

## Legal Resources

Northwest Justice Project Coordinated Legal Education,  
Advice & Referral (CLEAR) Project (low income only)  
1-888-201-1014 or 206-464-1519

<http://www.nwjustice.org>

## Northwest Women's Law Center

Information & Referral Line  
(206) 621-7691

<http://www.nwwlc.org>

## Washington State Bar Association

To find legal referral services near you call  
1-800-945-9722

<http://www.wsba.org>

## Web sites

Contact the courts at  
[www.courts.wa.gov/](http://www.courts.wa.gov/)

Division of Child Support  
[www.dshs.wa.gov/dcs/](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dcs/)

Legal Clinics and Legal Information  
[wsba.org/atj/contact/legasst.htm](http://wsba.org/atj/contact/legasst.htm)  
[washingtonlawhelp.org](http://washingtonlawhelp.org)

## E-mail

Division of Child Support  
[DCS-CRU@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:DCS-CRU@dshs.wa.gov)

## All information in DCS records is confidential

You can have someone (a relative, friend, legal representative or an attorney) call DCS on your behalf. We can answer general questions for anyone, but we cannot discuss specific case details unless we have your written permission.

Call the DCS office nearest you or call  
**800-442-KIDS (5437)** to find the office  
handling your case.

## DCS Offices

**Everett** 800-729-7580  
425-438-4800

**Fife** 866-243-4449  
253-922-0454

**Kennewick** 800-345-9981  
509-374-2000

**Olympia** 800-345-9964  
360-664-6900

**Seattle** 800-526-8658  
206-341-7000

**Spokane** 800-345-9982  
509-363-5000

**Tacoma** 800-345-9976  
253-597-3700

**Vancouver** 800-345-9984  
360-696-6100

**Wenatchee** 800-535-1113  
509-886-6800

**Yakima** 800-441-0859  
509-249-6000

**Headquarters**  
800-457-6202  
360-664-5000



*What can I do  
so I can see  
my kids or see  
them more often?*

## Child Support Visitation & Custody



**DCS** Division of Child Support

## Can the Division of Child Support (DCS) help me with visitation and custody problems?

No. Washington State law (Revised Code of Washington 74.20.040), does not give DCS legal authority to work with parents on custody or visitation concerns.

If you are not allowed to see your children because of a no-contact or domestic violence order, you need to contact an attorney to change the order.

## What should I do?

When you and the other parent are not living together, you can make a plan that explains how you will parent your children. A parenting plan is a legal paper (called a court order) that tells how parents are to raise their children while living apart. If the parents do not agree, a judge decides.

The plan addresses the issues parents think are important in the children's upbringing. It also says where the children will reside and how the parents will share time with their children.

## How do I get a parenting plan?

Parents often file parenting plans in court when they file for divorce. Unmarried parents can also file a parenting plan in court. Contact an attorney, Family Law Court Facilitator, mediation services or a community legal clinic for help with this process.

Facilitators are located in county clerks offices. A facilitator provides forms and information, for a fee about the "pro se" process but cannot give you legal advice. Taking "pro se" court action means you do-it-yourself.

For more information, call DCS, your local courthouse or go to the courts web site at <http://www.courts.wa.gov>. Select court directory. Then select courthouse facilitator.

## What if I have a parenting plan and the other parent does not let me see the children?

If you have a parenting plan but the other parent is not honoring the terms of the plan, you can contact an attorney or Family Law Court Facilitator to take the other parent to court for "contempt."

## How else can I get help?

Dispute resolution through mediation is helpful, but may not work for everyone. Dispute resolution:

- Is voluntary for both parents, no one is forced to use mediation services.
- Is a place you can go to and talk about problems.
- Helps you discuss and resolve problems with a trained, neutral person.
- Helps you understand each other's point of view.

## How can I contact someone to help me set up mediation?

Some Dispute Resolution Centers (DRC) often charge a fee and some do not offer family mediation services. Not all DRCs offer family services. For more information, call 800-280-4770 or the DRC nearest you. The Resolution Washington web site also has helpful information at <http://www.resolutionwa.org>.



## Dispute Resolution Centers that offer family services

### Eastern Washington

- Inland Mediation Center (Spokane County) 509-456-0103
- Fulcrum Institute Dispute Resolution Clinic 509-838-2799

### Central Washington

- Benton Franklin DRC 509-783-3325
- DRC of Yakima and Kittitas Counties 509-453-8949
- Okanogan County DRC 509-826-1776

### Western Washington

- King County DRC 206-443-9603
- DRC of Kitsap County 360-698-0968
- DRC of Lewis County 360-748-0492
- Mediation and Settlement Center (Pacific and Grays Harbor Counties) 360-249-1925
- Peninsula DRC (Clallam and Jefferson Counties) 360-452-8024
- Pierce County Center for Dispute Resolution 253-572-3657
- DRC of Snohomish and Island Counties 800-280-4770
- DRC of Thurston County 360-956-1155
- Whatcom DRC 360-676-0122

### Other Helpful Groups

- Caring Connections (Clark County) 360-823-5178