

**Washington County Child Foster Care
Policy Regarding Foster Care Families Wanting to Do Adoption Only Care**

The Washington County Foster Care Licensing Unit licenses homes to provide temporary care for children until the children can return to their family of origin. It is expected that foster families will work with social workers and families of origin to support reunification. If a permanent home is needed, foster families may be considered as a resource; however, reunification is the primary goal for children entering the foster care system.

Families who wish to only provide an adoption placement for children will be referred a list of private agencies. These agencies include “For Fee” and “No Fee” agencies. “No Fee” agencies will provide licensing for adoption services for children with special needs. [Private Adoption Agencies in Minnesota \(fosteradoptmn.org\)](http://fosteradoptmn.org)

Currently licensed foster families who no longer want to provide foster care services and support for reunification, but only want adoption services will be referred a list of private agencies. Washington County will assist with providing information to the new agency with a signed Release of Information form. Washington County-families who wish to inquire about children needing adoption will be better served by Private Agencies who specialize in these placements.

Washington County Foster Care Social Workers will not provide the Washington County Home Study to Social Workers outside of the county who are working with children waiting for adoptive homes. Washington County does not have the capacity to facilitate adoption-only placements. Placements in a foster home needs to be approved by the Washington County Foster Care Unit.