

**INFORMATION FOR:**  
**AT RISK YOUTH (A.R.Y.) & /OR**  
**CHILDREN IN NEED OF SERVICES (C.H.I.N.S.)**

The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families has programs to assist parents with 'at risk youth' and the Juvenile Court assists with this.

**AT-RISK YOUTH (A.R.Y.)**

The At-Risk Youth program is a service offered for families who need court intervention to assist in maintaining the care, custody, and control of their child. Parents or legal guardians can file an At-Risk Youth (ARY) petition for youth who are under the age of 18 and at least one of the following:

- Absent from home for at least 72 consecutive hours without parental consent
- Beyond parental control to the extent that his/her behavior threatens the health, safety or welfare of the child or any other person
- Have a drug or alcohol abuse problem for which there are no pending criminal charges relating to the substance abuse

To file an ARY petition, call **1-800-557-9671** and ask to speak to someone about filing an At-Risk Youth Petition (ARY). They will set up an appointment for you to speak with a Social Worker. The worker will help prepare a Family Assessment.

**CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES (C.H.I.N.S.)**

The purpose of a CHINS Petition is to obtain a court order mandating placement of a child in a residence other than the home of his/her parent because a serious conflict exists between the parent and child. The placement is temporary, and the goal is reunification.

This action is taken when the conflict in the home cannot be resolved and reasonable efforts have been made to prevent removal of the child from the parental home.

To file a CHINS petition with the court call **1-800-557-9671** and ask to speak to an Intake Worker. They will set up an appointment for you to speak to a Social Worker. The worker will help prepare a CHINS Packet.

For further information about these programs, please call the Department of Children Youth and Families (D.C.Y.F.) office directly at (509) 225-6500-in Yakima. DCYF will assist you in determining which program is best suited for your situation.

**LOCATIONS:**

The Yakima DSHS office is located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the DSHS building located at **1002 North 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Yakima WA**.

The Juvenile Justice Center is located at: **1728 Jerome Avenue, Yakima WA 98901**. The Juvenile Division of the Yakima County Clerk's Office is located on the main floor. The Juvenile Division is open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. They are closed for lunch from 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. and for all legal holidays.