



Annual Report to the Legislature

Foster and Adoptive Home Placement

RCW 74.13.031 (2)

December 1, 2010

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Executive Summary

This report is prepared in compliance with RCW 74.13.031 (2), which requires the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Children's Administration (CA) to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the agency success in:

- (a) Meeting the need for adoptive and foster home placements;*
- (b) Reducing the foster parent turnover rate;*
- (c) Completing home studies for legally free children; and*
- (d) Implementing and operating the passport program required by RCW 74.13.285.*

The report shall include a section entitled "Foster Home Turn-Over, Causes and Recommendations."

During Fiscal Year 2010, CA activities related to recruitment and retention resulted in the following:

(a) *Meeting the need for adoptive and foster home placements:*

- There were 5,630¹ licensed foster homes on the last day of June, of which 2,618 were newly licensed.
- There were 1,934² licensed families of color foster homes at the end of FY 2010.
- 1,533³ adoptions were finalized.

(b) *Reducing the foster parent turnover rate:*

- Provided statewide support services through contracts with three private agencies.

(c) *Completing home studies for legally free children:*

- Provided adoption home study services to 1,184⁴ families through the end during FY 2010, all of whom will have a home study completed prior to the adoption being finalized.

(d) *Implementing and operating the Passport Program*⁵:

- Implemented the Fostering Well-Being (FWB) program to improve healthcare services for children in out-of-home care.

¹ Children's Administration Source FamLink November 2010 Foster Home Licensed

² Children's Administration Source FamLink Reports: Client Outcomes – Newly Licensed Foster Homes December 2010

³ Children's Administration Source FamLink July 2010 Adoptions Finalized

⁴ Children's Administration Source FamLink Open Adoption Home Study Cases November 2010

⁵ Passport is now called a Comprehensive Health Report

Foster Care Recruitment

Children's Administration endeavors to continuously strengthen, improve and diversify recruitment efforts to seek potential foster and adoptive families. We seek families who will reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in care, as well as families who are interested in caring for children of varying age, gender, large sibling groups and children with special development, behavioral or medical needs.

Like many states, Washington continues to use various recruitment efforts to locate and license a wide and varied pool of families to meet the needs of children and youth in our foster care system. This diligent recruitment of both foster and adoptive parents seeks to find families who reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the children in care in Washington who need foster and adoptive homes. Children's Administration needs foster families who are available to meet the needs of diverse children who require special attention. This includes homes for adolescents, sibling groups and children with emotional/behavioral issues.

Recruitment activity is a complex process. The agency must develop both broad and specific messaging to reach identified targets. Generalized recruitment develops the persistent message of the on-going need. Targeted recruitment features the need regarding a specific group of children - or need in a specific, local area, while child specific recruitment focuses on the need of a particular child. All of these recruitment messages must carry the information that Children's Administration needs caregivers who are willing to help the agency safely care for children when they must live in out of home care for a short period.

Children's Administration utilizes both contractors and agency staff in recruitment efforts across the six regions. Recruitment strategies are drawn from the Family to Family model and are designed to recruit resource families both across the state and in the local neighborhoods where data shows the greatest number of child removals. Each contract provides general consistency in recruitment issues and also allows for regionally tailored, specific recruitment needs. Contract staff providing recruitment and retention work must be either current or former foster parents. These "ground troops" are located in their own communities across each region.

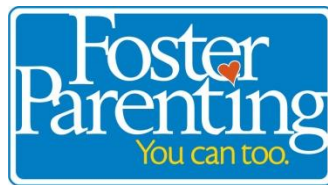
CA bases much of its recruitment philosophy on the premise that satisfied; supported foster and adoptive parents make the best recruitments of other foster and adoptive parents.

CA strives to establish the construction of an effective, multi-dimensional recruitment strategy to encompass successful recruitment through general, targeted and child specific recruitment efforts. Recruitment must be ongoing, culturally competent and tailored to meet the changing background and needs of the children currently in need of placement, as well as those who may need placement in the future.

General Recruitment

General recruitment broadcasts the need for foster and adoptive parents by building public interest and awareness of the need for foster families. It focuses on drawing in a wide variety of families while setting the stage for more targeted recruitment. General recruitment is most effective when used in combination with other recruitment strategies.

“*Foster Parenting – You Can Too*” generalized recruitment plans is widely recognized in communities and builds upon a consistent message around the state; and is utilized in brochures and pamphlets and other recruitment mediums. During FY 2010, CA began utilizing the theme to monthly recruitment success stories and is shared in the Caregiver Connection newsletter.



Regions utilize a variety of techniques to get the *Foster Parenting – You Can Too* message out. Strategies used during this fiscal year included:

- Building a foster care recruitment float that was included in the Armed Forces Day parade in Bremerton.
- Hydroplane races – the UL-72 Foster Care/Vitamin Water Hydroplane and championship driver, Kayleigh Perkins, has brought the message of foster care recruitment in her races in Seattle, Tri-Cities, Silverdale and Port Angeles. Ms. Perkins also supported the Foster Parent Association of Washington (FPAWS) by participating in the Kitsap County Fair in August.

All six regions celebrated National Foster Care Month (May) by hosting events to honor and support foster parents, including foster parent recognition and appreciation activities, and foster dinners.

Updated recruitment information is posted on the CA foster parent internet page. Calls are handled by the Northwest Adoption Exchange who is able to provide a consistent message and assistance to inquiries statewide.

The Braam requirement for placement stability on the average monthly ratio of licensed foster care beds to children in licensed foster care will be at least 2.0. CA met the benchmark requirement for FY 2009; the FY 2010 data will not be published until March 2011. Information reported to Braam on Placement Stability follows.

Goal 1, Outcome 1	
The average monthly ratio of licensed foster care beds to children in licensed foster care will be at least 2.0.	
Finding in Monitoring Report #8 Next Steps (March 2010)	
FY 09 Benchmark: 1.9 FY 09 Performance: 2.35 Reached FY 09 benchmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY10 data will be reported in March 2011 Monitoring Report • FY10 Benchmark is 2.0

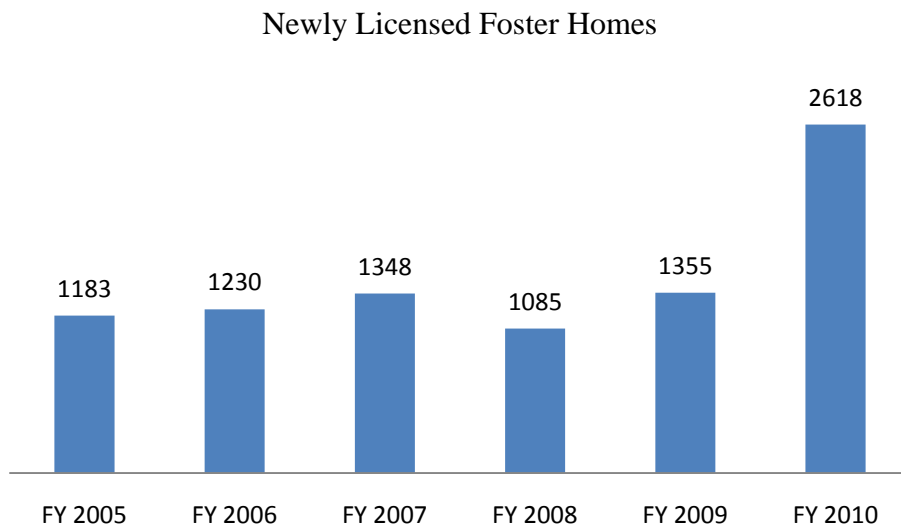
CA utilizes a variety of recruitment efforts to support children and families and improve outcomes to support Braam and GMAP goals.

Newly Licensed Homes

Recruitment of new foster homes is a challenge in Washington state and nationally. Recruitment remains difficult for both Children’s Administration and private child placing agencies. Recruitment challenges in Washington state are similar to those experienced nationwide:

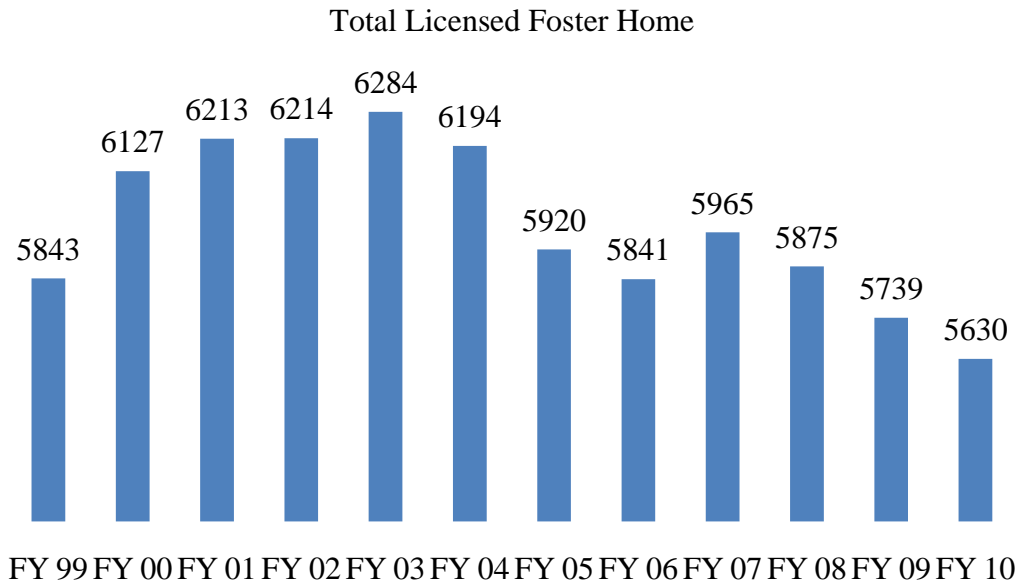
- Children in out-of-home care are presenting more difficult challenges for foster parents.
- Individuals or families may be reluctant to take on additional responsibilities of raising children if they are uncertain about their own job or economic status.
- An average of seventy percent of the children adopted are adopted by licensed foster parents (this includes relatives who were licensed). Adoption is a positive outcome for children, but also presents a challenge for placement resources, as foster parents often leave the system when the adoption is complete.

In FY 2010, 2,618 new foster homes were licensed, which is an increase from the previous year and the highest number in the past several years.



Foster Home Turn-Over: Causes & Recommendations

There continues to be a decline in the total number of licensed foster homes in Washington. It is believed that some of the reasons for this decline are due to the change in the definition of relative that allows “suitable persons” to care for children without becoming licensed foster parents. In the past, these persons would have been required to become licensed as a foster parent. There is also an emphasis on relative placements; this includes notification to relatives within 30 days of out of home care which increases the number the children placed with relatives.



Retention

The licensed foster home retention rate has been stable over the last several years. CA recently reported to the Braam Oversight Panel the information below; homes remaining licensed beyond three years are in green. Foster homes initially licensed in 2005 that remained licensed in 2008 (three years later) were at 32.8%. Thirty three (33.8%) percent of the foster homes initially licensed in 2006 remained licensed in 2009 (three years later).

Licensed Foster Home Retention By Year First Licensed

	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10
	1434	1047	768	642	471	396
	100%	73.0%	53.6%	44.8%	32.8%	27.6%
		1437	1123	848	732	481
		100%	78.1%	59.0%	50.9%	33.5%
			1585	1235	920	797
			100.0%	77.9%	58.0%	50.3%
				1400	1062	817
				100.0%	75.9%	58.4%
					1210	1029
					100.0%	85.0%

YEAR LICENSED
YEAR 1
YEAR 2
YEAR 3
YEAR 4
YEAR 5

There are expected reasons for license closure and they are important in understanding retention challenges. These reasons include:

- The foster parent adopts the child s/he has been caring for; there were a record number of adoptions this year which may provide a greater than typical number of closure.
- The specific child the foster parent became licensed to care for has returned home; and
- The foster parent’s personal situation changes (e.g. illness, job change, family commitments).

Reasons for license closure that CA seeks to address include:

- Frustration with the child welfare system; and
- Challenges in coping with child behavior.

Children’s Administration uses two key strategies to address these issues, 1) training and 2) support.

The information below on Foster Parent Training and Information-Outcomes and Benchmarks is from the Braam Settlement Monitoring Report #9 the September 2010. The full report can be found at www.braampanel.org

<p>Goal 1, Outcome 1 Licensed caregivers will report adequate training for their roles and responsibilities (including, but not limited to, management of emotional, behavioral, developmental and medical problems, educational advocacy, strategies for engagement with birth parents, and cultural competency skills).</p>	
<p>Finding in Monitoring Report #8 Next Steps (March 2010)</p>	
<p>FY 09 Benchmark: 90% FY 09 Performance: 85.9%</p> <p>Failed to reach FY 09 benchmark</p> <p>Compliance plan approved in March 2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data for FY10 will be published in March 2011 Monitoring Report • FY10 Benchmark is 90% • FY10 performance would need to increase 4.1 percentage points from FY09 to meet FY10 benchmark

<p>Goal 1, Outcome 2 Licensed caregivers will report adequate support for their roles and responsibilities (including but not limited to, crisis support, timely notification about case planning meetings, and cultural competency resources).</p>	
<p>Finding in Monitoring Report #8 Next Steps (March 2010)</p>	
<p>FY 09 Benchmark: 85% FY 09 Performance: 71.9%</p> <p>Failed to reach FY 09 benchmark</p> <p>Compliance plan approved in March 2010</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data for FY 2010 will be published in March 2011 Monitoring Report • FY 10 Benchmark is 90% • FY 10 performance would need to increase 18.1 percentage points from FY 09 to meet FY 10 benchmark • Panel has requested more frequent submission of data related to this outcome for informational purposes. These data will be published in an informational addendum to this report in November 2010.

Goal 1 Outcome 3	
Licensed caregivers will report adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them (including, but not limited to, behavioral, medical, developmental and educational needs).	
Finding in Monitoring Report #8 Next Steps (March 2010)	
FY 09 Benchmark: 85% FY 09 Performance: 75.4% Failed to reach FY 09 benchmark Compliance plan approved in March 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data for FY10 will be published in March 2011 Monitoring Report • FY10 Benchmark is 90% • FY10 performance would need to increase 14.6 percentage points from FY09 to meet FY10 benchmark

CA has contracted with the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center to conduct a foster parent survey each year for the last three years. The 2010 survey was a broad-based telephone interview survey of a random sample of 2,400 licensed and unlicensed caregivers (relative and non-relative). This survey focused on caregiver views on training, support, information sharing and participation in planning and decision-making related to children in their care. Survey results can be found at: http://www.braampanel.org/FY10_FPSurvey_Report.pdf

The results of the survey are used to identify training needs and assist in the development of training available for all caregivers.

The information on page 11 is from the Braam Settlement Monitoring Report #9 the September 2010. The full report can be found at www.braampanel.org

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status
<p>Foster parent survey [<i>Revised Implementation Plan Foster Parent Training Action Step 1</i>] [<i>Action Step 1 of February 2006 Braam Implementation Plan</i>]</p> <p>The Children’s Administration will contract with the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) at Washington State University to develop and conduct an independent, statistically valid, anonymous survey of foster parents (current and former) and relative caregivers (licensed and unlicensed) that is conducted annually concerning all areas of the Settlement related to caregiver’s work with foster children and associated outcomes and action steps.</p> <p>In developing the survey design, tool, and procedures, the SESRC shall consult with the Panel, the Washington State Foster Parent’s Association, Braam plaintiffs’ attorneys, the CA Youth Advisory Group, the foster parent liaison staff in CA, and a group of five DCFS staff selected by CA.</p> <p>Survey planning completed by 10/1/06</p> <p>Survey reviewed and approved by Panel by 12/1/06</p> <p>First survey results to Panel by 9/01/07</p> <p>Second survey results to Panel by 8/01/08</p> <p>Third survey results to Panel by 8/01/09</p> <p>Fourth survey results to Panel by 8/01/10</p>	<p>Fifth survey results to Panel by 6/01/11</p> <p>Complete through performance period</p> <p>(Monitoring Report #9, September 2010)</p>

1624 Quarterly Consultation Meetings

ESHB 1624 which was passed in 2007 requires DSHS to convene consultation groups to address and identify ways to improve communication between foster parents, Foster Parents Association of Washington (FPAWS), and Children’s Administration. The goal of the 1624 meetings continues to be improving communication centered on recruitment and retention of foster homes, effective foster parent training, and enhancing children’s lives in care. Each region has selected two foster parents to represent their region at the statewide meetings, plus two representatives from FPAWS.

Meetings are held both regionally and statewide. The regional and statewide meetings occur quarterly. Most recently, they have been done by videoconference because of budget considerations. Between the quarterly statewide meetings, two teleconference calls are held to debrief on issues from the previous statewide meeting and to plan for the next one.

Including the regional and statewide meetings and conference calls, 36 meetings are planned for 2011.

Camp To Belong

Camp To Belong is a non-profit camp that provides a five-day summer camp experience for siblings separated from each other due to foster care or other out-of-home care arrangements. The Washington camp is part of a national Camp To Belong network. The events at camp are designed to increase bonding between siblings to keep them connected in what will likely be their longest life relationship. Children's Administration provides key financial and administrative support to help re-connect the siblings at the camp. CA works with its private partner, Foster Family Connections, which provides considerable logistical support, raises private money and directs the camp in August. In 2010, Washington sent 97 kids to camp at Miracle Ranch in Port Orchard.

Summary

Increasing and maintaining the pool of licensed foster homes is challenged by the emotional and financial costs of caring for children as a volunteer. In a world with fewer stay-at-home parents and where most families have complex, busy lives, fostering is often seen as out of reach.

CA is working to increase supports of all kinds for licensed foster parents and relative caregivers, hoping to build on the foundation created the past several years through contracts, state law and other initiatives.

Adoption Recruitment

Adoption is not a temporary arrangement between individuals; it is a social and legal protective measure for children that provide a lifetime commitment. Adoption for many is not an easy journey; it comes with many unanswered questions, good intentions and is not for everyone. CA staff must have the skills to delicately handle difficult issues and in some cases assist families to understand that love is not enough and that perhaps adoption is not the best plan for them. Adoptive parents must go through an assessment that is often intrusive and requires dealing with difficult issues in order for the adoption home evaluator to determine the fitness of the applicant (RCW 26.33.190).

There are many factors to consider when choosing a family that can “best meet the needs of a child” on a lifetime basis. It requires:

- Keeping the best interests of the child as the focal point
- Making placement decisions with known and available information
- Critically assessing a families willingness and ability to meet the child’s needs not their own needs
- Making placement decisions that are in the best interests of the child both now and in the future.

Not all families are able to be an adoptive resource for children. Prospective adoptive families must have an approved pre-placement (adoptive home study) report prior to being considered an adoptive family. Department staff utilizes many tools and critical thinking to make a recommendation of approved or denied. Using shared planning, the department makes critical assessments regarding the best interest of the child and prospective families.

Adoption Recruitment Activities

CA undertakes a variety of activities to recruit adoptive families for waiting children. These activities include hosting consortiums, specific recruitment contracts with community partners, and the use of local and national adoption exchanges.

As of July 1, 2010, there were 1,573⁶ legally free children with a permanent plan of adoption. Over half of the children are in placement with a permanent adoptive family and are awaiting finalization of their adoption.

Adoption Consortiums

Adoption consortiums are often the first step in recruitment for a child in need of a permanent adoptive family when the birth family and the current caregiver are not a permanent resource. An adoption consortium is a staffing that brings together both state and private agency staff to provide information about a child or children, learn about waiting adoptive families and learn about additional recruitment options. These consortiums occur in all six regions and build relationships with community partners and

⁶ Children’s Administration; Source FamLink November 2010 Legally Free Children

inter-regional linkages on behalf of children. For some children this is the only level of recruitment needed; for those whom an adoption consortium does not result in a match, adoption exchanges are used.

Local and National Adoption Exchanges

The Children's Administration contracts with the Northwest Adoption Exchange (NWAE) to provide adoption recruitment through the use of local and national adoption exchanges. The Washington Adoption Resource Exchange (WARE) is a Washington state only recruitment resource. WARE provides a secure website that is password protected for CA staff and private adoption agency staff to recruit and match children with approved adoptive families. This website provides current information on children in need of an adoptive family and on approved adoptive families.

The children listed on the WAREKids website include children where concurrent planning is occurring and those who may not yet be legally available for adoption. CA staff is required to register all children who have a permanent plan of adoption and are not in an identified adoptive home.

During FY 2010 there were 226 new children registered with WARE for a total of 463 children registered during the year. During this past year, 188 children registered with WARE were placed with permanent families.

Children who are registered with WARE for more than 90 days and are legally free are registered with the Northwest Adoption Exchange (NWAE) website www.nwae.org which provides recruitment on a national level. NWAE served over 200 children throughout the fiscal year; this number fluctuates as new children are registered. At the end of the fourth quarter, 164 children were placed with permanent families, 45 are on hold with potential pending placements, and 137 children are still in need of matching with a family.

Child Specific Recruitment

Children's Administration contracts with NWAE to provide comprehensive recruitment activities for children who need an adoptive family and for whom other recruitment activities have not been successful. NWAE subcontracts with six to seven private child placing agencies, forming a partnership to provide this child specific recruitment program, known as Specialized Adoption Recruitment Program (SARP).

Child-specific recruitment includes gaining a full understanding of the child's needs through discussion with the current and past caregivers including relatives, to determine if they might be a resource for the child. Focused, individualized and persistent recruitment can and does work for children who are considered the hardest to place.

In FY 2010, 60 children were enrolled in the program which included five from the previous year. Twenty-seven children were placed with adoptive families, 9 children had placements pending, 12 children are still waiting to be matched with a family, and 12 children were withdrawn at the request and/or in consultation with social workers.

Through the recruitment process and which includes mining the file, 12 of the 36 children placed or pending placement were matched with foster or fictive kin, and 15 were matched through additional recruitment.

The children recruited for during FY 2010 included 42 children that had experienced five or more placements, 18 out of the 42 experienced 10 or more placements.

Child-specific recruitment continues to increase the probability of finding a permanent adoptive family for children where regular recruitment methods have failed.

A breakdown by age for the 60 children served is:

Children in Child Specific Recruitment FY 2010	
Age in Years	Number of Children/youth Enrolled
0-7	8
8-12	24
13-18	28
Total	60

Children in Child Specific Recruitment in FY 2009	
Age in Years	Number of Children/youth Enrolled
0-7	12
8-12	33
13-18	22
Total	67

Purchase of Service

The Purchase of Service (POS) program is a successful means to pay for post-placement supervision for hard to place children placed with adoptive families until the adoption is finalized. The POS program was designed in the late 1980s and provides funding to private agencies in and out of the State of Washington to offset the cost of recruitment, training, transitioning and supervision of adoptive placements for eligible children. This program is considered adoption recruitment and is IV-E reimbursable. Child eligibility is based upon WARE registration, and the length of time they are registered prior to identification and placement with an adoptive family.

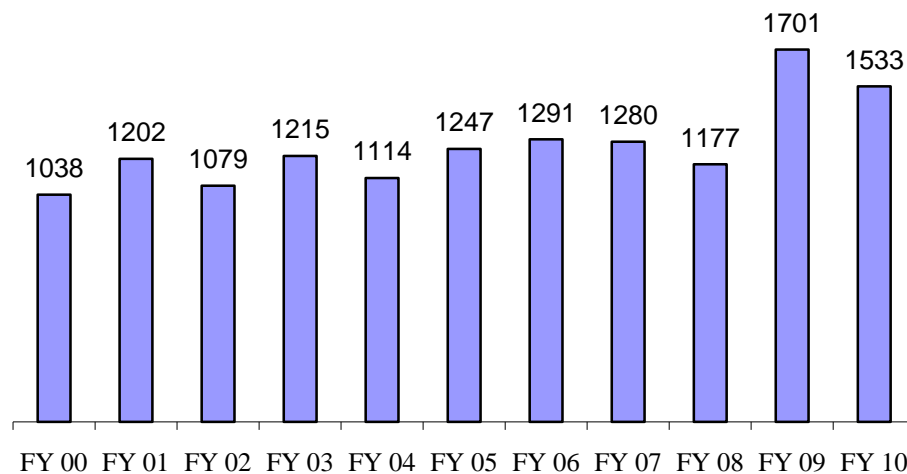
CA develops individual contracts for each eligible child. Contracts are outcome based and allow for two payments, one for the adoptive placement and one for the finalization of the adoption. If a child disrupts from the placement, the second payment is not paid.

In FY 2010, 72 children were referred to the program which resulted in over 70 child specific contracts for adoptive placements. Twenty-two adoptions have been finalized during this fiscal year and the remaining children are pending adoption finalization.

Finalized Adoptions

The Children's Administration (CA) continues to make every effort to establish permanency for children unable to return to the care and custody of their birth parents through adoption, third party custody, dependency guardianship and long-term-care agreements with foster parents or relatives. Permanency through adoption was established for 1,533 children in the care and custody of CA during Fiscal Year 2010.

Finalized Adoptions



There continues to be a high number of legally free children, 1,573 in need of permanency, even though CA continues to complete over 1,000 adoptions annually. Reasons for legally free children remaining in out-of-home care are:

- Current caregiver has been identified as a potential permanent family but an adoptive home study has not been completed.
- Child and family may need services to stabilize a placement prior to finalizing an adoption.
- Prospective adoptive family is not willing and able to meet the specific needs of a child and a new placement needs to be identified.
- Completing the Child's Family Medical and Social Background, disclosure with the adoptive family is time intensive.
- Though recruitment efforts are underway, a permanent family has not yet been identified for a child, youth or sibling group.
- Preparing and transitioning children into permanent adoptive families involves several factors. Including:
 - ◆ Age of the child or youth
 - ◆ Needs of the child (educational, medical, emotional)
 - ◆ Proximity of adoptive family to child's current placement
 - ◆ ICPC regulations and contracting issues
- Children are not ready for adoption due to mental health and/or behavioral issues.

- Children with a higher level of needs and issues (emotional or behavioral) are harder to find a permanent family and require more intense recruitment work to find an adoptive family.
- Some youth and adoptive families are more frequently inquiring about the pros and cons of delaying adoption finalization in order take advantage of newly publicized college assistance programs. The eligibility requirements for some programs are determined by the youth's age at time of adoption.

Summary

CA continues to focus on achieving permanency for children in foster care. There continued to be focus on permanency through adoption in FY 2010 that resulted in 1,533 children achieving permanency. The goal of the agency continues to be developing permanency plans that are in the best interests of a child. There have been several children in the past couple of years that have been waiting for adoption for several years and were able to finally have a family to call their own. Each child remains the central element in adoption decision making.

Home Studies for Legally Free Children

The Children's Administration provides adoption services to many families throughout the year; the number of families receiving adoption services is determined by looking at a point in time. There were 1,184 families with an open adoption services through November 2010. In addition some children are adopted by families that have services provided by a private agency. Some children are placed with adoptive families that receive services through a private child placing agency either in Washington or in another state.

Adoption services provided by CA to adoptive families include:

- Completion of adoptive home studies, which requires making a critical assessment regarding an applicant's:
 - Willingness and capacity to meet a child's needs
 - Belief that a child will do well in life
 - Understanding of the impact of positive day-to-day experiences can have on a child
 - Character, suitability and fitness to parent a special needs child
 - Recognition of their own limitations and challenges in parenting a special needs child
 - Openness to be flexible and seek out resources to meet needs of child and family
- Child identification
- Transition support for successful placement
- Post-placement services to the child and family
- Assistance with adoption finalization and application for Adoption Support

The goal of the Children's Administration is to complete an adoption home study within 90 days of a completed application. The actual amount of time it takes to complete an adoptive home study involves a variety of factors. The home study process consists of several phases, including:

- Information gathering
- Assessing the information you learn
- Review what makes you curious
- Address concerns
- What were the circumstances of the situation,
- What did they learn, what changed
- When did they learn it
- Responsibility (owning up to their role in the issue)
- What would they do if the same situation occurred again
- Assessment of what you learned
- Evaluating what you learn that leads to a critical assessment and recommendation.

The home study utilizes many tools to make the critical assessment, including:

- Completion of pre-service training
- Completion of criminal history background check including fingerprint check
- Completion of child abuse and neglect check in and out of state when required
- Completion of adoption paperwork
- References returned to the agency

Passport Program

Overview & History

The Department of Social and Health Services is committed to improving healthcare services for children in out-of-home placement. The Fostering Well-Being (FWB) program is a collaborative effort between the Medicaid Purchasing Administration and Children’s Administration. Fostering Well-Being uses a person-centered health model to address the comprehensive healthcare needs of children in out-of-home placement and better aligns the Department’s resources to improve health outcomes for these children. The Passport program has been melded into the overall agency Fostering Well-Being. The information below has been reported to the Braam panel report #9 the Addendum (November 2010) which is providing oversight on health and mental health issues for children in out-of-home care.

Goal 1, Outcome 2 Children in out-of-home care 30 days or longer will have completed and documented Child Health and Education Track (CHET) screens within 30 days of entering care.	
Most Recent Annual Performance Data	Next Steps in Monitoring Compliance
FY09 Benchmark: 80% FY09 Performance: 64% Failed to reach FY09 benchmark Compliance plan was approved in May 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data for FY10 will be published in March 2011 Monitoring Report • FY10 Benchmark is 90% • FY10 performance would need to increase 26 percentage points from FY09 to meet FY10 benchmark

Goal 1, Outcome 3 A shared planning meeting (SPM) focusing on the CHET screening results will be held within 60 days of each child’s entry into care.	
Most Recent Annual Performance Data	Next Steps in Monitoring Compliance
FY09 Benchmark: 85% FY09 Performance: Acceptable data not available Failed to reach FY09 benchmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data for FY10 will be published in March 2011 Monitoring Report • FY10 Benchmark is 90%

Goal 1, Outcome 4 Children age 3 and under in out-of-home care will be referred to the Early Support for Infant and Toddlers Program (Early Intervention) ⁶ within 2 workdays of identification of concerns about developmental delays from their CHET screens.	
Most Recent Annual Performance Data	Next Steps in Monitoring Compliance
FY09 Benchmark: 85% FY09 Performance: 72% Compliance plan approved in May 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data for FY10 will be published in March 2011 Monitoring Report • FY10 Benchmark is 90% • FY10 performance would need to increase 18 percentage points from FY09 to meet FY10 benchmark

The Major Components to the Program

- Medical ID cards issued to all children in out-of-home placement within three (3) working days of placement notification.
- CHILD Profile Immunization information reports mailed to caregivers within three (3) working days of placement notification.
- Medical records requested for the last two (2) years for all children in out-of-home placement for more than 30 days.
- Care coordination of health concerns provided for children in out-of-home placement.
- Fostering Well-Being program managers and clinical nurse advisors are available for consultation with social workers and caregivers regarding individual health questions and concerns.
- Six (6) Regional Medical Consultants continue to be a vital link for social workers, caregivers, and local medical communities.
- Healthcare reports mailed to caregivers within three (3) working days of initial placement notification. (Fall 2010).
- Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis & Treatment (EPSDT) or Well-Child Exam reminders sent to caregivers (Fall 2010).
- Health education materials mailed to caregivers for children with certain health conditions. (Fall 2010).