Families

Money to help with kinship placement, called “Program Relative Support Service Funds,” are broadly available for unlicensed kinship caregivers (those without a foster care license) to support them in their care of children.

Unlicensed relatives and “fictive kin” – other suitable adults who have a close relationship with the relative children in their care – are able to use the funds to meet temporary needs, but not for those that are ongoing.

This means that if rent or a utility bill is paid due to an emergency to sustain the placement, the caregiver is normally able to make the payment on a regular basis going forward.

This also means that the caregiver may need to show documentation that this is the case.

You can access the funds through your child’s assigned caseworker. The caseworker completes a service referral and then must send the request for higher levels of approval, depending on the amount. The process may take time, and so funds are not typically available immediately.

If items are being purchased from a business or paid to an individual (such as a landlord) who is not already a provider in our system, the process takes additional steps.

Here are some examples of needs these funds may be able to meet:

Baby items

Diapers, diaper wipes, pull-ups, potty chair, diaper rash cream, safe sleep sacks, bottles, sippy cups, formula, baby food, pacifiers, oral/rectal thermometers, teething rings, lotions and shampoos, highchairs, strollers, portable crib with bassinet, co-sleeper, newborn rock-and-play sleepers, crib/toddler mattresses.



Personal care items that are child-specific

Bar soap, deodorant, hair brush and comb, laundry soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoos and conditioners.

Cleaning items

Lice and egg-removal kits, flea bombs/insect traps.

Housing-related goods

Appliances, utilities, security deposits (if non-refundable or can be refunded to DCYF), limited rent assistance, moving costs (example: first and last months’ rent when a relative must move to accommodate

the placement of a child). Home repairs, auto repairs, furniture, credit checks for older youth working towards independence and credit checks associated with moving costs.

Wheel chair ramp, or other adaptations required to care for a child.

Furniture

Beds and cribs, mattresses, sheets, blankets, pillows, desks, dressers, organizers.

School/activity fees

one-time costs for enrollment or equipment, graduation costs and equipment.

School items

Notebooks, pencils, pens, backpacks, course-specific items.



Relative licensing/home study costs

Fees for medical exams that are uncovered. Purchase of items required for foster care licensing or home study approval.

As this list indicates, school items such as special fees and equipment costs are included. And kinship caregivers are able to use these funds for items that will help them complete both the home study and licensing processes.

Both licensing workers and assigned caseworkers have access to these funds.

Online Autism Training Offered for Caregivers

The University of Washington READi Lab focuses on conducting research related to early identification and intervention for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), which is also referred to as autism. The lab's work is important because early intervention and detection can change the lives of those impacted by autism.

The Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence is excited to partner with The University of Washington READi Lab to offer the training, "Understanding Autism (READi Lab Videos)," to caregivers for training credit.

"This is really a one-hour introduction to autism," said Deanna Bedell, curriculum developer for the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence, which provides training for caregivers and child welfare staff. The Alliance website, above, provides short tutorials on various aspects of ASD, she said.

Caregivers of children with autism are always looking for resources and support, Deanna said, and this is a good place to start.

The training focuses on caregivers of newly diagnosed children and provides helpful tips and strategies for the journey that lies ahead, the website description reads.

"This DVD was developed by the READi Lab through a grant funded by the Washington State Attorney General's Office and in collaboration with Seattle Children's Autism Center and Gigantic Planet. Many families and professionals contributed to its development ..."

The course is available with Spanish subtitles and includes a welcome and five chapters:

Chapter one: Understanding the Diagnosis.

Chapter two: Voices of Experience: Caring for Yourself and Your Family.

Chapter three: Finding Help for Your Child (Provides state resource information).

Chapter four: Setting Up a Treatment Program.

Chapter five: Voices of Experience: The Long View.

*In association
with*



To Register

Please click on this link to the online training main page: allianceforchildwelfare.org/understanding-autism-readi-lab-videos

Next, click to select the training in English or Spanish.

When the training is complete, click the "certificate request," button on the main page. This will enable you to fill out the evaluation and to receive a completion certificate.

Deanna said discussions are underway about increasing the amount of training for caregivers who have a child on the autism spectrum.

For more information about this and other trainings, click on www.allianceforchildwelfare.org

The Need For Suicide Prevention

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for youth between the ages of 10 and 24. You can help by knowing what signs to be aware of. Some of the most common are:

- Talking about suicide or focusing on death.
- Changes in personality, behavior, school performance, sleep patterns or eating habits.
- Giving away prized possessions.
- Harming themselves, others or pets.
- Reckless or dangerous behaviors.
- Loss of interest in activities they used to enjoy.
- Isolating themselves from family, friends and peers.

Sometimes suicidal thoughts can be caused by other issues such as being bullied or experiencing depression. Not all children and youth who have thoughts of suicide show warning signs. And not all children and youth who exhibit warning signs will attempt suicide.

It's important to take any mention of suicide seriously. If you have a concern, ask. If you see an unexplainable change, such as suddenly isolating themselves and no longer doing well in school, start a conversation.

Talking about suicide does not create or increase risk; it actually reduces it.

If you have seen any warning signs, chances are the child/youth is already thinking about suicide. Talk to them!

How do you talk with children/youth about suicide?

It is important to talk in a calm, non-accusatory manner. Focus on concern for the child's well-being and keeping them safe. Ask about their feelings and avoid trying to come up with a solution to their problem. Ask directly about suicidal thoughts. Encourage them to talk to you, a crisis line and/or other professionals who can help. Helpful questions or statements include:

- Are you thinking of hurting yourself?
- Are you thinking of killing yourself?
- Have you thought about how you would kill yourself?
- It sounds like you are really hurting right now. I'm here for you and I'm willing to help.



If a child or youth shares they have thoughts of suicide, remain calm. Keep them safe, ask for more information and, most importantly, reach out for help. Below are links to suicide prevention and intervention resources:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-800-273-TALK (8522)

Crisis Text Line (CTL)

Washington Teen Link

Now Matters Now

Trevor Project (*Crisis intervention and suicide prevention for LGBTQ youth*)

If you need help accessing and/or coordinating any behavioral health service for your child, please call Apple Health Core Connections member services 1-844-354-9876.

The 24/7 Nurse Advice Line is available for health-related questions and concerns.

Apple Health Core Connections:
1-844-354-9876 (TTY/TDD: 711)

Foster Parents as Day Care Providers?



The Foster Parents Association of Washington State (FPAWS) is conducting an informal survey to gauge caregiver interest in foster parents becoming licensed both as foster care and day care providers.

The issue arose at the most recent meeting of the consultation team between foster parents and leaders of the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF).

"I know 50 people who would do it right now," said FPAWS Director Mike Canfield.

The law does allow what is called "dual licensing" (see below). And the informal survey has revealed considerable support for the idea.

Wrote one foster parent: "I think this would give a good opportunity for foster parents to be able to stay home and be able to better care for the foster kids and ... children in daycare. I think if the home is big enough and the foster parent has additional employees, I think it would be better for the foster parent to have the ability to care for enough daycare

children, so they do not need to work an outside job. It can be more family-oriented and it would benefit everyone all the way around. I think this is a great idea, and some foster parents might be willing to do graveyard, swing, and weekend daycare. It just opens the door for more possibilities. Of course, with the right additional help."

Canfield said it also could open up more daycare spots for children in foster care.

Krissy Wright, program manager for the Division of Licensed Resources (DLR), said, however, "this is not a fix-all" for the shortage of daycare spots for foster parents to place children in daycare.

The maximum number of children allowed in a foster home is six, she said. Daycare licensors allow more, but the lower state number for foster parents would take precedence.

Given the capacity limit, it would be difficult for a foster parent/daycare provider to succeed financially, since the state rate is lower than what daycare providers charge for those who pay privately.

"It's not something families want to do," she said.

But Canfield said he detects interest, especially if interested foster parents could add extra staff to handle the number of children in the daycare. That's why he posted this message on the FPAWS website for foster parents:

"Have a big house? If you are a licensed foster home for six, and have two foster children, you could do daycare for up to four children if you also have a daycare license. The more I think about this, it could be a perfect situation for some foster homes. Need to stay home because your kids need you there?"

"FPAWS sits on a new Governor's Taskforce on Daycare. We need your input. What are your needs? What are your thoughts about dual licensing? Is this something you are interested in? Should we push for larger limits? With staff, how many kids would you want to do daycare for? Would you be willing to provide daycare for swing and graveyard shifts? There is a need, and we need your input." Contact fpaws@fpaws.org with your ideas.

What does the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) say?

WAC 388-148-1330 | May I receive more than one in-home family license?

- 1. In rare situations and at our discretion, we may allow a family to be licensed for foster care and another type of in-home family care. The DLR administrator may grant approval if it appears to be in the best interest of a child.**
- 2. If you have more than one in-home family license:**
 - A. It must be clear that the health and safety of children is not compromised; and**
 - B. The total number of children allowed in your home will not be higher than DCYF's maximum capacity. All licensing agencies must be in agreement.**

De-Stressing Activities for After School

By Deanna Partlow

Talk about being out of your comfort zone! Going back to school can be exciting and fun for many students, but for many of our children and youth in foster, adoptive or relative care, it can be painful, confusing and daunting.

If a child hasn't been in your care long, he or she may still be adjusting to a new family, different routines, changed rules and expectations and much more. Underlying these adjustments for each of them are pain, grief and loss – also feelings of anger and lack of control over their lives.

Many of our kids are now faced with new schools, new teachers, new classmates – new bedtimes, bus schedules and homework.

That's a lot of stress and anxiety for one kid to handle, no matter what their age. You may find yourself dealing with a lot of after-school melt-downs, tears, squabbles and attitudes for the next few weeks. You can't make it all go away, but you can be there with a sympathetic ear, reassurance and some ways to head trouble off at the pass.

Start out by making sure your kids get enough sleep at night, and welcome them home with an afternoon snack, a hug and a de-brief to hear about their day. Most of you do that, anyway. Then, before addressing any homework or the many forms you need to complete in their backpacks, help kids relax and refocus their attention for awhile.

No matter what their age, doing something physical, especially outside, is a great stress-reliever. A bike ride, a game of hoops in the driveway, walking the dog or a visit to the local pool help with anxiety.

Watching a movie or TV show, especially something funny, or reading an absorbing book can help teens and tweens, as can hanging out with a good friend.

If they enjoy playing a musical instrument or artistic activities, give them some quiet space to decompress. Keep drawing supplies, coloring books and similar supplies on hand for kids who like them. Keeping the Legos or other building bricks handy or working together on a hobby, such as coin-collecting, can ease their jitters.

The point is to help them refocus and restore their equilibrium when the world seems to be spinning out of control.

Here are a couple quick ideas for younger grade-schoolers. The first one comes from a blog I like called "The Chaos and the Clutter." It contains useful and imaginative ideas for children with anxiety disorders and autism. (It also provides useful advice and insights for caregivers of these kids.)

A lavender sensory bin made with water beads. Lavender is one of those scents, like vanilla, rose and jasmine, which help us relax and de-stress. Here's the website for the lavender sensory bin:

www.thechaosandthec clutter.com/archives/calming-lavender-sensory-bin



Lavender sensory bin

You'll need: A large tub, like a dish-tub, water beads (clear or colored)*, some lavender flower-tops from a garden or a couple drops of lavender essential oil,** optional food coloring and some small strainers, spoons and cups. I bought most of these items at the local dollar store and rummaged around the cupboards for the rest.

**Soft, squishy water beads are fun to play with. Originally made for flower arrangements, water beads are non-toxic and are safe for the environment, but they shouldn't be eaten, so talk to your children about not putting them in their mouths or eating them. I wouldn't use them around toddlers unless they are closely supervised. If you order water beads online, they sometimes come dried and need to be soaked for a few hours to expand to full-size, about the size of a marble. If the kids don't squash them, which is all too tempting, they can be played with for a week or two and stored in a zippered plastic bag in the refrigerator in-between times.*

***You can use about a tablespoon or so of vanilla extract instead.*

To assemble:

Place the water beads in the dish tub, add warm water until it's about half-full. Add a couple drops of liquid food coloring and drop in the other items. That's it! If the weather's fine, let the kids play with it outside; if not, spread a vinyl cloth on the kitchen table.

Discovery water bottles

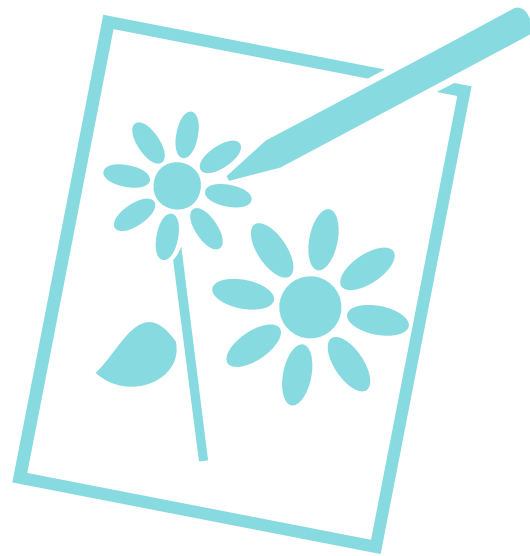
You'll need:

A clear, empty water bottle with a cap for each child, tap water for filling, a variety of items that can fit through the bottle's top, liquid food coloring (optional). I had a packet of sequin stars and some left-over pony beads, gems and other items from my art closet. Since I had some from the lavender water bin, I added a few water beads, too. Part of the fun is letting the kids find items around the house that will fit.

Note: As an alternative, the bottles can be filled with a 3:1 mixture of baby oil and water. If you are creating discovery bottles with younger kids, you may want to hot glue the lid in place.

To assemble:

Place all the small items in the water bottle, then fill it with water within about a half-inch of the top. Add a couple drops of food coloring if you want. Screw on the bottle cap and enjoy rolling the bottle over and exploring the details and the items that catch the light.



Freebies: A few online links to free, printable coloring pages

Numerous websites have free, printable coloring pages for all ages. If you have a child that needs to give themselves a break from stress, having a stack of printed coloring pages and a good supply of markers can help. Here are a few of those websites:

- **Coloring Pages For Kids:** This link is to some more complex pages for teens. The site also has a huge variety for older kids. <http://coloringpagesforkids.me/print/images-coloring-pages-for-adults-free-to-print-free-adult-happiness-is-homemade-88325>
- **Crayola:** This website also includes coloring pages for a wide age-spread. Their “Art With an Edge” category has some images sure to please older boys and teens. <http://www.crayola.com/featured/free-coloring-pages/>
- **Dover Publications.** This large publisher offers free coloring pages from their many coloring books. It also puts new pictures on the free page each week. You can also sign up for a weekly “Children’s Sampler” of new free pages. <http://www.doverpublications.com/freecoloring/index1.html>
- **Disney Family.** The site has lots of free coloring pages for kids who enjoy Disney characters. Lots of other kids’ activities can be found at the website. <https://family.disney.com/coloring-pages/>

Bring Your Issues to Consultation Team Members

Since 2007, statewide meetings have brought together top-level managers of Children's Administration and foster parents who are members of the Children's Administration Foster Parent Consultation Team, informally known as the 1624 team – a number that reflect the legislative bill number that created the committee. Foster parents serving on the team were selected at the end of 2017 by their peers in each region.

If you, as a foster parent, have questions or concerns you would to have discussed at the meeting, contact a team member from the list at the back of the issue.

The committee discusses issues of statewide concern to foster parents. The regional members also help set dates for regional consultation meetings so local issues can be discussed.

Anyone interested in filling the vacancies in Region 1 South, which is the southern portion of Eastern Washington, should contact:

Meri Waterhouse
meri.waterhouse@dshs.wa.gov
 360-902-8035.

CA Foster Parent Consultation Team (1624) Foster Parent Regional Representatives 2018

Name	E-mail	Phone
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Caregiver Training from the Alliance

Explore our wide variety of caregiver training options designed to increase understanding and strengthen skills. These upcoming in-person classroom sessions provide in-depth information on relevant topics for the caregiver community at convenient locations across the state.

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS IN REGION 1: EASTERN WASHINGTON, NORTH OF KITTITAS AND BENTON/FRANKLIN COUNTIES AND EAST OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

- DLR/CPS Allegations: An Overview of the Investigation Process for Caregivers
- Healthy Engagement with Children of Trauma
- ILABS Module 6: Language Development: Learning the Sounds of Language
- ILABS Module 10: Language Development: From Listening to Sleeping
- Introduction to Adoption from Foster Care
- Kinship 101: Information for Relatives and Suitable Others (Webinar)
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What? (Webinar)
- Why Children Lie

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS IN REGION 2: SOUTH/CENTRAL EASTERN WASHINGTON

- Behavior Management Tools for Foster Parents and Caregivers
- DLR/CPS Allegations: An Overview of the Investigation Process for Caregivers
- Identifying and Supporting Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) for Caregivers
- Kinship 101: Information for Relatives and Suitable Others (Webinar)
- Paper Trail: Documentation Training for Caregivers
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What? (Webinar)

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS IN REGION 3: I-5 CORRIDOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY TO WHATCOM COUNTY + ISLANDS

- DLR/CPS Allegations: An Overview of the Investigation Process for Caregivers
- Healthy Engagement with Children of Trauma
- Introduction to Adoption from Foster Care
- Kinship 101: Information for Relatives and Suitable Others (Webinar)
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What?
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What? (Webinar)
- Verbal De-Escalation

Caregiver Training from the Alliance continued

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS IN REGION 4: KING COUNTY

- As They Grow: The Drug Impacted Infant and Toddler
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Kinship 101: Information for Relatives and Suitable Others (Webinar)
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What? (Webinar)
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What?

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS IN REGION 5: PIERCE AND KITSAP COUNTIES

- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Emotion Coaching
- Identifying and Supporting Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) for Caregivers
- ILABS Module 4: The Power of Learning Through Imitation
- Kinship 101: Information for Relatives and Suitable Others (Webinar)
- Knowledge and Skills to Help Children Heal
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What? (Webinar)

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS IN REGION 6: I-5 CORRIDOR SOUTH OF PIERCE COUNTY TO CLARK COUNTY + OLYMPIA PENINSULA

- As They Grow: The Drug Impacted Infant and Toddler
- Behavior Management Tools for Foster Parents and Caregivers
- Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma: A Workshop for Resource Parents from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network
- Emotion Coaching
- Infant Safety and Care for Caregivers
- Kinship 101: Information for Relatives and Suitable Others (Webinar)
- So You Have a New Placement...Now What? (Webinar)
- Verbal De-Escalation
- Why Children Lie

Your Child Welfare Training Team for Regions 1 and 2

Eastern Washington

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Sherry Colomb 509-322-2552 scolomb1@uw.edu

Your Child Welfare Training Team Regions 3 and 4

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Your Child Welfare Training Team for Regions 5 and 6

Pierce County & South to Clark County plus the Olympic Peninsula & Coast

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Robert Judd 360-344-3003 juddre@uw.edu

Gracia Hahn 253-983-6362 hahng@uw.edu

Your Registration Help Desk

Registration Help 866-577-1915 help@acwe.on.spiceworks.com

**Join us on Social Media for inspiration, tips, trainings,
the latest events and to be part of a caregiver community**



Meet Our Recruitment Partners Who Support You



Olive Crest's Fostering Together program supports the west side of the state (Regions 2 and 3) through foster care Liaisons.

Children's Administration (CA) works in partnership with two separate agencies to provide foster parent recruitment and retention / support services to prospective foster parents, current foster parents and relative caregivers in all areas of Washington. Our goals are to:

- Increase the numbers of safe, quality foster families to meet the diverse needs of children and youth placed in out-of-home care in Washington State, and
- Offer support to foster parents and relative caregivers

Prospective foster parents are welcome to license through either CA's Division of Licensed Resources (DLR), or any private child placing agency licensed in Washington. Our recruitment partners serve all families, regardless of where they choose to become licensed. Prospective foster parents are welcome to license through either CA's Division of Licensed Resources (DLR), or any private child placing agency licensed in Washington. Our recruitment partners serve all families, regardless of where they choose to become licensed.

The Liaisons or RPMs provide information, help and guidance for you from your first inquiry, through training, and throughout the licensing process to become foster parents. Liaisons and RPMs both answer questions and share helpful information during your foster care journey. They offer:

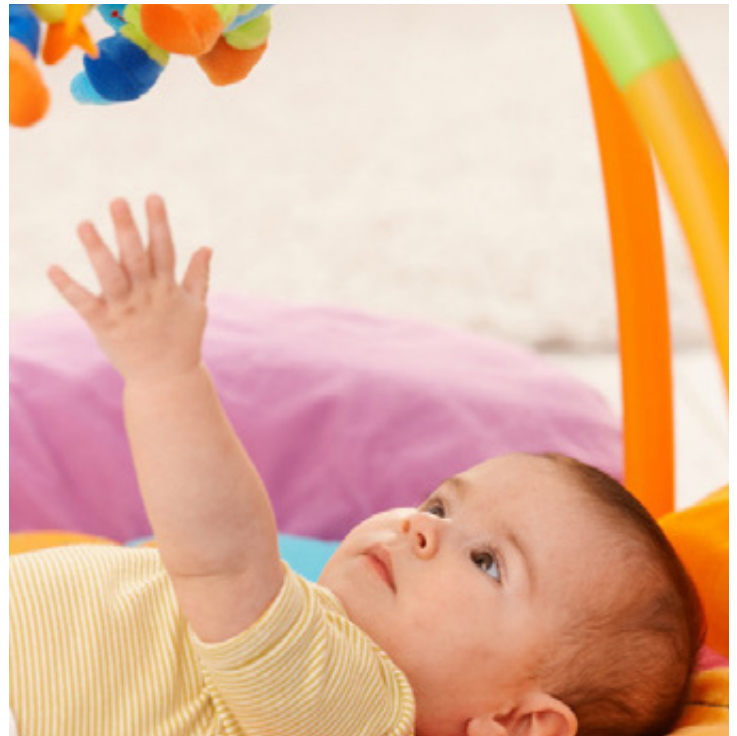
- Support at your first placement,
- Support groups , (some with training hours available and some provide a meal and / or child care)
- Mentoring,
- Training, and
- On-line Facebook groups

All supports are designed with our caregivers in mind.



Eastern Washington University's Fostering Washington program supports (Region 1) the east side of the state through Resource Peer Mentors (RPMs),

We want to help you connect with other caregivers, obtain additional training, and find answers to questions. Both Olive Crest and Eastern Washington University offer information and referral services to foster parents and relative caregivers. The regional liaisons or peer mentors also help resolve issues foster parents may experience in their local area. Contact the liaison or RPM listed for your area with any questions you might have.



Eastern Washington University Fostering Washington



Position/ Area Covered	Name	E-mail	Phone
Director All Counties	Kim Fordham	kfordham@ewu.edu	(208)-659-7401
Associate Director All Counties	Mon Ra' Muse	mmuse@ewu.edu	(509) 359-0791
Recruitment Coordinator Ferry, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens Counties	Amber Sherman	asherman4@ewu.edu	(509) 359-0874
Recruitment Coordinator Benton, Franklin, Yakima Kittitas, Klickitat, Counties	Tyann Whitworth	twhitworth@ewu.edu	(509) 731-2060
Recruitment Coordinator Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, Walla Walla, Whitman Counties	Katie Stinson	mstinson2@ewu.edu	(208) 699-8419
Recruitment Coordinator Adams, Chelan, Grant, Douglas, Okanogan	Hayley Stoebner	hstoebner@ewu.edu	(509) 322-1191
FIRST Program Mngr. All Counties	Dru Powers	Dpowers8@ewu.edu	(509) 928-6697

Fostering Washington's website www.ewu.edu/css/fostering-washington can help you locate your local foster parent Resource Peer Mentor (RPM) from the county map on their website.

Click on: ➔ *County where you live*

Olive Crest's Fostering Together: 1-866-958-KIDS (5437)



Position	Name	E-mail	Phone
Shala Crow	Program Director	(360) 220-3785	Shala-Crow@olivecrest.org
Leeann Marshel	Critical Support	(855) 395-7990	Leeann-Marshel@olivecrest.org
Patrice Vansligtenhorst	Program Coordinator	(425) 462-1612 x 1308	Patrice-Vansligtenhorst@olivecrest.org
Megan Harp	FIRST Coordinator	(425) 350-3839	Megan-Harp@olivecrest.org

Fostering Together's website fosteringtogether.org can help you locate your local foster parent liaison.

Click on: ➔ *Region where you live* ➔ *Find Your Liaison*