



KINSHIP CARE GUIDE



Cuyahoga County
Together We Thrive
Division of Children and Family Services

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page 3	What is Kinship Care Placement?
Page 4	Resources for Kinship Caregivers?
Page 4	Kinship Support Payments (KSP)
Page 5	Kinship Mileage Reimbursement
Page 6	Kinship Mileage Reimbursement Form
Page 7	Kinship Permanency Incentive Program (KPIP)
Page 8	Cuyahoga Job & Family Services Benefits
Page 8	Ohio Works First (OWF/Child Only Benefits)
Page 8	Medical
Page 8	Food assistance
Page 9	Prevention, Retention, Contingency (PRC) - KCP
Page 10	How to apply for JFS benefits
Page 11	Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)
Page 13	Help Me Grow
Page 13	Community Resources
Page 15	Neighborhood Collaboratives
Page 16	Food Banks
Page 18	LGBTQ2S+ Agency Resources
Page 19	LGBTQ2S+ Community Resources
Page 20	Other Kinship Resources
Page 21	How do I become a foster parent for my kin
Page 21	Child-Specific Foster Parenting
Page 21	Fingerprinting
Page 21	Pre-Service Training
Page 22	Pre-Service Training Schedule
Page 23	Daycare Services
Page 23	Starting Point
Page 24	JFS Daycare
Page 25	Kinship Daycare
Page 26	DCFS Kinship Contact Information



What is Kinship Care Placement?

Kinship care placement is a temporary arrangement where a relative and/or a non-blood related adult who has a significant relationship to a child(ren) provides full time care for a child(ren) while they are in the custody of a public children and family services agency.

Kinship caregivers must be approved by the Cuyahoga County Division of Children & Family Services (DCFS) based on state and federal guidelines. A DCFS caseworker must conduct a home safety audit and interview all household members. Fingerprinting is required before a placement can be fully approved.

Resources for Kinship Caregivers

Kinship Support Payments (KSP)

- Kinship Support Payments are available to kinship caregivers who currently have a child(ren) placed in their home who is in CCDCFS custody.
- The child must be in the custody of CCDCFS.
- A kinship caregiver who is a licensed foster parent is not eligible for these payments.
- There is no application process and no need to apply. Payments will automatically start once the kinship assessment is approved.
- If a child is placed in your home before September 29, 2021, caregivers will receive KSP payments for no more than nine months from the date the child was placed in the home.
- If a child is placed in your home after September 30, 2021, caregivers will receive KSP payments for no more than six months from the date that the child was placed in the home.
- Payments are retroactive to the day of placement with caregiver.
- Caregivers will receive KSP payments up until they become a licensed foster caregiver, until the child is no longer placed in the home as a kinship placement, or the timeframe described above has ended, whichever happens first.
- The payment will be \$10.80 per day, per kinship child placed in your home.
- Please note this program is not considered income but, is considered reimbursement for providing care to a child in DCFS custody for a temporary time frame.



Kinship Mileage Reimbursement

CCDCFS approved kinship caregivers are eligible for reimbursement for qualified mileage and parking fees when transporting children placed in their homes by Cuyahoga County Division of Children & Family Services to agency authorized appointments. Agency author-ized appointments include:

- Family visits
- Medical appointments
- Dental appointments
- Eye appointments
- Counseling appointments
- Therapy appointments

The milage reimbursement for authorized travel is set at a standard mileage rate(s) currently established by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for travel expenses.

Some transportation costs that are associated with activities that are considered daily rou-tine of any family are not reimbursed. These activities include, but are not limited to:

- Transportation to and from school
- Transportation to and from recreational activities
- Transportation to and from vacation
- Transportation to and from church
- Transportation to and from sporting events
- Transportation to and from prescription pick-up/refills

For reimbursement, caregivers must complete the Travel Expense Report Form ([download here](#)) detailing mile-age and other costs. Please contact your worker for this form. When filling out this form the items below must be included:

Dated original receipts for tolls, parking, bus, taxi.

These documents must be attached to the form and submitted to your worker no later than 60 days following the month travel reimbursement is requested. Any request outside of this time frame will require further approval.

The maximum allowable reimbursement for parking without a receipt is \$2.00.

Kinship Permanency Incentive Program (KPIP)

KPIP is available for kinship caregivers who hold legal custody or guardianship of a minor child who is not a biological child.

Caregivers who are eligible will receive a total of eight payments per child. The initial payment will be worth \$525.00 per child. The remaining seven payments will be \$300.00 per child.

In order for a caregiver to receive a check they must apply and reapply every six months.

Please note this program is not considered income but, is consider an incentive. Thus, it should not effect any Social Security payments or any other government assistance programs.

The program is based upon a household income. The income guidelines are based upon the 300% federal poverty guidelines. Please see below:

Family Size	300% Federal Poverty Guidelines
2	\$52,260
3	\$65,880
4	\$79,500
5	\$93,120
6	\$106,740
7	\$120,360
8	\$133,980
For each additional person add	\$13,620

To request an application packet , please **call** (216-881-4343) or they are available at the front desk at the Jane Edna Hunter Building located at 3955 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH, 44115.

Cuyahoga Job & Family Services Benefits

TANF - Ohio Works First (OWF)/Child Only Benefits

If you are a relative caregiver and have a child placed in your home who is in the Custody of Cuyahoga County DCFS and the Kinship Support Payments have ended, you can apply for the Ohio Works First "Child Only Benefit". This is different from the traditional Ohio Works First program as the Cash benefit does not include your income, but rather the child's income. The child will not be eligible if they are receiving any Social Security benefits.

You will need the following from CCDCFS to apply:

- A placement letter from the CCDCFS worker that is on the county letterhead. It must be signed and dated by the CCDCFS caseworker and their supervisor, including their contact information and the following information:
 - The name of the child(ren) placed with the kinship caregiver, their DOB, and SSN.
 - The name of the kinship caregiver, their DOB, and SSN
 - The date the child(ren) were placed with the kinship caregiver
 - The date the child(ren) entered CCDCFS/caregiver's custody.
 - The blood relationship between the child(ren) and caregiver (Maternal Aunt, Paternal Grandparent, etc.)
- A copy of the child's birth certificate who is placed in the home of by CCDCFS.

You (the caregiver) will need to provide the following:

- Copies of Birth Certificates showing the relationship between you (the caregiver) and the child(ren).
 - For example, if the child is your maternal grandson, you will need a copy of your birth certificate and your daughter's birth certificate.

Medical

If the child is currently in the custody of the agency, the medical care is managed by DCFS.

If the caregiver receives custody of the child and needs medical, the caregiver can apply for it along with "Child Only Benefits" through JFS.

Food Assistance - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Food assistance/SNAP benefits may be available for clients through CJFS. Please see the instructions on Page 9 to apply for benefits.

Prevention, Retention, Contingency (PRC) - KCP

KCP/PRC is a category of assistance designed to assist relative caregivers who have had children placed in their home. KCP has two categories:

- **Stabilization**
 - 4 month period from date of placement
 - Allows caregiver potential eligibility to obtain items necessary for caring for child(ren) placed in their care
 - Assistance group size one (only count child(ren))
 - 200% federal poverty level guideline for assistance group size
- **KCP/Childcare**
 - Relative caregiver must be in a qualified activity (employed or in school)
 - Assistance group size is caregiver and child(ren) in care
 - Must meet 200% federal poverty guidelines for household size.
 - No eligibility exists for fulltime childcare under KCP rules
 - Maximum issuance is \$1500 per child per calendar year

KCP does not cover cash, food stamps, or ongoing child care. These KCP can only be issued for children residing with a caregiver in Cuyahoga Co.

Below are the 2021 200% Federal Poverty Guidelines:

Family Size	200% Federal Poverty Guidelines
2	\$25,520
3	\$34,480
4	\$43,440
5	\$52,400
6	\$61,360
7	\$70,320
8	\$79,280
For each additional person add	\$8,960

How to Apply for JFS Benefits

To apply for OWF, Medical, Food Assistance:

- A completed JFS 07200 application for cash, food, or medical assistance will need to be completed.
- You can apply online at <https://benefits.ohio.gov/>
- Caregiver can call the Call Center at (844) 640-6446, Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm, to apply over the phone.
- Paper applications and drop boxes are available at Neighborhood Family Centers:

Jane Edna Hunter Building
3955 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44115
216-881-4416

Virgil E. Brown Building
1641 Payne Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44114
216-987-6978

Quincy Place - 2nd Floor
8111 Quincy Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44104
216-391-5027

Old Brooklyn (drop box only - no paper applications or scanner)
4261 Fulton Parkway,
Cleveland, OH 44144
216-635-2918

Westshore Opportunity Center
9830 Lorain Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216-987-6578

Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)

WIC is the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children. The program helps income eligible pregnant and breastfeeding women, women who recently had a baby, infants, and children up to five years of age who are at health risk due to inadequate nutrition. Caregivers who also have foster or kinship children under the age of 5 are eligible.

WIC provides education on nutrition and breastfeeding. The program also provides supplemental, highly nutritious foods such as the following:

- Cereal
- Eggs
- Milk
- Whole grain foods
- Fruits and vegetables
- Iron-fortified infant formula

WIC income eligibility is based upon the 185% Federal Poverty Income Guidelines

Economic Unit	Annually	Monthly	Twice Monthly	Biweekly	Weekly
1	\$23,828	\$1,986	\$993	\$917	\$459
2	32,227	2,686	1,343	1,240	620
3	40,626	3,386	1,693	1,563	782
4	49,025	4,086	2,043	1,886	943
5	57,424	4,786	2,393	2,209	1,105
6	65,823	5,486	2,743	2,532	1,266
7	74,222	6,186	3,093	2,855	1,428
8	82,621	6,886	3,443	3,178	1,589

Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) Locations

WIC locations are located in all 88 counties in the state of Ohio. Applicants can contact the WIC Clinic Hotline at 1-800-755-GROW(4769) or odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/women-infants-children/welcome

Bedford WIC
19999 Rockside Rd.
Bedford, OH 44146
216-957-5180

Cleveland Hts. WIC
10 Severance Cir.
Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
216-297-2370

Lakewood WIC
15224 Madison Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-228-2180

Broadway WIC
6835 Broadway Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44105
216-957-1950

Lee Harvard WIC
Lee Harvard Health Center
4071 Lee Rd. SE Suite. 270
Cleveland, OH 44128
216-751-8209

University WIC
UH Rainbow Ctr for Women & Children
5805 Euclid Ave. Rm. 101
Cleveland, OH 44103
216-675-6605

Parma/State WIC
Parma Health Ed. Ctr. UH
7300 State Rd.

Parma, OH 44134
440-886-1752

Euclid Shore WIC
291 E. 222nd St.
Euclid, OH 44123
216-731-6166

East Cleveland WIC
16200 Euclid Ave.
E. Cleveland, OH 44112
216-451-3800

MetroHealth Ohio City
Health Center
4757 Lorain Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-957-4921

Southeast WIC
13301 Miles Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44105
216-751-3100

Hough WIC
8300 Hough Ave,
Cleveland, OH 44103
216-231-3500

Brooklyn WIC
5202 Memphis Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44144
216-957-9832

Westtown WIC
10654 Lorain Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44111
216-671-3679

Parma/Snow WIC
12301 Snow Rd.
East Entrance, 4th Fl.
Parma, OH 44130
216-265-6810

Buckeye WIC
Buckeye Health Center
2816 E. 116th St.
Cleveland, OH 44120
216-957-4370

J. Glen Smith WIC
11100 St. Clair Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44108
216-957-5635

MetroHealth WIC
2500 MetroHealth Dr.
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-778-4932

Administrative Office
5202 Memphis Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44144
216-957-9421

Help Me Grow

Help Me Grow is a system of supports for pregnant women, caregivers with new babies, and families with young children with developmental delays and disabilities. Services and supports can be provided via home visiting and early intervention.

- Home Visiting is a voluntary, home-based service offered at no cost to the family. Trained professionals offer information and support during pregnancy and empower parents with skills, tools, and confidence to nurture the healthy growth of their child throughout the child's earliest years.
- Early Intervention supports families of young children birth to age three with developmental delays and disabilities. These services are typically provided in the home or other places the family spends time and builds on their ability to enhance the child's learning and development.

Help Me Grow is available in all 88 counties in the state of Ohio

Contact information for Help Me Grow, Cuyahoga County:

Regional Partner: Bright Beginnings

216-930-3322

440-389-3322

800-755-GROW

HMGreferrals@helpmegrow.org

Community Resources

Neighborhood Collaboratives

Neighborhood Collaboratives are organizations that provide resources and support for families. They work with families that are already involved with our agency and those families that are not involved with the agency. The collabs offer support to stabilize family dynamics and return or maintain children safely in the home. Collabs also serve as a community voice, advocate, and resource on behalf of children's well-being, often working with DCFS staff to identify best options to help ensure child safety and permanency. Collabs provide or connect families with a myriad of services including:

- Assistance with basic needs
- Early childhood/youth services
- Substance abuse services
- Counseling
- Housing referrals
- Employment assistance
- Education
- Health and wellness

Please see the next page for the list of neighborhood collaboratives and their associated zip codes in which they serve.

Current Neighborhood Collaboratives

Murtis Taylor Human Services System - Mount Pleasant University Settlement - Southwest Community

13422 Kinsman Rd., Cleveland, OH 44120

www.murtistaylor.info

216-283-4400

Serving zip codes: 44120, 44122, 44112

Based Services (Parma)

5210 Loya Parkway, Parma, OH 44130

www.universitysettlement.net

440-887-4873

Serving zip codes: 44017, 44070, 44129, 44130, 44131,

44133, 44134, 44136, 44138, 44141, 44142, 44144,

44147, 44149

Murtis Taylor Human Services System - East Cleveland & Euclid

16005 Terrace Rd., East Cleveland, OH 44112

www.murtistaylor.info

216-681-2141

Serving zip codes: 44117, 44119, 44123, 44132

University Settlement

4800 Broadway Ave., Cleveland, OH 44127

www.universitysettlement.net

216-641-8948

Serving zip codes: 44105, 44125, 44127

Murtis Taylor Human Services System - Garfield

5522 Turney Rd., Garfield Heights, OH 44125

www.murtistaylor.info

216-283-4400

Serving zip codes: 44125, 44137

Westside Community House

9300 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, OH 44102

www.wschouse.org

216-771-7297

Serving zip codes: 44102, 44109, 44113

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA)

2573 East 43rd St., Cleveland, OH 44104

www.cmha.net/residentservices/familytofamily

216-271-2387

Serving zip codes: 44104, 44115

Catholic Charities - Fatima Family Center

6809 Quimby Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103

www.ccdocle.org/locations/Fatima-family-center

216-631-1244

Serving zip codes: 44022, 44103, 44114

East End Neighborhood House

2749 Woodhill Dr., Cleveland, OH 44104

www.eenh.org

216-791-9378

Serving zip codes: 44104, 44106

Catholic Charities - St. Martin De Porres

1264 East 123rd St., Cleveland, OH 44108

www.ccdocle.org/locations/st-martin-de-porres-family-center

216-268-3909

Serving zip codes: 44108, 44110

Harvard Community Services Center

18240 Harvard Ave., Cleveland, OH 44128

www.harvardcommunitycenter.org

216-991-8585

Serving zip codes: 44128, 44139, 44146

City of Lakewood

12525 Lake Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107

www.thelakewoodfoundation.org/lakewood-area-collaborative/

Serving zip codes: 44107, 44111, 44116, 44126, 44135,

44140, 44145

The Centers - Heights Suburban Collaborative

1941 S. Taylor, Cleveland, OH 44118

www.thecentersohio.org/services/family-support/

216-325-9132

Serving zip codes: 44040, 44106, 44118, 44120, 44121,

44122, 44124, 44143

Food Banks

Greater Cleveland Food Bank

15500 South Waterloo Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44110
216-738-2265
Greaterclevelandfood-bank.org

May Dugan Center

4115 Bridge Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-631-5800
Maydugancenter.org

A.C.E. Ministry Affinity Baptist Church

4411 East 175th St.
Cleveland, OH 44128
216-283-4365
Affinitymbc.org

Abundance Food Pantry

3031 Monticello Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44106
216-321-2660
Fhcpresb.org/food-pantry/

AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland

2829 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44115
216-621-0766
Clevelandtaskforce.org

Audrey's Outreach

16845 Holland Rd.
Brook Park, OH 44142
216-433-1515
Audreysoutreach.org

Avon Avenue Baptist Church

10902 Avon Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44105
216-883-6120

Bethany Baptist Church

1211 East 105th St.

Cleveland, OH 44108
216-791-2673
Bethanybap.org

Beulah Baptist Church of Col- linwood

14912 Saranac Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44110
216-451-5477

Bishop William Cosgrove Center

1736 Superior Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44114
216-781-8262

Body of Christ Assembly

20900 Miles Parkway
Warrensville Hts., OH 44128
216-870-0328
Boca1.org

Bountiful Basement

4370 West 140th St.
Cleveland, OH 44135
216-671-3870

Bridge of Hope Center

3949 Lee Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44128
216-276-0571

Brookside Hunger Center

3802 Pearl Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-749-4295

Calvary Lutheran Church

13101 Euclid Ave.
East Cleveland, OH 44112
216-451-1151

Calvary Presbyterian Church

2020 East 79th St.
Cleveland, OH 44103
216-391-8448

Christian Fellowship Center Ministries

14713 Lakeshore Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44110
216-201-9145

Church on the Rise

3550 Crocker Rd.
Westlake, OH 44145
440-808-0200

Church Street Ministries

1480 W. Bagley Rd.
Berea, OH 44017
440-826-4603

City Reach Church

3801 Clark Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-631-6764

Cleveland Chesed Warehouse

1898 South Taylor Rd.
Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
216-932-3115

Cleveland Kosher Food Pantry

2004 South Green Rd.
Beachwood, OH 44121
845-558-1529

Community Corner Hunger Center

8302 Detroit Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216-631-6508

D'Jakes Community Resources

14715 Euclid Ave.
East Cleveland, OH 44112
216-486-8464

Food Banks

Denison Avenue United Church of Christ

9900 Denison Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216-631-0904

East 131st St. Church of Christ Food Pantry

3711 East 131st St.
Cleveland, OH 44120
216-410-1940

Euclid Hunger Task Force

291 E. 222nd St. Rm 17
Euclid, OH 44123
216-731-3329

Faith Community Church

5650 Friend Ave.
Maple Heights, OH 44137
216-518-0520

Famicos Foundation

8555 Hough Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44106
216-791-6887

Fatima Family Center

6600 Lexington Ave
Cleveland, OH 44103
216-391-0505

Friendly Inn Settlement

2386 Unwin Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44104
216-431-7656

Garfield Hts. Senior Center

5407 Turney Rd.
Garfield Heights, OH 44125
216-475-3244

Greater Peace Missionary Baptist Church

3435 Fairmount Blvd.

Cleveland, OH 44118
216-321-3481

Harvard Community Service Center

18240 Harvard Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44128
216-491-3318

Heavenly Harvest Food Pantry

4260 Rocky River Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44135
216-252-2348

Iglesia Nueva Vida - Free Methodist Church

2327 Holdem Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-741-0511

Iglesia Sinai

3256 Scranton Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-201-9112

Imani Church

2463 North Taylor Rd.
Cleveland Hts., OH 44118
216-732-8204

Lakewood Community Services Center

14230 Madison Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-226-6466

Lee Seville Miles Hunger Ctr.

16718 Miles Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44128
216-752-9384

Love Thy Neighbor

6295 Broadview Rd.
Parma, OH 44134
440-453-9522

Middleburg Hts. Food Pantry

7000 Paula Dr.
Middleburg Hts., OH 44130
216-362-0044

Mt. Haven Baptist Church

3484 MLK Jr. Dr.
Cleveland, OH 44104
216-441-2770

New Beginnings Ministry

2060 W. 65th St.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216-916-9270

North Olmsted Food Pantry

26272 Buternut Ridge Rd.
North Olmsted, OH 44070
440-716-4165

Nottingham Food Pantry

18316 St. Clair Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44110
216-481-4827

Olivet Institutional Baptist

8712 Quincy Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44106
216-721-3585

Parma Hunger Center

5280 Broadview Rd,
Parma, OH 44134
216-351-6376

Pilgrim Congregational Church

2592 W. 14th St.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-861-7388

Project Hope

233 Tuxedo Ave.
Brooklyn Hts., OH 44131
216-739-3702

Food Banks

Redeemer Crisis Center

2970 W. 30th St.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-631-6434

Sagrada Familia Church

7719 Detroit Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216-631-2888

St. John Paul Ozanam Ctr.

8328 Broadway Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44105
216-441-6373

Salvation Army - Miles Park

4139 E. 93rd St.
Cleveland, OH 44105
216-341-1640

Salvation Army - E. Cle Corps

1507 Doan Ave.
East Cleveland, OH 44112
216-249-4334

Salvation Army - Ohio City

4400 Clark Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44109

Salvation Army - Temple Corps.

17625 Grovewood Ave
Cleveland, OH 44119
216-692-1388

Salvation Army - West Park

12645 Lorain Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44111
216-252-3593

Shaker Hts. Community Hunger Ctr.

20120 Lomond Blvd.
Shaker Hts., OH 44122
216-561-8358

Solon Rotary Club Pantry

32001 Cannon Rd.
Solon, OH 44139
440-349-6363

S. Euclid United Church of Christ

4217 Bluestone Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44121
216-658-4263

St. Albert the Great Parish

6667 Wallings Rd.
North Royalton, OH
440-237-6760

St. Edward High School Pantry

13500 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-221-3776

St. John Cantius Hunger Ctr.

2265 W. 10th St.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-781-9095

St. Ladislav Church

10205 Lorain Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44111
216-251-0300

St. Leo the Great

4940 Broadview Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-661-1008

University Settlement

4800 Broadway Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44127
216-641-8948

Walk of Faith Community Ctr.

7074 Columbia Rd.
Olmsted Falls, OH 44138
440-235-4414

West Side Catholic Center

3135 Lorain Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-631-4741

LGBTQ2S+ Agency Resources

Cuyahoga County Division of Children & Family Services has a program called **AFFIRM.ME**. The program serves to specifically improve the lives of LGBTQ2S (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and two spirit) youth involved with DCFS. DCFS collaborates with community partners to deliver services designed to improve child safety, family relationships, stability, well-being, and permanency for children and youth who have a diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression.

Some services that are available for caregivers are:

Pride Caregiver Network - this is available for caregivers who are open and eager to help care for a youth who identifies as LGBTQ2S and who will provide a safe and supportive home for the child. Caregivers who partake in this program will receive training, attend support groups, and act as mentors to other foster and kinship parents.

Chosen Affirming Family Finding - DCFS works to help biological and chosen family members connect or reconnect with youth to strengthen affirming relationships.

Youth Acceptance Project – DCFS contracts with community agencies to provide in-home services to caregivers by meeting them where they are at in their understanding of a youth's sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression and working with them to expand their hearts and minds to becoming more accepting and affirming.

Please reach out to your caseworker or email the AFFIRM.ME. Team at Affirmme@jfs.ohio.gov for more information or to request resources or services!

LGBTQ2S+ Community Resources

LGBTQ+ Friendly Therapists:

Antone Feo & Associates, Sue Doerfer, MSW, LISW-S

24500 Center Ridge Rd. Ste. 120
Westlake, OH 44145
440-899-1300

LGBTQ Center of Greater Cleveland

6705 Detroit Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216-651-5428
Lgbtcleveland.org

Jason Lambrese, Cleveland Clinic Pediatric Psychiatry

9500 Euclid Ave
Cleveland, OH 44195
440-835-1445

May Dugan Center

4115 Bridge Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-631-5800
Maydugan.org

Nora Corcoran, Psy.D., PsychBC

25101 Chagrin Blvd. Ste. 100
Beechwood, OH 44122
216-468-5000
884-468-5050

LGBTQ Friendly Churches and Religious Organizations:

Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ

2592 W. 14th St.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-861-7388
Pilgrimalive.org

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
2230 Euclid Ave.

Cleveland, OH 44115
216-771-3630
Trinitycleveland.org

United Church of Christ

700 Prospect Ave
Cleveland, OH 44115
216-736-2100
Ucc.org

University Circle United Methodist Church

1919 E. 107th St.
Cleveland, OH 44106
216-421-1200
Churchinthecircle.com

Franklin Circle Christian Church

1688 Fulton Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44113
216-781-8232
Franklincirclechurch.org
this church is a good resource to connect LGBTQ individuals to resources and services within the community

The Council of Islamic Relations of Cleveland (aka CAIR-Cleveland)

2999 Payne Ave. St. 220
Cleveland, OH 44114
216-830-2247
Caircleveland.com

Clinics, Groups, & Organizations:

Cleveland Clinic LGBT Center

14601 Detroit Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107
216-237-5500
<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/about/community/lgbt-health>

Metro Health Kids Pride Clinic

2500 Metrohealth Dr.
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-778-3745
www.metrohealth.org

LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland

6705 Detroit Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44102
216-651-5428
Lgbtcleveland.org

PFLAG - Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians & Gays

Help Line: 216-556-1701
615 Prospect Rd.
Berea, OH 44017
Pflagcleveland.org

American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio

4506 Chester Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44103
216-427-2200
Acluohio.org/issues/lgbt/default.asp

AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland

2829 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44115
216-621-0766

Trevor Project - 24/7 Hotline that provides crisis intervention & suicide services to LGBT youth ages 13-24
1-866-488-7386

TransOhio

Transohio.org

Gender Spectrum

Genderspectrum.org

Other Kinship Resources

Cuyahoga County:

<https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us/divisions/detail/children-and-family-services>

<https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us/programs/detail/grandparent-and-family-member-caretakers>

<https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us/programs/detail/kinship-daycare>

<https://hhs.cuyahogacounty.us/programs/detail/kinship-support-program>

State of Ohio:

https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/kinship_care.stm

<https://jfs.ohio.gov/factsheets/kinshipcare.pdf>

<https://ohiokan.jfs.ohio.gov/>

Red Cross (smoke alarms):

Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, & Ashtabula Counties:

- Smoke alarm hotline: 216-361-5535
- Residents of Cleveland Heights, Euclid, South Euclid, and Woodmere Village hotline numbers:
 - Cleveland Heights - 216-291-2291
 - Euclid - 216-289-8425
 - South Euclid - 216-691-4273
 - Woodmere Village - 216-292-4103 ext. 234

Summit, Mahoning, Trumbull, Portage, Medina, & Columbiana Counties:

- Smoke alarm hotline: 330-535-2030

Stark, Wayne, Ashland, Carroll, Holmes, & Tuscarawas Counties:

- Smoke alarm hotline: 330-453-0146

Erie, Hancock, Huron, Lorain, Putnam, Seneca, & Wyandot Counties:

- Smoke alarm hotline: 419-422-9322

Lucas, Fulton, Henry, Ottawa, Sandusky, & Wood Counties:

- Smoke alarm hotline: 419-329-2900

How do I become a foster parent for my kin?

Kinship caregivers can become licensed foster parents for the child they are taking care of.

Child Specific Foster Parenting

If the child that the kinship caregiver is taking care of is currently in the custody of Cuyahoga County Division of Children & Family Services, caregivers can apply to become a licensed foster parent to the child(ren). Family members must meet the same eligibility requirements as any other foster parent applicant.

- Kinship caregivers who become child specific foster parents do not have to foster any other child besides their current kinship placement

Fingerprinting

All caregivers must be fingerprinted and have background checks completed. Fingerprint appointments must be scheduled by calling the **Fingerprinting Department at 216-881-4570**.

THERE ARE NO WALK-IN FINGERPRINTING APPOINTMENTS.

Pre-Service Training

Pre-service training is the required curriculum to become a foster and/or adoptive parent. Orientation to our programs consist of **24** hours of training. Sessions are offered at various times to accommodate all schedules. Please contact the Recruitment Department 216-881-5775 or visit our website at www.cfs.cuyahogacounty.us for class schedules.

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND PRE-SERVICE TRAINING BY CALLING THE RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT



Daycare Services

Kinship caregivers can receive help with daycare services through DCFS as long as the child(ren) are in Cuyahoga County Division of Children & Family Services custody. If the child(ren) involved with DCFS is not in DCFS custody, the caregiver can apply for daycare through Job & Family Services (see page 24); however, the custodian must meet income requirements to be eligible for a daycare voucher. Caregivers who are taking care of kids that are in DCFS custody, can apply for JFS Daycare but, the caregiver must meet their income requirements. If a caregiver currently receives daycare vouchers through JFS, the child can be added to their caseload. If kinship caregivers do not qualify for daycare services through JFS, DCFS has a kinship daycare program that can help with daycare services.

If help is needed to find a daycare near you please contact Starting Point at 216-575-0061

Starting Point

The following information can be found at www.starting-point.org

Parent Hot Line:

We Help families throughout Northeastern Ohio find the right childcare program for their child in their neighborhood or near their work. When you call, a trained Resource and Referral Specialist will answer your questions, give you personal assistance and send you our free Good Child Care book .

Special Needs Child Care:

If you live in Cuyahoga County and have a child with developmental, health, physical, social-emotional or behavioral challenges, Special Needs Child Care can help you find a positive child care environment, dedicated teachers and expert support so your child will thrive. With help from a team of experts, we'll make sure the teachers are trained to manage your child's needs and have the necessary equipment and appropriate activities.

Out-of-School Time Activities

A Starting Point Resource and Referral Specialist can help you find after-school, out-of-school time and summer camp programs for your child.

Arts and Cultural Activities

Find exciting dance, drama, music, visual arts, history, literature and science activities for your child at www.smartculturesource.org—an innovative one-stop searchable website listing Cuyahoga County out of school time programs.

MyCom:

If you have a teenager between the ages of 13 and 18 and live in Parma, Shaker Heights, East Cleveland or Cleveland neighborhoods: Central, Cudell-Midwest, Mt. Pleasant, St. Clair-Superior, Slavic Village and West Park, Starting Point can connect your child with a wealth of academic, recreational and cultural activities. This is a project of MyCom, a multi-agency program aimed at helping young people in Greater Cleveland reach their potential.

Contact Us:

Phone: (216) 575-0061 Toll Free: (800) 880-0971 TTY: (800) 750-0750

MyCom Email: MyCom@starting-point.org

JFS Daycare

In order to be eligible for daycare services through Job & Family Services, clients must meet the following criteria:

- **Must meet the definition of a family** (definition of a family can include but is not limited to unmarried parents and foster parents as long as they are living in the same household).
 - One or more caregivers and all minor children must reside in the same household.
 - Caregiver, caregiver's minor child and the child of the minor child must reside in the same household
 - Caregiver who is a foster parent or stepparent and all of the minor children who reside with the caregiver in the household
 - Caregiver has shared custody of a minor child(ren) when the child(ren) reside with the caregiver
- A caregiver who is a foster parent or stepparent and all of the minor children who reside with the caregiver in the household.
 - Married caregivers and all minor children who reside with the caregiver in the house-hold.
- **Other determining factors**
 - Gross monthly income must be at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level
 - Ongoing eligibility may be maintained if the gross monthly income is below the 130% Federal Poverty Level.
- The caregiver must be participating in the following:
 - Employment (Full-time or Part-time)
 - Training or an education program which prepares the caregiver for employment.

Applications (Initial and Redetermination) are available at any of Cuyahoga County Job and Family Services, Neighborhood Family Service Centers, see page 9.

If a kinship caregiver is applying for JFS daycare for a child that is in CCDCFS custody they will need to give the caseworker at JFS a letter from the agency stating that the child is currently in agency custody and placed in the caregivers home.

JFS Child Care Income Eligibility Standards:

Family Size	Income Limit Initial 130% FPL	Income Limit Transitional 150% FPL	Income Limit Ongoing 300% FPL
2	\$1,868	\$2,155	\$4,310
3	\$2,353	\$2,715	\$5,430
4	\$2,839	\$3,327	\$6,550
5	\$3,324	\$3,835	\$7,670
6	\$3,809	\$4,395	\$8,790
7	\$4,295	\$4,955	\$9,910
8	\$4,780	\$5,515	\$11,030

Kinship Daycare

Kinship Day Care is for children in the custody of DCFS who are placed in the care of a relative or an interested individual. **Kinship Day Care payments end when DCFS custody is terminated. Kinship Day Care assistance is based upon funding availability and is subject to change. Please contact your DCFS worker to apply.**

Who is eligible for Kinship Daycare:

- A minor mother who is currently in the custody of DCFS is eligible for daycare through Kinship Daycare
- Kinship day care can be used for children placed with relatives where a filing is to be completed but the case has yet to go to court. If the filing is complete or the court denies the custody, the daycare services will be terminated immediately.
- If the relative has Temporary Custody or a filing is in motion for caregiver to receive custody, they are not eligible for kinship daycare.
- Qualified caregivers who work full-time outside of the home or are full-time students can request daycare for five (5) days a week in accordance with their work/school schedule.
- Qualified caregivers who work part-time or are enrolled in school part-time (25 hours a week or less) can request daycare services for three (3) days a week.
- Authorization period for Kinship Daycare is six (6) months.
- Choosing a Daycare:

Daycare must be licensed and willing to take payments from DCFS

Daycares should be Step-Up-To-Quality centers. Caregivers should contact Starting Point at (216) 575-0061 for assistance locating a Step-Up-To-Quality (SUTQ) daycare provider.

If there is an application/registration fee for daycare enrollment, the fee can be paid by CCDCFS
Approved HOME daycares can be used for INFANTS ONLY (aged 0-36 mos.). Children between the ages of 4 and 6 must be in pre-kindergarten or a head start program. Children over the age of 6 may be enrolled in a before/after school care at an approved daycare facility.

CCDCFS will only pay the amount that is billed. The agency WILL NOT pay more than the allowed amount for the age of the child. If the amount exceeds the allowable amount the agency will pay for, the caregiver is held responsible for paying the difference. Transportation costs can be paid if it is included in the costs covered by the agency for the child's age

Age Group	Average Full-Time	Average Part-Time Weekly	Daily Reimbursement
Infant 0 – 17 Months	Up to \$208.91	Up to \$125.35	Up to \$41.78
Toddler 18 – 35 Months	Up to \$189.37	Up to \$113.62	Up to \$37.87
3 – 5 Years Old but not in school	Up to \$168.40	Up to \$101.04	Up to \$33.68
5+ years old and in school	Up to \$139.20	Up to \$83.52	Up to \$27.84

DCFS/Kinship Contact Information

Community Partnership, Kinship, & Foster/Adopt Recruitment Department

Joseph Jackson, Senior Manager

216-881-4014

Recruitment Supervisor

216-881-5972

Foster/Adopt Recruitment

Foster/Adopt Recruitment Inquiry Line

216-881-5775

Fingerprinting

Fingerprint Request Line

216-881-4570

My Caseworker _____

Caseworker's Phone Number _____

Caseworker's Email Address _____

Supervisor _____

Supervisor's Phone Number _____

Supervisor's Email Address _____

The mission of CCDCFS is to assure that all children are protected and nurtured within a family and with the support of the community as we strive to end the over-representation of people of color in the child welfare system. Safety, permanency, and well-being are the goals for every child and family we encounter. Employees investigate child abuse and neglect allegations, assess child safety and risk contributors, and help stabilize families that have been weakened through poverty, illness or crisis. DCFS provides safe and appropriate placement for children in County custody, and helps achieve permanency through reunification, legal custody or adoption.



Together We Thrive

Cuyahoga County
Division of Children and Family Services
www.cfs.cuyahogacounty.us
3955 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
Phone: 216-881-5775
Ohio Relay Service 711

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Programs Supporting Kinship Caregivers



Programs available through the ODJFS Office of Families and Children

Program Name	Kinship Support Program (KSP)	Kinship Permanency Incentive Program (KPIP)	Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program (OhioKAN)
Description	KSP provides financial payments to eligible kinship caregivers for the placement of children in their homes.	KPIP provides a limited number of incentive payments to families caring for kin.	OhioKAN is a statewide, flexible, and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to assist children, caregivers, and families. Navigators help connect families to resources to meet their individualized needs.
Who is Eligible?	Kinship caregivers as defined in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 5101.85.	Kinship caregivers, as defined in ORC 5101.85, with legal (permanent) custody or guardianship.	Kinship caregivers as defined in ORC 5101.85 and post-adoptive families of all types, including international, infant, and public adoptions.
Eligibility Requirements	The child placed in the home is in the temporary, permanent, or legal custody of a public children services agency (PCSA) or Title IV-E agency. The agency must complete and approve a kinship home assessment pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 5101:2-42-18 and enter it into SACWIS.	Caregivers' family income must not exceed 300% of the federal poverty guideline, and the county PCSA must have an approved kinship home assessment.	Families must have a kinship or adopted child living in their home and live in Ohio.
When Can the Program be Accessed?	When a child in PCSA or Title IV-E custody is placed in a kinship caregiver's home.	After a court order grants legal custody or guardianship to the kinship caregiver. A temporary order is not sufficient.	When a child begins living in the home of a kinship caregiver or when an adoption is finalized.
Application Requirements	None	The kinship caregiver must submit an Application for Kinship Permanency Incentive (JFS 01501), verification of custody or guardianship, and verification of income. The PCSA must complete and approve a kinship home assessment.	No application is required. During a family's first call to OhioKAN, a brief eligibility and needs assessment will be completed.
Amount of Incentive/ Payment and Duration	The financial payments are based on a set rate per child per day. Payments can be received monthly for up to 6 months or until the first of the following occurs: 1. The caregiver obtains foster care certification. 2. The child is no longer placed in the home.	Eligible kinship caregivers will receive an initial payment (currently \$525) to help defray the costs of the initial placement. They may receive subsequent payments (currently \$300 at six-month intervals) to support the stability of the child's placement in the home. The incentive may not exceed eight payments.	No payments are available. In some regions, short-term flexible funds may be available. There are no time limits on service. Families can work with their navigator as long as needed.
Additional Information	Payments are available to the extent that funds are available.	The incentive amount is subject to change. At the beginning of each state fiscal year, ODJFS publishes a procedure letter for PCSAs identifying the amounts.	

Programs available through the ODJFS Office of Families and Children Cont.

Program Name	Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP)	Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program Connections to Twenty-One (KGAP C21)
Description	KGAP is available to kinship caregivers who become legal custodians or guardians after caring for child(ren) at least six consecutive months as foster parent(s).	The KGAP C21 program provides kinship guardianship assistance payments for young adults aged 18 but not yet 21 who meet eligibility requirements.
Who is Eligible?	Kinship foster parents who obtain legal custody or guardianship.	Young adults committed to the legal custody or guardianship of a kinship caregiver at the age of 16 or 17 who received KGAP payments, with a Federal KGAP Agreement finalized at the age of 16 or 17, and who meet requirements of education, employment or disability.
Eligibility Requirements	The kinship caregiver must have committed to caring for the child on a permanent basis and signed a KGAP agreement.	Legal custody or guardianship of young adult must have been obtained at the age of 16 or 17, a Federal KGAP Agreement effective at the age of 16 or 17, proof of kinship caregiver support, and the young adult meets one of five eligibility criteria listed in rule 5101:2-55-02(A)(3) of the Ohio Administrative Code.
When Can the Program be Accessed?	The program is expected to begin in 2023. Once it is available, kinship foster parents may become eligible after a court order grants them legal custody or guardianship of the child.	The program is expected to begin in 2023. Once it is available, young adults over the age of 18 but not yet 21 who meet all eligibility requirements can access the program.
Application Requirements	An application will be required prior to the court order granting the kinship foster parent legal custody or guardianship of the child.	A KGAP C21 application, proof of kinship caregiver support, copy of prior Federal KGAP Agreement and proof of young adult eligibility will be required to receive benefits from this program when the child attains the age of 18.
Amount of Incentive/ Payment and Duration	The program is under development and is expected to have a soft rollout in 2022.	The program is under development and is expected to become available in 2023.
Additional Information	KGAP will be available for Title IV-E eligible children through the Federal KGAP program and all other eligible children through the State KGAP Program. More information will be provided when rules and forms have been finalized.	The program is under development and is expected to become available in 2023.

Programs available through the ODJFS Office of Family Assistance

Program Name	Kinship Caregiver Program (KCP)	Ohio Works First (OWF)	Ohio Works First (OWF) - Child Only Benefit
Description	KCP provides family stabilization and caregiving services for kinship caregivers. Stabilization funding can help pay for incidental costs incurred when beginning to care for a child unexpectedly. Caregiving funding can be provided as a reimbursement for child caring services.	OWF is the financial assistance portion of the state's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. It provides time-limited cash benefits to eligible low-income families.	OWF is the financial portion of the state's TANF program.
Who is Eligible?	Kinship caregivers as defined in OAC 5101:1-24-30, including caregivers with legal custody or guardianship.	Families with children that meet a "gross monthly income test" may be eligible. Women who are at least six months pregnant may be eligible for individual assistance even if they do not have other minor children in the home.	Specified relatives, as defined in ORC 5107.02, and caregivers with legal custody/guardianship.
Eligibility Requirements	For stabilization services, the child's gross income must be less than 200% of the poverty level. For caregiving services, the household's gross income must be less than 200% of the federal poverty level. In addition, the caregiver must participate in one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid full-time or part-time employment, • A training or education activity, • One or more work activities as a condition of eligibility for the Ohio Works First or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. 	The household must include one or more children, a parent, or a specified relative. Most adults and minor heads of household must participate in work activities and related requirements.	For the OWF Child Only Benefit, the assistance group includes only the child residing with a specified relative, legal custodian, or legal guardian caregiver.
When Can the Program be Accessed?	When the child is placed in the eligible kinship caregiver's home or when a court grants legal custody or guardianship to the caregiver.	After the application is approved.	When the child is placed in the specified relative's home or when a court grants legal custody or guardianship of the child to the caregiver.
Application Requirements	Families must apply through their county agency. In some counties, the JFS agency accepts applications; in others, the PCSA accepts applications.	Families must apply through their JFS county agency.	Families must apply through their JFS county agency.
Amount of Incentive/ Payment and Duration	The amount varies by county. Stabilization services can be used for up to 4 months. The allowed duration of caregiving services varies by county.	The amount of assistance varies, depending on the household. Cash benefits are available for up to 36 months.	The amount of assistance depends on the assistance group, including the number of children receiving benefits. OWF Child Only Benefits are available until the child leaves the home, is no longer considered a child, or there is a change in circumstance.
Additional Information	Programs vary by county, and are detailed in each county's Prevention, Retention, and Contingency (PRC) Plan.	Benefits are issued through the Ohio EPPICard or directly into a checking or savings account.	



Ohio | Department of
Job and Family Services

Mike DeWine, Governor
State of Ohio

Matt Damschroder, Director
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

JFS 08072 (Rev. 3/2022)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.