

Anna Mumford, Vergennes

I have the privilege of being a post permanency service provider and being able to work with families formed through adoption and guardianship for the past eight years. I feel that this work is incredibly important and request that the state please increase base funding for Post Permanency Services Programs by \$300,000 to sustain this work.

I have recently had a family tell me that they were parented in an “old-school” fashion and that this is what they know. They then went on to say that they know this is not working and would like more support and strategies to meet their son and family’s needs.

Children do well when their parents do well. Post Permanency helps parents do their best. I have had many parents tell me that they have supports and services specifically for their children, however, post permanency adds the parent support for their family, and how crucial it is to have someone who understands. This is so important in parenting and particularly with the complexities of parenting through adoption and guardianship. Although it takes time, I have seen parents shift to strategies and understanding that better reflect their children’s needs. Through parenting support, post permanency services promotes stability and resiliency for adoptive and guardianship families.

Thank you for your consideration,

Anna Mumford, Vergennes