



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION**

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TO: Children's Administration Staff

FROM: Sharon Gilbert, Deputy Director
Field Operations
Children's Administration 

SUBJECT: **INDIAN CHILD WELFARE SUMMIT AND FOSTER PARENT AND
CAREGIVER CONFERENCE**

Due to the current economic conditions, we are suspending all conferences for 2009, except the Children's Justice Conference which is federally funded. Among those suspended are two major conferences which have been important to the administration, community partners and our stakeholders. They are the Indian Child Welfare Summit and the Foster Parent and Caregiver Conference.

While we are unable to conduct these conferences this year, we are looking at alternative ways to bring Children's Administration staff, tribal staff, child welfare staff, foster parents, and caregivers together to support one another and to receive vital training. The Children's Justice Conference will be held April 6th and 7th at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center in Seattle, Washington.

If you have any questions please contact Michael Luque, Program Manager at (360) 902-7986 or lumi300@dshs.wa.gov.