Resources to share with Kinship Families

**Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) websites**

*Foster Parenting & Kinship Care* – Homepage with links to information getting support, important forms, parenting resources, FAQs, and more.

<https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/foster-parenting>

*DCYF licensing application information*

A comprehensive webpage to help you learn what is needed prior to becoming licensed or receiving an approved home study.

<https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/foster-parenting/training-requirements>

*Kinship Care: Relative and Suitable Other Placement*

Printable brochure for kinship families.

<https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pubs/22-1765.pdf>

Understanding the Dependency Court Process for Caregivers

Printable brochure for caregivers

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/documents/22-1741.pdf>

**Financial Resources**

*Benefits.gov* – Allows kinship caregivers to browse for government benefits they may be eligible for. The site includes benefits broken down by State and government agency.

<https://www.benefits.gov/>

*Grandfamilies.org*: Financial Assistance

An amazing website. This page describes potential sources of financial assistance for relatives raising children, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, foster care payments, adoption assistance, and subsidized guardianships. The site also lists additional resources.

<http://www.grandfamilies.org/Resources/Financial-Assistance>

*Washington State Fact Sheet for Grandfamilies*

Information in this resource is written for relatives caring for children both within and outside of the child welfare system, so some of these resources will be facilitated by the social worker. Starting on Page are links to the various public benefits available.

<https://www.grandfamilies.org/Portals/0/State%20Fact%20Sheets/Grandfamilies-Fact-Sheet-Washington0919.pdf>

*Non-Needy TANF* information & application

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/non-needy-relative-loco-parentis-and-legal-guardian-grant>

*Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-SNAP*

SNAP is the new name for the Federal Food Stamp Program.
Offers nutrition assistance to eligible families, including family caregivers. The site includes information on how to apply, eligibility requirements, and more.

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program>

**Additional Resources to Support Placement**

***Child Welfare Information Gateway***

*Kinship Caregivers and the Child Welfare System*

Describes in easy-to-understand terms the basics of the child welfare system for kinship families and links to services and additional resources.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/f-kinshi/>

*Resources on Trauma*

Webpage has links to a large variety of evidenced-based training and resources to help support children in kinship families who have experienced complex trauma. Also includes ways to promote attachment.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/responding/trauma/caregivers/>

*Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence* – Numerous free trainings and supports designed to help caregivers navigate family dynamics and support the children they are raising. Trainings include: *Kinship 101, Raising your Relative: Supporting Children in Your Care & Navigating Change in Family Dynamics*

<https://allianceforchildwelfare.org/caregivers>

*Grandfamilies.org* - Website

Provides free access to a wide variety of resources that support grandfamilies; educate individuals about State kinship laws; and assist legislators, caregivers, attorneys, and policymakers about kinship support options, including a guide on raising children with disabilities.

<https://www.grandfamilies.org/>

*Generations United* – website

A national advocacy organization for policies and programs to help “grandfamilies”— kinship families in which children are being raised by grandparents or other family members—and promote intergenerational collaboration

<https://www.gu.org/resources/grandfamilies-as-advocates/>

FREQUENTLY USED ACRONYMS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| AA – Area Administrator  | ILP – Independent Living Plan |
| ACEs – Adverse Childhood Experiences | ILS – Independent Living Skills |
| ADD – Attention Deficit Disorder | IPV – Intimate Partner Violence |
| ADHD – Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder | ISSP – Individual Service & Safety Plan |
| AG(O) – Attorney General (Office) |  |
| ASFA – Adoption and Safe Families Act | LF – Legally Free |
| BRS – Behavioral Rehabilitation Services | NCO – No Contact Order |
|  | NICU – Neonatal Intensive Care Unit |
| CA – Children’s Administration | NPC – Non-Parental Custody |
| CAC – Child Advocacy Center |  |
| CA/N – Child Abuse/Neglect | OPD – Office of Public Defense |
| CC – Case Conference | OPD – Original Placement Date |
| CFWS – Child & Family Welfare Services | OT – Occupational Therapy |
| CHET – Child Health & Education Tracking | PN – Physical Neglect |
| CPS – Child Protective Services | PO – Protection Order |
| CRC – Crisis Residential Center | RCW – Revised Code of Washington |
| CWS – Child Welfare Services | RSO – Registered Sex Offender |
|  |  |
| DCYF – Department of Children, Youth & Families | SA – Sexual Abuse/Assault |
| DD – Developmentally Delayed/Disabled | SAY – Sexually Aggressive Youth |
| DDD – Division of Developmental Disabilities | SC – Shelter Care |
| DLR – Division of Licensing Resources | SIDS – Sudden Infant Death Syndrome |
| DSHS – Department of Social & Health Services | SSA – Social Security Administration |
| DV – Domestic Violence | SSI – Supplemental Security Income |
| EBT – Evidence Based Therapy | SW – Social Worker |
| FAR – Family Alternative Response | TANF Temporary Aid for Needy Families |
| FAS – Fetal Alcohol Syndrome | TPR – Termination of Parental Rights |
| FF – Fact Finding Hearing  | Triple P – Positive Parenting Program |
| FM – Foster Mom | Tx – Treatment |
| FP – Foster Parent | VPA – Voluntary Placement Agreement |
| FPS – Family Preservation Services | WAC – Washington Administrative Code |
| FRS – Family Reconciliation Services | WIC – Women, Infants & Children |
| FTDM – Family Team Decision Making Meeting |  |
| GAL – Guardian ad Litem |  |
| ICPC – Interstate Compact for Placement of Children |  |
| ICWA – Indian Child Welfare Act |  |
| IEP – Individual Education Plan |  |