



December 6, 2008

To all WSSEA Members and Associates

About a month ago, I was contacted by the National Foster Parents Association which is headquartered here in Tacoma, WA. They were looking to form an alliance with WSSEA and, ultimately NAEA, to provide referrals of qualified tax professionals to their foster parents. As we discussed this partnership, two key points became clear.

1. there is a need for qualified tax professionals to assist most of the foster parents
2. there are many foster parents who can afford the services of a professional; but, there are some who can't.

As we work to define this program, our initial response is two-fold. First we will establish a training program to take place early in the tax season (simply because there isn't time *before* tax season). Please see the attached flyer for details. Completion of this training will allow you to be on the top of the referral list for local NFPA sites.

Second, because of the low incomes of many of the families, there is a need for some pro bono services. We have proposed setting a date for volunteer preparers to go to the local NFPA sites (throughout the state) and spend a couple of hours preparing tax returns for these families. It will only take 3-4 preparers, working 2-3 hours per location to cover the complete day. This date would be a statewide day of service to NFPA and would be heavily publicized.

This is an amazing advertising and goodwill opportunity for us as an organization and individually. It will provide marketing options for our members by being on the NFPA referral list. It helps low income foster parents get good, quality tax preparation services. It is a win-win-win situation.

I urge you to please consider this project as we go into the new tax season. For more information please contact me at 253-589-1401, visit our website at [wssea.org](http://wssea.org) or contact our Administrative Office at 800-613-2801.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the training!

Sincerely,

Kathy A Harrison-Suits, EA  
Immediate Past President