



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES
900 East College Way, Suite 200 • Mount Vernon WA • 98273-5687
Fax 360-429-2988

Dear Relative,

I am a Relative Search Specialist for the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) in Washington State. We are required by law to identify and contact relatives when a child has been removed from the custody of their parents or legal guardian.

The names of the parents for the above-named children are:

DCYF recognizes and values the importance of relationships between children and their extended family. We must include all adult relatives when looking at the needs of children in our care and ask able family members to participate in the planning and care of a child. Some of the options you have under federal and state law include participating in the planning, care, placement, and well-being of the child. Examples of other involvement could be sharing family history, identifying other relatives, celebrating milestones and holidays, making phone contact, or sending cards.

Attached to this letter is an information sheet about relative placement and supporting a child in other ways during a DCYF case. There is also a form that requests information about you or other relatives who may be interested in being part of the child's life. Please note that having options to participate in the planning and placement of a child may be lost by not responding to this notice. You are invited to reply in writing by completing the enclosed form and returning it in the provided envelope.

Sincerely,

Relative Search Specialist
Department of Children, Youth, and Families