

# What is Adoption Consortium?



.....

Adoption consortium is a service that assists caseworkers in identifying adoptive homes for youth in need of permanency. This service also provides potential adoptive families an opportunity to hear about youth in need of a permanent home, ask questions, and present themselves to the caseworkers as a potential match.

.....

This one-time per month meeting takes approximately three hours and is an opportunity for the caseworker to present youth for whom they are recruiting. The presentation time for a caseworker to discuss their youth is approximately **5 to 10 minutes**. There are participants from WASHINGTON STATE private agencies, OUT OF STATE ADOPTION AGENCIES, as well as other Washington State Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) caseworkers across the state who may have ideas of potential adoptive placements for your child.

The last portion of the consortium provides time for potential adoptive parents to present themselves to caseworkers, or they may have a private agency staff member present on their behalf. There are so many amazing families out there!

## Who Can Participate?

- Any youth or sibling group in need of a permanent adoptive home. The youth does not need to be legally free to use this service but the case should be in the TPR process and must have court or parent approval for participation.
- Any licensed or adoptive family who are currently approved for placement. This includes families licensed or home-studied through a private agency.

## How Do I Participate?

You can participate right from your desk! Zoom is utilized for all meeting participants. You can use Zoom from your computer, tablet, phone app, or have the ability to call in by phone.



Washington State Department of  
**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**

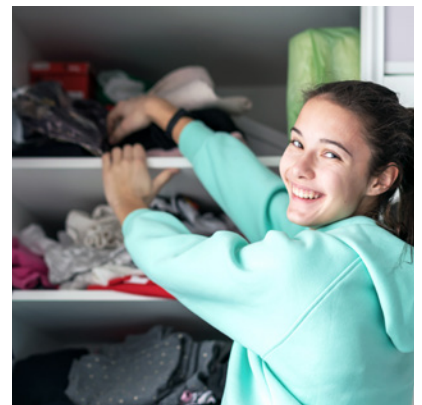
## How Should I Prepare?

- If you are the caseworker for a youth in need of a permanent home, you can email Elisha Chambers ([Elisha.Chambers@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:Elisha.Chambers@dcyf.wa.gov)) and Julie Pettit ([Julie.Pettit@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:Julie.Pettit@dcyf.wa.gov)) regarding your interest in presenting your youth.
  - Please provide a complete and updated profile of the youth when requesting a spot on the agenda. This includes ensuring all information is up-to-date (grade, age, behaviors, etc.), as well as a recent photo. If the youth has a profile through WARE you can use this rather than writing a new profile.
  - If you are unable to present your youth, please ensure someone who knows the youth is presenting on your behalf.
  - Please participate in the video conference a minimum of 15 minutes earlier than your scheduled time. This will help to ensure there are minimal delays in the agenda.
- If you are an adoptive family seeking to identify a child or youth, you can email Elisha Chambers ([Elisha.Chambers@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:Elisha.Chambers@dcyf.wa.gov)) and Julie Pettit ([Julie.Pettit@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:Julie.Pettit@dcyf.wa.gov)) regarding your interest in presenting your family.
  - Please provide a one-page written profile of your family in Word. This may include pictures of the family, the home, vacation pictures, etc., as well as information regarding who you are as a family and the child or youth you are seeking to adopt.
  - It is important that families either present themselves or have someone from the agency with whom they work with present them.
  - Families can listen in during the first portion to hear more about the available children and youth. Families do not need to present themselves every month. Additionally, families will only be added to the monthly agenda per the request from the family for any given month.
  - Please participate in the video conference a minimum of 15 minutes earlier than your scheduled time. This will help to ensure there are minimal delays in the agenda.



## When Is Consortium Held And What Else Is There To Know?

- The Adoption Consortium is always held on the third Tuesday of each month, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- For families: we will need to confirm you have a current and approved home study before participation. Once this is confirmed, you can be added to the Zoom invite for the entire calendar year or certain months.



---

If you would like copies of this document in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations (1-800-723-4831 | 360-902-8060, [ConstRelations@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:ConstRelations@dcyf.wa.gov)).