



Volunteers of America®

**EASTERN WASHINGTON
& NORTHERN IDAHO**

Parent Resources



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I. Questions about runaways, missing children and family conflicts

- “MY CHILD IS MISSING. I’M VERY WORRIED ABOUT HER/HIM. WHAT CAN I DO?”

If your child is under 18 years of age, you may call **CrimeCheck (456-2233)** and file a run report. If a police officer finds your child, you will be contacted immediately. It is also a good idea to call **Crosswalk (838-6596)**, and ask us to fill out a **Missing Child Report**. It is best if Crosswalk has a picture and a run report number to add to the Missing Child Report. The phone lines at Crosswalk are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- “MY CHILD AND I ARE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH EACH OTHER AND WOULD LIKE TO GET THINGS WORKED OUT. I NEED HELP WITH GETTING MY FAMILY BACK TOGETHER...”

The first place to call is **Family Reconciliation Services (FRS) (509-363-3350)**. FRS offers services to help strengthen the family. FRS is a part of the **Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)** of Washington State. These services include family assessments and family counseling. If necessary, FRS may provide a place for your child to stay short term. Services are voluntary and free. FRS is available by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The address is 1313 N. Atlantic Street, Suite 2000; business hours are Monday through Friday 9-5pm.

- “I HAVE HEARD OF C.R.C AND SECURE C.R.C. WHAT IS THE DIFFERNECE BETWEEN THESE PLACES AND HOW CAN THEY HELP US?”

Crisis Residential Center (CRC) is a temporary shelter for youth 13-17 years old, who may stay for up to 5 days. During the stay, the family must participate in counseling together. Counseling may cover anger management, communication skills and other techniques that help the family. CRC is NOT a lock-down facility. This means that youth may leave any time they want. If a youth leaves without permission, CRC staff will file a run report with the police. The purpose of CRC is to help families stay together. If you think your family could benefit from CRC call FRS or CRC **(509-624-2868)** directly. CRC is staffed 24/7. Their street address is kept confidential.

Secure Crisis Residential Center (Secure CRC) is a lockdown facility. This means that a youth cannot leave whenever he/she wants. If the police pick up a youth with a run report they will call the parent/guardian to see if the parent/guardian wants the youth back home. If the parent/guardian does not want the youth home yet, police will take them to Secure CRC. (While it is not illegal to be a runaway it is considered a status offense.) The police may also take the youth to Secure CRC if they think the youth is in a dangerous situation. The staff at Secure CRC will spend time talking to each youth and help decide what is best for the youth. Secure CRC only serves youth 12-17 years old/; youth must stay a minimum off 24 hours and up to 5 days. Parents/Guardians may withdraw their youth at any time. Secure CRC is located at **628 S Cowley Street** and their 24 hour number is **(509)232-2671**.

- **“I HAVE ALSO HEARD ABOUT CPS. WHAT DO THEY DO?”**

Child Protective Services (CPS) is a program of the Division of Child and Family Services. They investigate cases of suspected child abuse and offer services to parents who are concerned about **their child’s safety**. They are a resource for **parents/guardians who would like to improve their parenting skills and don’t know where to get help**. CPS is located at **1313 N Atlantic Street, Suite 2000**; their phone number is **363-3333** or **1-800-562-5624** (during non-business hours).

II. Questions about the Becca Bill (Getting the courts’ help with Family Conflicts)

The Becca Bill was designed to help parents and families in crisis. The court may order family assessments which define the issues that are creating the family crisis. The courts will then order the family/youth into services that address those specific issues. There are 3 major parts to the Becca Bill: The **At-Risk Youth Petition (ARY)**, the **Truancy Petition** and the **Child in Need of Services Petition (CHINS)**. Information sessions about the Becca Bill are held at the Spokane County Court (1208 W Mallon). You may contact the **Becca Bill Facilitators** at **477-2459** to schedule a meeting or request more information.

- MY CHILD REALLY WORRIES ME! SHE COMES AND GOES AS SHE PLEASES AND SHE'LL BE GONE FOR 3 OR 4 DAYS. SHE SCARES ME WITH THE WAY SHE ACTS, AND I DON'T WANT HER RUNNING AROUND LIKE THIS. WHAT CAN I DO?"

An **At-Risk Youth Petition (ARY)** works by requiring the youth to remain in the home and follow rules that have been established by the courts. An ARY petition is valid for up to one year and may be filed by a parent/guardian, or an advocate such as a DCFS case worker. A parent/guardian who files an ARY petition keeps custody of their youth.

You may file an ARY petition if you can prove that:

your child has runaway for at least 72 hours

or

your child behaves in a way that is a danger to him or herself or others

or

your child has a serious drug/alcohol or mental health problem, but is not facing any legal charges

Parents can file an ARY petition by calling the Becca Bill Facilitators (477-2459) or contacting FRS (363-3350).

- “MY CHILD KEEPS CUTTING CLASSES AND REFUSES TO GO TO SCHOOL. WHAT CAN I DO?”

After a certain number of absences (5 absences in a month or 10 in a year) your **child's school will contact you and may begin the procedure for filing a Truancy Petition**. You may initiate the contact by calling the principal, vice-principal or the **child's school counselor or social worker**. After contact has been made, you will meet with school personnel in an attempt to solve the issues keeping your child from being in school. If this does not work the school may file a Truancy Petition. Youth, parents and school staff will attend a Discovery hearing to determine the causes for the truancy. The court will then make recommendations to enable the youth to return to school.

- **“MY CHILD AND I KEEP HAVING MAJOR PROBLEMS WHEN HE/SHE IS AT HOME. I JUST NEED A BREAK. I JUST CAN’T HAVE HIM/HER HERE UNTILL SOME THINGS GET STRIAGHTENED OUT. I DON’T WANT TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE ILLEGAL...”**

You may want to consider filing a **Child in Need of Services Petition (CHINS)**. It can be filed by a youth (with their legal advocate), a parent/guardian or by a DCFS case worker. If a CHINS Petition is approved by the court, the youth will be temporarily outside of the home for up to 9 months and relevant services will be ordered that address the identified issues. The parent/guardian will retain custody of the youth. The goal is family re-unification.

As a parent you may file a CHINS petition if:

-The youth is beyond your control and acts in a way that is dangerous to him or herself or others.

or

-The youth has runaway at least twice and has a serious substance abuse problem.

or

-The youth has runaway at least twice and is a danger to him or herself.

or

-The youth is refusing to engage in services.

CHINS information may be accessed through the **Becca Bill Facilitator** at Juvenile Court, **477-2459**.

III. Questions about substance-abuse related problems

- “I THINK MY CHILD HAS BEEN DOING DRUGS. I WANT TO HELP, BUT I DON’T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN.”

Before any youth can receive treatment, he/she needs to complete a drug and alcohol assessment. There are several different assessment programs in Spokane. For example **NorthEast Washington Treatment Alternatives (NEWTA)**; located at **1224 N. Ash Street** provides drug and alcohol assessments, recommendations and resources for treatment options. Their office is open Monday – Friday from 8:30am to 6:00pm. Their phone number is **326-1140**.

Another option is to call one of the treatment facilities available in Spokane. They can provide you with information on how to access treatment services. No local treatment center assumes custody of youth enrolled in their program. These programs are private, non-profit organizations; most accept Medicaid/Medicare or private insurance. Some programs have funding to help cover costs for patients who cannot pay at all.

It is a good idea to remind your child that continuing with drug treatment from start to finish may not be easy, but is the best thing to do. Children who have substance abuse problems could be offered one of three levels of treatment. Recommendations for which level is appropriate for the youth should come from the assessment.

I. Outpatient Treatment consists of counseling and group support for substance abuse. This type of treatment does not include mental health counseling. During outpatient treatment, patients and parents attend 1 or 2 weekly counseling sessions for 6 to 12 months. The counseling sessions last an hour. One place where outpatient treatment may be accessed is **Daybreak**. Daybreak admits youth between 11-18 years old. As a parent/guardian, you may place your child there for treatment or the youth can place themselves. **Daybreak’s downtown address is 628 S Cowley Street** (they are located in the same building as Secure CRC). Their phone number is **(509) 624-3227**. Daybreak also provides services in Spokane Valley. Their address is **11707 E Sprague, Suite D-4**; their number is **(509)927-1991**.

The Native Project is another program offering outpatient treatment. Their address is **1803 W Maxwell Ave**; their number is **(509)325-5502** or **(509)880-1889** (emergencies only). Services are provided to youth from all ethnic/cultural backgrounds. The Native Project also offers mental health counseling in conjunction with substance abuse treatment. Native Project offices are open Monday-Friday from 7:30am-6:00pm.

II. Inpatient Treatment is different from outpatient treatment because it requires patients to live in a facility for a specified period of time (usually 28-90 days). Inpatient treatment is intended for youth who assessed at being at higher risk. After completing inpatient treatment youth will go through extensive outpatient treatment for up to a year.

There are 2 different kinds of inpatient treatment. One kind offers mental health counseling in conjunction with substance abuse treatment, the other kind is strictly substance abuse treatment.

Daybreak, Healing Lodge of Seven Nations (5600 E 8th Ave, (509)533-6910) and Excelsior Youth Center (3754 W. Indian Trail Road (509)328-7041) offer inpatient treatment. It is best to contact the individual programs to determine the best match for your child.

IV. Questions about family support, mental health and other services

- **WHAT TYPES OF SERVICES ARE OFFERED BY MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM? WHEN SHOULD I THINK ABOUT GETTING HELP FOR MY CHILD? HOW DO I GO ABOUT ACCESSING HELP?"**

Spokane Mental Health (SMH) offers child and family therapy and crisis intervention services for children and families. Counselors, doctors, nurses and social workers will work with you and your family. All services are confidential and only certain types of public insurance are accepted. They are located at **107 S Division** and their phone number is **458-1458**.

First Call for Help is a division of SMH offering a crisis hotline available for 24 hours a day. Their number is **838-4428** or **1-877-678-4428**. First Call for Help is staffed by trained volunteers under professional supervision and provides free telephone assistance and referrals.

Lutheran Community Services Northwest located at **210 W Sprague**, offers counseling and victims advocacy. They specialize in treating trauma and assault victims. They offer a sliding fee scale and accept medical coupons. Lutheran also offers a 24 hour hotline (**624-7273**).

If you are confused, concerned or frustrated by your child's behavior, let a parent who has "walked in your shoes" help. **Passages Family Support**, is a parent-to-parent program where parents learn how to help their children despite their mental health issues. Passages is open to families who have a child receiving services from a Spokane County public mental health provider such as Spokane Mental Health. Services are free of charge and include intensive in-home counseling, support groups, help with school issues and a 10 week Parent Empowerment Class. For more information about Passages call **892-9241**.

- I HAVE SOME IDEA OF WHAT CROSSWALK DOES, WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR STAYING THERE AND/OR ACCESSING THEIR SERVICES?"

Crosswalk is a shelter and multi-service agency for runaway or homeless youth between the ages of 13-17 years old. **Crosswalk's address is 525 W 2nd Ave.** Crosswalk is open 24/7 and their number is **838-6596**. Crosswalk services are free, voluntary and immediately accessible. The goal of Crosswalk is to help youth avoid or leave the streets by supplying survival necessities, teaching self-sufficiency and providing education and hope and opportunities.

- OUR FAMILY HAS RECENTLY BECOME HOMELESS. ARE THERE ANY RESOURCES WHICH CAN HELP MY CHILD STAY IN SCHOOL?"

The **Heart Program** supports students who have been identified as homeless during the school year. Transportation, school supplies and clothing vouchers are some of the possible services provided. They are located at **2600 W Sharp** and their number is **354-7302**.

- ARE THERE ANY PLACES IN SPOKANE WHERE I CAN GET FAMILY SUPPORT AND OTHER SERVICES WITHOUT HAVING TO GO THROUGH COUNSELING?"

The **Spokane Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Center (SCAN)** provides parents with information about the prevention of child abuse and neglect. SCAN offers home visits, in-home parenting education and fatherhood education (326-2477). Information on topics such as treatment programs and parenting issues are also available. All SCAN services are free, confidential and voluntary. They are located at **707 N Cedar #1** and their number is **458-7445**.

Phone List

General Numbers

Emergency	911
Crime Check	456-2233
WA State Patrol	456-4101
First call for Help	838-4428
Toll Free	1-877-678-4428
Crosswalk	838-6596
Becca Bill Facilitator	477-2459
Center For Justice	835-5211
Northwest Justice Project	324-9128
Toll Free	1-888-201-1019

For counseling and other family related concerns

Passages	892-9241
Family Reconciliation Services (FRS)	363-3350
Family Preservation Services (FPS)	363-3350
Phase II Counseling	363-3350
Crisis Residential Center (CRC)	624-2868
Child Protective Services (CPS)	363-3333
Toll Free	1-800-562-5624
Family Service Spokane	838-4128
Lutheran Community Services	747-8224
Spokane Child Abuse and Prevention Center	458-7445
Secure- CRC	232-2671
Spokane Mental Health	458-7458
Team Child (Legal)	323-1166
HEART Program	354-7302

For Drug/Alcohol Abuse and other health related concerns

Daybreak	624-3227
Healing Lodge of Seven Nations	533-6910
The Native Project	325-7740
NorthEast Washington Treatment Alternatives	326-1140
Excelsior Youth Center	328-7041
Planned Parenthood	326-2142
Spokane Regional Health District	324-1530

Crisis Lines

Drug and Alcohol Crisis Line	1-800-234-0420
Rape Crisis Line	624-7273
Missing Kids Clearinghouse	1-800-543-5678 (WA only)
Domestic Violence Crisis Line	326-2255

National Hotlines

National Domestic Violence Hotline	1-800-562-6025
National Center for Victims of Crime	1-800-394-2255
National STD/AIDS Hotline	1-800-342-2437
Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network	1-800-656-4673
Childhelp USA	1-800-422-4453
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children	1-800-843-5678
Child Find (missing children)	1-800-426-5678
National Runaway Switchboard	1-800-621-4000
Alcohol and Drug Helpline	1-800-821-4357
Families Anonymous	1-800-736-9805
Al-Anon Alateen Family Group (Alcohol Abuse Local number)	1-800-356-9996 456-2125
Girls and Boys Town National Hotline	1-800-448-3000
24 Hour Addiction Referral Network	1-800-577-4393