



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**

1500 Jefferson Street, SE • P.O. Box 40975 • Olympia WA 98504-0975

September 17, 2018

Dear Foster Parents:

Nominations for the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Foster Parent Team (FPT), also known as the "1624 Team," will begin October 1, 2018 and will close October 19, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. For the past ten (10) years, this team previously served under the Children's Administration, which is now DCYF.

The DCYF-FPT was created in 2007 under RCW 74.13.031(17). Team representatives volunteer their time in a two-year term to seek input from licensed caregivers and share information with DCYF on issues related to:

- improving recruitment of foster homes,
- reducing foster parent turnover rates,
- providing effective training for foster parents, and
- administering a coordinated and comprehensive plan that strengthens services for children.

Elected representatives attend both their region and state quarterly DCYF-FPT (1624) meetings. They also participate in scheduled conference calls between the state meetings and share information from the state meetings back to the local/regional foster parent meetings.

In 2017, the state DCYF-FPT amended its Charter and expanded eligibility for nominations to the 1624 Team. You may now nominate either a currently licensed or a "former foster parent" (which include licensed or formerly licensed kinship caregivers) from your regional area, to serve as your representatives. Former foster parents must meet the following requirements to serve as an elected representative on the DCYF-FPT:

- Their license was closed no more than five years ago (2013), and
- The license was closed in good standing with the Children's Administration's Division of Licensed Resources (DLR). Foster parents whose license was revoked or who voluntarily relinquished their license in lieu of revocation are not eligible.

Consider nominating currently licensed or alumni foster parents from your area; you may even nominate yourself. Representatives begin participation at the state videoconference meeting on Monday, January 28, 2019. Regions will be filling any vacancies for seated members of the team and alternates who can fill the seat when the elected representative is unable to attend a meeting. Elections are decided by the candidate(s) who receive the highest number of votes.

Attached is a nomination form for your use. Nominations must be returned to your regional designee no later than Friday, October 19, 2018. Your nomination form may be submitted by email or postal mail.

Please contact Holly Luna at [Holly.Luna@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:Holly.Luna@dcyf.wa.gov), or 360-902-0250 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Jody Becker, MSW, Ph.D.

Deputy Secretary, Programs for Children and Families