

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Child Dependency Courts

Housing instability is a leading factor that contributes to families becoming involved with the child welfare system. Despite being a basic human need, housing has become increasingly difficult for struggling families to achieve. When families are afforded basic needs like housing, they are better able to engage in their case plans, provide a greater level of care to their children and achieve a better sense of personal stability.



30% of out-of-home placements of children arise or last longer than necessary because the family lacks adequate housing

[Source](#)

Relevant Case Law

[In re Dependency of G.L.L. 20 Wn. App 425 \(2021\)](#)

[Dependency of D.A. 124 Wn App 644 \(2004\)](#)

[Wa. State Coalition for the Homeless v. DSHS 133 Wn. 2d 894 \(1997\)](#)

[Dependency of J.H. 75 Wn. 887 \(1994\)](#)



[FIND YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC HOUSING ASSOCIATION \(IPHA\)](#)

Housing Assistance Definition

Appropriate referrals by the department or other agencies to federal, state, local, or private agencies or organizations, assistance with forms, applications, or financial subsidies or other monetary assistance for housing. For purposes of this chapter, "housing assistance" is not a remedial service or family reunification service.

[RCW 13.34.030\(15\)](#)

KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER ACT (HB 1227)

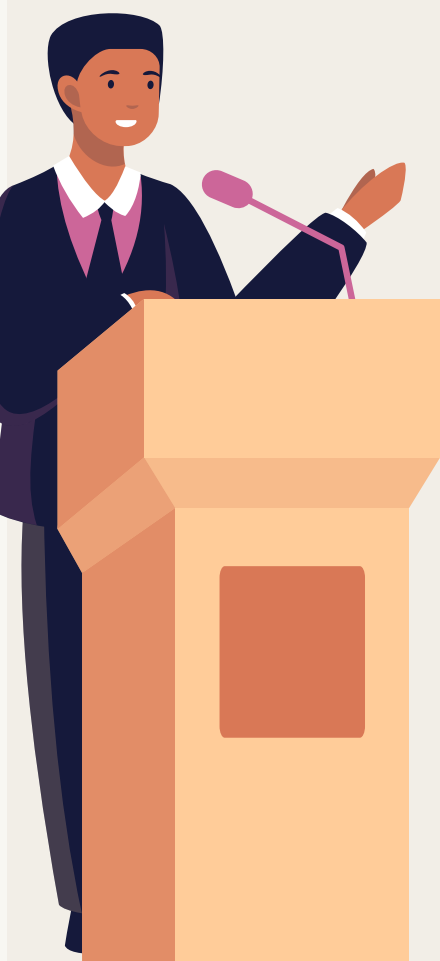
Housing assistance is included within the RCW 13.34.030(21) definition of prevention services

Effective July 1, 2023

Hope for the Future

DCYF Housing Access and Supports 2023-25 Decision Package

Pending



The Housing Access and Supports Decision Package provides community-based supportive housing services for young people exiting foster care, juvenile rehabilitation (JR) and for families involved in child welfare. This funding will leverage additional federal funding and housing units for DCYF clients.

This housing commitment is worth over \$30 million per year. The housing organizations are willing to do this only if DCYF can provide the assisted households with supportive services to help them find and keep housing. To create this collaboration, DCYF and the PHAs have negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). To sign that MOU, DCYF needs the Governor's proposed funding to help it fulfill its MOU service commitment.