Amara will be providing some or all your visits with your child or children. Your DCYF Social Worker may have provided you with some rules and guidelines about your visitation. The information in this document outlines Amara’s guidelines for visits and helps you know what to expect. We will give you a copy of this information for your reference.

The Basics:
Amara’s Phone: 206-260-1700
Amara’s Seattle Address: 5907 Martin Luther King Jr. Way South, Seattle, WA 98118
Amara’s Tacoma Address: 3501 104th Street East, Tacoma, WA 98446

Your Amara Visitation Specialist: ____________________________________________

Visitation Specialist Phone: _____________________________ *You can text and call this number

What to Expect at Visits
We hope your time with your children will be a positive opportunity to connect and enjoy each other’s company. Please let your Visitation Specialist know if we can help make that happen!

Your Visit Type

Supervised — Your Visitation Specialist must be able to see and hear you and your children at all times. We ask for your assistance in ensuring that you and your child are always within seeing and hearing distance.

Monitored — depending on your caseworker this could mean that you must be either in sight or sound of the Visitation Specialist at all times or that the Visitation Specialist is authorized to leave you alone with your child and to check on you periodically (generally every 15 minutes). We will let you know which one applies to you before your first visit.

Unsupervised — The visit supervisor will drop your children off with you and return to pick them up at the end of your visit. You will be allowed to be alone with your child during the visitation. Your DCYF Social Worker may set up expectations with you directly regarding what you are able to do, who can be present, and where your unsupervised visits may take place. The Visitation Specialist will ask you for some information at the end of your visit such as: what did your child eat, when was their diaper changed or when they last used the bathroom and were there any injuries or incidents.

Please Note: Your DCYF Social Worker communicates to us what type of visitation you are approved to have. Any changes in your visitation type must be approved in writing by your DCYF Social Worker
Your Visitation Specialist

Your Visitation Specialist's job is to: coordinate visits, supervise at the level set by your DCYF Social Worker, complete reports about each visit, and ensure child safety. They must follow the guidelines set up by your DCYF Social Worker as well as those in this document. Your Visitation Specialist will do their best to not interfere with your visits unless they need to intervene for safety or because you are not following the guidelines.

Reports:

Your Visitation Specialist is responsible for providing your DCYF Social Worker with a report outlining what happened in each visit. They will provide you with a blank copy of the form they use for your reference. They are always happy to answer your questions about what they are writing down.

Sometimes the CASA or other parties request that we also send them this report directly. If your DCYF Social Worker gives us permission, we are happy to do so.

The child’s foster parent or caregiver does not receive this report but they are provided with some basic information to ensure the best care for the child continues after your visit:

- What the child ate and if they slept
- When their diaper was changed or were taken to the bathroom
- If there were injuries or incidents
- Any conversations with the child that may impact their safety and well being

Safety:

The Visitation Specialist is responsible to ensure the child’s safety during your time together. They may end the visit early if they:

- Have reason to believe that you are not sober
- Feel your actions are threatening, aggressive, or frightening to the child or to themselves
  - Your Visitation Specialist is mandated to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect.

Your Rights:

While your Visitation Specialist has a duty to enforce all visitation rules and protect your child, they also have a duty to treat you with respect at all times. If you feel that you have been treated poorly, please first let the Visitation Specialist know so that they can try and resolve the issue. If you cannot resolve the issue with them, you can ask to speak with their manager by calling (206) 260-1700.

The Rules

1. **Please Be on Time**
   If you are late, we may cancel your scheduled visit (waiting time is determined by your social worker). If you know you will be late and have access to a phone, please let your Visitation Specialist know by calling or texting them at the number above. If you cannot reach them directly you can call the Amara front desk at 206.260.1700.

2. **Let us Know if You Can’t Make It**
   If you do not show up for a visit, or cancel with less than 24 hours’ notice, your DCYF Social Worker will be informed. If this happens three (3) times, Amara may be unable to continue providing this service for your family. Your Visitation Specialist may ask you to confirm by calling or texting by a set time. **If we don’t hear from you to confirm by that time your visit will be cancelled.**

3. **Bring Healthy Meals/Snacks and Diapering Supplies (if needed)**
   You are encouraged to bring healthy meals/snacks and diapers and wipes for your child(ren). **If you will be unable to provide food or diapering supplies at your visit please let your Visitation Specialist know.**
4. Bring Activities to Do With Your Child
You are welcome to bring age-appropriate toys, games, or activities that are appropriate to the location, for you and your child to enjoy.

5. Everyone at visits, in person or on the phone, must be approved in writing by your DCYF Social Worker
Anyone who comes to the visits, or you call during your visit, must be authorized by your DCYF Social Worker in writing. If your DCYF Social Worker authorizes additional people to attend your visit or talk to your child during visits, they will need to notify the Visitation Specialist in writing prior to the start of your visit.

6. Don’t Focus on your Phone
Talking or texting on your phone is generally not allowed during visits. If you need to take a short call with your social worker or other person regarding your case you can but we ask that you step out of the room. You are welcome to take photos of your child with your phone, but any audio or videotaping must be approved by your DCYF Social Worker.

7. Safety
If your Visitation Coordinator has reason to believe you are intoxicated they will end the visit. You may not consume alcohol, marijuana, or illegal drugs during you visit. You may not bring weapons to your visit. Only certified service animals are allowed.

8. Stay in the Visit, Except for Emergencies
If you leave the visit for non-emergency reasons (such as to smoke) your visit may end. If you need to leave the visit for any reason, please let the Visitation Specialist know why.

9. Don’t Talk about Your Case
We encourage you to talk with your child or children about what is happening in their lives and yours. However, DCYF does not allow conversation about case plans, asking for information about caregivers, talking about DCYF staff, the child’s other parent, or attorneys with your child or children. If you have any concerns, please remember to always communicate with your DCYF Social Worker or their supervisor. Your Visitation Specialist does not have information about your case.

Your Visitation Specialist is not allowed to make any exceptions to the rules unless your DCYF Social Worker has approved the exception in writing.

We would love the opportunity to provide you and your children with photos from your visits. By initialing here you are consenting to us providing photos (printed and e-copy) taken during visits to both you, your children, and the assigned DCYF social worker. Please note: if your children are given copies of photos they will also be seen by their caregivers. These photos will also be stored in your child’s record with Amara. Photos will only be used for the purposes outlined above and no other.

By signing here I certify that I was provided with this information and given the opportunity to ask questions:

_____________________________________ ______________________________________ Date_____________
Print Name     Signature

_____________________________________ ______________________________________ Date_____________
Print Name     Signature