

Child Placing Agency Contact List *Region 2*

What is a Child Placing Agency?

A Child Placing Agency (CPA) is an agency licensed by DCYF to complete home studies and supervise children and youth placed in the care of the families licensed by the agency. These agencies share DCYF's goal to reunify families, and they can assist families when a different permanent plan like adoption is needed. Washington is home to many Child Placing Agencies! We encourage you to learn more about the agencies listed in this resource. Here is some quick guidance to get you started!

- 1. Review this list and learn more about the agencies by visiting their websites.
- 2. Identify 2-3 agencies that you would like to know more about.
- 3. Contact the agencies and ask questions about their services to help you figure out which is the best fit for you! See a list of suggested agency interview questions at the end of this document as a helpful guide.

Path Toward Licensure

- There is no right or wrong path.
- All paths lead to the same place caring for children and youth experiencing foster care.
- Consider all options and the best fit for your family.

DCYF's Licensing Division oversees the certification of all licenses, whether State or CPA

State Licensing

- Families work directly with the local Licensing Division.
- Foster families make placement decisions independently.
- Foster parents work directly with DCYF staff.
- Families self-advocate for specific needs, services, and resources.

Child Placing Agency

- Families work directly with a local private agency.
- CPA and caregiver coordinate placement decisions.
- CPA provides advocacy for family and child needs, services, and resources.
- Services are provided or coordinated by agency.
- Families receive individualized support and case management from the CPA.

All Families

Foster families receive support from DCYF's contracted partners at the Alliance CaRES Program.

- For more information visit: https://alliancecares.org
- You can also email: alliancecares@uw.edu



Washington State Department of CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Child Placing Agencies Serving Region 2:

BETTER TOGETHER FOSTER CARE

Contact: Rosie Perez Email: **rperez@bettertogetherfc.org** Phone: (509) 840-2597

CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS

Contact: Jorge Sanchez Email: jsanchez@casey.org Phone: (509) 457-8197 Website: https://www.casey.org

COMMUNITY & FAMILY SERVICES FOUNDATION

Contact: Cory Chism Email: chco@cfsf.net Phone: (509) 989-2966 Website: www.cfsf.site

FOSTER FIRST

Contact: Greg Reichenberger Email: **greichenberger@fosterfirst.net** Phone: (509) 965-5310 Website: **www.fosterfirst.net**

FOSTERING SOLUTIONS

Contact: Anna Hernandez Email: **anna@thinkfosteringsolutions.com** Phone: (509) 949-9698 Website: **https://thinkfosteringsolutions.com**

K CONNECTIONS

Contact: Owen Barrios E-mail: **info@choosekconnections.com** Phone: (509) 888-2006 Website: **www.choosekconnections.com**

NAK NU WE SHA

Contact: Laura Canfield Email: laura_canfield@yakama.com or Cassey_aranda@yakama.com Phone: (509) 865-5121 ext. 6800 Website: www.yakama.com/programs/nak-nu-we-sha

SKOOKUM KIDS

Email: **info@skookumkids.org** Phone: 360-975-3380 Website: **www.skookumkids.org/fostercare**

SERVICE ALTERNATIVES

Contact: Opal Svancara Email: **opal.svancara@servicealternatives.com** Phone: (509) 654-5250 Website: **www.servicealternatives.com/foster**

AGENCY INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- What locations do you serve?
- What kind of support do you provide to foster families? (e.g. assigned worker/case manager, support groups, trainings, etc.)
- What kind of additional training and enrichment opportunities are provided for foster parents?
- How will you help me navigate my relationship with a child's parents, siblings, and other family members?
- What is the licensing process through your agency? How long on average does it take to get licensed? Does your agency require any additional steps outside of DCYF's requirements?
- What do you consider when matching or placing children in a foster home? (e.g. What criteria does the agency use to match families with children?)
- Have you worked with other families like ours?
- What are your expectations of me as a foster parent?
- Does your agency charge fees? If so, what expenses do I need to plan for? When are they due?
- How do you support families when a child moves out of our home?
- Can you connect me directly with current foster parents as a reference to learn more?

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