



Benefits for a Kin Caregiver:

- Child receives Medicaid to cover medical, dental and therapeutic services
- Training on how to better meet the needs of a child who's experienced trauma
- Access to additional trainings that may help your family
- Connections to community resources
- Monthly stipend of \$333 a month upon completion of onboarding process



Open to welcoming additional children now or in the future who are not kin? Consider completing a few more steps to become a traditional foster parent!

A program provided in partnership with



Please call the Caregiver Support Program at 772-873-7800 or email FLCBCcaregivers@cckids.net.

"No effort on behalf of a child is ever wasted."

Fred Rogers

**KIN
CAREGIVER**



A program for caregivers of children in Florida's foster care system.

Thank You

for stepping in to meet the needs of a special child in your life while their parent is facing challenges. This guide will help connect you to resources that will make the road ahead easier for you and for them.

What is a Kin Caregiver?

The Kin Caregiver program provides support and financial resources to your family as you care for a child who was removed from their home.

We hope that this program is a temporary resource while the child's parents work through challenges they need to in order for the child(ren) to safely return home. However, if this is not possible and you are given the opportunity to become an adoptive parent or permanent guardian to the child(ren), this program will ensure you are able to receive an ongoing Adoption Subsidy or Guardianship Assistance until the child(ren) reaches adulthood.

Who do I work with?

You will work with people within the child welfare system throughout the case. You've probably already met the Child Protective Investigator or Case Manager who did an initial home study to place the child(ren) with you. Now you'll have another added resource with the Kin Caregiver program who will help ensure you are receiving all the benefits you are now eligible for.

What can I expect?

To best equip you with the tools you need to understand the child welfare system, we provide you with educational resources and the knowledge of how to better support the child impacted by trauma. There may also be a small amount of additional paperwork to complete.

You can also begin receiving a monthly stipend once you complete the initial requirements of the Kin Caregiver program. This \$333 a month per child will continue as long as you have the child in your legal custody, even until the child turns 18 if the case closes with you as the permanent guardian.



What happens if a child can't go home?

For some children, the court may determine that adoption is the most appropriate goal, and you will be given the opportunity to apply to adopt the child after the rights of the parents are terminated.

For other children, the court may determine permanent guardianship is the most appropriate goal. If you have participated in the Kin Caregiver program for six consecutive months and if you become the permanent guardian, you will complete a Guardianship Assistance Agreement (GAA). As a permanent guardian you may qualify for monthly financial support through the GAA.

If the child in your home is 16 or older when you become the permanent guardian and complete the GAA, you will also be able to opt in to Extended Guardianship Assistance (EGAP). EGAP will continue the stipend on until the youth turns 21, provided they continue to meet all eligibility requirements.