

Lois A. Day, Administrator  
Office of Safety & Permanency for Children

Authorized Signature

Number: CW-IM-10-022  
Issue Date: 11/15/2010

Topic: Adoptions and Foster Care

Subject: New contracted services regarding permanency placements and planning.

**Applies to (check all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees             | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging        | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children, Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Child Welfare |

**Message**

This is notification of new contracted services regarding adoption and permanency. Information regarding how to access these services is included.

**Adoption Committee Presentation**

Boys and Girls Aid (BGAID) is available to present out-of-state families, including relatives and general applicant families, at central office and local adoption committees. To arrange for this service please contact Elizabeth Sale at [esale@boysandgirlsaid.org](mailto:esale@boysandgirlsaid.org) or (503)542-2380.

**Individual Recruitment Plans**

BGAID will be developing two types of Individual Recruitment Plans with workers to assist in locating permanent and stable homes:

1. Referrals can be submitted for children with a plan of adoption who have significant special needs, and would benefit from this additional service in order to be placed in a timely manner.
2. Referrals can also be submitted for children currently in foster or residential care who have special needs which may have contributed lack of stability or a home has not been located that meets a child's specialized cultural needs or ability. These are children whose permanency plan at this time is not adoption. The primary criteria is locating homes for children in need of stable, long term placements. Referrals are not limited to the examples provided.

There will be a limited number of Individual Recruitment Plans BGAID will be serving at

given time. Cases in which the plan is not adoption should first be staffed with Janet Williams, Foster Care Consultant, prior to being submitted, as there are a limited number of referrals being accepted. Caseworkers should staff the adoption cases with the Legal Assistance Specialist for their office prior to making the referral. Referral forms can be requested from Beckie Jackson.

### **New Adoption Bulletin Website**

DHS has contracted with Northwest Resource Associates (NWRA) to create a password protected website where the waiting child bulletins for children will be accessed. This will replace the waiting child bulletin books that local DHS offices and SNAC adoption agencies currently use to retain bulletins. The new website will be called OARE (Oregon Adoption Resource Exchange) and is scheduled to go live by the end of this month.

NWRA is also the contractor for DHS that lists children on the Northwest Adoption Exchange. Children identified as needing this additional level of recruitment will continue to be identified by NWRA and placed on the Northwest Adoption Exchange as appropriate.

DHS staff will continue to complete the waiting child bulletin form and submit this to Beckie Jackson in the Adoption program. Beckie will forward the approved bulletin and photos to for the OARE listing. Please note: OARE will allow for up to 3 photos of each child or sibling group.

In addition to DHS staff, Special Needs Adoption Coalition (SNAC) adoption agencies, and Oregon families with approved adoption home studies through a SNAC agency, will be able to view the bulletins. More information will soon be released regarding OARE, including information on how to register for access to the site.

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

<b>Contact(s):</b>	Gail Schelle, Assistant Manager Adoption Program Carla Crane, Assistant Manager Adoption Program Janet Williams, Foster Care Consultant		
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