

A Guide To Kinship Legal Guardianship Resources



New Jersey Department of Children and Families
Office of Adoption Operations-Kinship Legal Guardianship Subsidy Program

Kinship Legal Guardianship Support Services

Kinship Legal Guardianship (KLG) Subsidy Program

To report a change of address, change of payee, Medicaid issues, or have questions regarding subsidy payments, Annual Renewal Compliance Letters, 18 year old school verification, or if you need to speak with a KLG Subsidy Specialist.

1-866-233-5356 or 609-888-7457

New Jersey Department of Children and Families
Office of Adoption Operations
50 East State St, PO Box 717
Trenton, NJ 08625-0717

Kinship Navigator Program

If you are caring for a relative's child this program offers information and referral services for a wide range of needs. Kinship caregivers may qualify for help with child care costs and paying for one time expenses such as furniture, moving costs, clothing, or other costs associated with the care of the child.

Dial 2-1-1 or 1-800-435-7555 or 1-877-652-1148

KinConnect

The New Jersey Kinship Legal Guardianship Resource Clearing House (KinConnect) provides Kinship Legal Guardianship information, online resources, email and phone support, lending library, and referral service to individuals involved with Kinship care in New Jersey.

www.kinconnect.org
1-877-KLG-Line or 1-877-554-5463

Kinship Legal Guardianship Financial Resources

Utility Bill Assistance

NJ Department of Community Affairs

<https://www.nj.gov/dca/>

Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)

<https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/hea.html>

1-800-510-3102

NJ Shares

<https://njshares.org/>

1-866-657-4273

Universal Service Fund (USF)

<https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/usf.html>

1-866-240-1347 or 1-800-510-3102

Medical Insurance/Medicaid

Medicaid Hotline: 1-800-356-1561

Health Benefits Identification Card (Replacement Card): 1-877-414-9251

Health Maintenance Organization (HMO): 1-800-701-0710 (ask for a CP&P representative)

Healthcare Marketplace

Healthcare Marketplace provides health insurance for anyone who does not have health or dental insurance, or who may have insufficient insurance

www.healthcare.gov

1-800-318-2596 or visit

njfamilycare.org

Direct Deposit/Debit Cards

For questions about direct deposit call 1-844-830-6178 or visit

www.njdcfpaymentcenter.com

For questions about your Way2Go card, call 1-833-322-1442 or visit

GoProgram.com

Financial Assistance Resources

Children's Catastrophic Illness Relief Fund

Financial help for families overwhelmed by a child's medical bills

1-800-335-FUND (1-800-335-3863)

Child Support Hotline

As a Kinship Legal Guardian you may be eligible for child support payments. The parents of the children may have an obligation to pay you child support.

www.njchildsupport.org

1-877-NJ KIDS1 (1-877-655-4371)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Federal benefit program which helps eligible working and non-working low income individuals and families pay for food.

mynjhelps.gov/home

General Financial Assistance

Contact your County Board of Social Services.

The link below will provide you with the County Welfare Agencies phone numbers and addresses.

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/njsnap/home/cbss.shtml>

Division of Family Development (Main Number) 1-800-792-9773

<https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dfd/home/>

NJ Helps

Find services and programs for children, families and individuals.

You can also get prescreened for eligibility for Food Stamps, Medicaid and other programs.

www.njhelps.org

NJ Housing Resource Center

For accessible and affordable housing

<https://nj.gov/dca/hmfa/>

609-278-7400

WIC Program

Nutrition program providing nutritious foods to supplement the diets of pregnant, breast feeding, or post-partum women, as well as children up to the age of five.

www.state.nj.us/health/fhs/wic

1-866-44-NJWIC (446-5942)

Child Behavioral, Emotional, and/or Disability Challenges

Behavioral Health Services for Children and Youth

Division of Children's System of Care (CSOC) - Perform Care

Staff is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to help families get in-home counseling, behavioral health, and developmental disabilities services for children. Mobile response assistance is available 24 hours a day during a mental health crisis.

www.performcarenj.org

1-877-652-7624

Child Care for Children with Special Needs

Resources compiled by the Office of Early Child Care and Education in the Department of Human Services.

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/clients/family/special

1-800-332-9227

Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired

The Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI) promotes and provides services in the areas of education, employment, independence and eye health for persons who are blind or visually impaired, their families and the community.

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/cbvi/home

1-877-685-8878

Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

DDHH maintains up-to-date and constructive resources on hearing loss including communication access referral services, technical assistance, equipment distribution, stakeholder communications and advocacy.

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddhh/>

1-800-792-8339 V/TTY toll free in New Jersey, 609-588-2648 V/TTY, 609-588-2528 FAX, 609-503-4862 VP (Video Phone)

NJ Department of Children and Families Youth Hotline

This youth hotline serves all youth and young adults in New Jersey. Youth get help with their daily challenges from professional staff and trained volunteers. Anonymity and confidentiality are assured except in life threatening situations.

www.2ndfloor.org

24 hours a day – 7 days a week, Call or text 1-888-222-2228

Adoption KLG Clinical Services

There are now free in-home therapeutic support services available to post adoption and post kinship legal guardianship families.

The goals of AKLG Clinical Services are for children to gain relationship experience to grow and heal emotionally and for families to build stronger relationships with increased feelings of attachment, trust, and safety. Treatment is available for pre-and post-adoptive and kinship families who live in New Jersey and whose child was placed through New Jersey's Child Protection agency. Children and teenagers aged 20 years old and younger are eligible.

Please call the program coordinator at 551-224-2711 or email Dperez@cafsnj.org for more information.

Other Support Services

Adolescent Services and Resources

Provides information and resources for employment and career planning, educational resources, healthcare, LGBTQI resources, pregnant and parenting youth, and statewide youth resources and supports.

www.nj.gov/dcf/adolescent/
609-888-7100

NJ Youth Resource Spot
www.njyrs.org

Child Care Help Line of New Jersey

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Services include information and referral to help parents locate child care resources and to answer typical questions regarding types of child care, how to pay for care, and even how to become a family day care provider.

<https://www.childcarenj.gov/CCRR>
1-800-332-9227

Educational Resources

New Jersey Department of Children and Families Scholarship Programs

Tuition and scholarship programs provide funds for eligible applicants to attend public institution of higher learning or county vocational schools.

embrella
www.embrella.org
1-800-222-0047 or 609-520-1500

Educational Resources

SPAN~ Statewide Advocacy Network

Parents can receive support from SPAN as a resource for a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

800-654-7726

Office of Special Education

Office of Special Education Ombudsman offers valuable resources and information to support parents, students and educators regarding special education rights and services.

NJ DHS Resource Guide

https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dhs/documents/RD/2021/DHS_NJ_Resource_Guide_English-2020-web.pdf

609-376-9060

Casey Family Programs and Foster Care to Success

Since 2000, The Casey Family Programs and Foster Care to Success Scholarships have helped thousands of foster youth and former foster youth attend and graduate from college and post-secondary training programs.

Undergraduate scholarships range from \$1500 to \$6000 annually and are renewable for up to five years. Applicants must have had KLG finalized after their 16th birthday, or have been in care for the consecutive 12 months prior to their 18th birthday. Scholarship recipients are eligible to participate in the Foster Care to Success Academic Success, Senior Year Coaching and Aim Higher Fellows programs, and to receive care packages.

For more information on the Casey Family Scholarship Program and Foster Care to Success, visit

www.fc2success.org

571-203-0270

Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Application for all federally funded student aid

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

1-800-4-FED-AID (433-3243)

TTY at 1-800-730-8913

NJ Domestic Violence Hotline

New Jersey Coalition to End Domestic Violence

<https://njcedv.org/>

24 hours a day – 7 days a week

NJ Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-572-SAFE (1-800-572-7233)

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-779-7233 TTY: 1-800-787-3224

National Domestic Violence Videophone for deaf survivors: (855) 812-1001

Gambling Addiction

www.800gambler.org

1-800-GAMBLER (1-800-426-2537)

Division of Mental Health Services for Adults

<https://nj.gov/humanservices/dmhas/home/>

1-800-382-6717

NJ State Bar Association

732-249-5000

One Simple Wish

One Simple Wish grants wishes for foster child, children who have aged out of foster care and vulnerable children and families throughout the United States.

www.onesimplewish.org

Help Line NJ 2-1-1

Basic Human Needs Resource

Food banks, clothing closets, shelters, rental assistance, utility assistance

Support for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

Adult day care, congregate meals, Meals on Wheels, respite care,
home health care, transportation, homemaker services

Support for Children, Youth and Families

Childcare, after school programs, Kids Care (health insurance programs), family resource centers,
summer camps and recreation programs, mentoring, tutoring, protective services

Physical and Mental Health Resources

Health insurance programs, Medicaid and Medicare, maternal health, Children's Health
Insurance Program, medical information lines, crisis intervention services,
support groups, counseling, drug and alcohol intervention and rehabilitation

Employment Supports

Financial assistance, job training, transportation assistance, education programs

Family Helpline

Parents feeling stressed can call and work through their frustrations 24 hours a day 7 days a week .

The staff is made up of trained volunteers of Parents Anonymous.

1-800-THE-KIDS (843-5437)

***Dial 2-1-1 from any phone or visit www.nj211.org for more information**



CHILDREN'S AID
AND FAMILY SERVICES

Adoption and Kinship Legal Guardianship Clinical Services (AKLG)

Children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or abandonment while in the care of their birth families often suffer from the effects of significant trauma. Their early experiences with loss cause them to struggle to feel safe with a parent or caregiver. As a result, they may behave in ways that appear unpredictable, oppositional, and even extreme.

Adoptive parents or caregivers may find it hard to manage the behaviors and connect with their children emotionally. Providing supportive care and effective treatment is crucial to help children recover from trauma and encourage healing within adoptive or kinship families.

We're here to help

Children's Aid and Family Services has extensive experience supporting pre- and post-kinship and adoptive families on their unique journeys. Unlike traditional treatment, our therapists work with you and your family in a collaborative partnership to help your child recover from trauma as well as strengthen your relationships.

Our therapists are trained in Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy, an attachment-focused treatment for families with kinship, foster, or adopted children. It emphasizes families working together with the therapist to help their children who experienced neglect, abuse, and trauma while with their birth families.

Goals for you and your family

The goals of AGLG Clinical Services are for children to gain relationship experience to grow and heal emotionally and for families to build stronger relationships with increased feelings of attachment, trust, and safety.

Eligibility:

- Treatment is available for pre-and post-adoptive and kinship families who live in New Jersey and whose child was placed through New Jersey's Child Protection agency.
- Children and teenagers aged 20 years old and younger are eligible.

Location:

Our therapist meets weekly with you and your family in the comfort of your home. The focus is on you -- *the parent or caregiver* -- and helping you build a solid relationship with your child.

Cost:

There is no cost for our services.

Contact:

Please call our program coordinator at 551-224-2711 or email Dperez@cafnsj.org for more information.

This program is funded by a contract with the Department of Children and Families.





DCF Office of Adoption Operations
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Trenton, NJ 08625-0717
ph: 1-800-847-5027
fax: 1-609-943-4147
email: AKLGprogram@cafsnj.org

www.nj.gov/njfofosteradopt/kinship/