



## **ONLINE RESOURCES FOR KINSHIP FAMILIES**

### **State/Federal Resources**

#### **[The Ohio Benefit Bank](#)**

Many of us are forced to make tough decisions every day about paying bills, buying food, accessing medical care, and stretching our household budgets. The Ohio Benefit Bank™ is designed to make it simpler for Ohioans to connect with programs and resources that can make those decisions a little bit easier. From any computer with Internet access, you can use the online service to complete applications for programs like food assistance, child care assistance, health coverage, and much more.

#### **[Ohio Benefits.Gov](#)**

Use this site to manage or apply for healthcare, child care, food and cash benefits.

#### **[ODJFS Department of Children and Families Kinship Care Site](#)**

Information on kinship care and the Kinship Permanency Incentive Program

### **State/Local Organizations and Groups**

#### **[The Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition](#)**

The Ohio Grandparent/Kinship Coalition (OGKC) is an organization consisting of kinship caregivers, kinship caregiver advocates and agencies throughout Ohio.

#### **[Ohio Family Care Association](#)**

The Ohio Family Care Association (OFCA) serves as the statewide voice for thousands of adoptive, foster, kinship, primary and respite families caring for children impacted by Ohio's child protection system.

#### **[City of Seven Hills Grandparent/Kinship Care Program](#)**

The Grandparent/Kinship Care Program addresses the needs of grandparent/relative caregivers of Cuyahoga County children through education and information, short-term service coordination, and linkage to county and community services. For information and assistance, contact GKP Intake at [info@ohiograndparentkinship.org](mailto:info@ohiograndparentkinship.org)

#### **[Clintonville/Beechwold Community Resources Center](#)**

The CRC Kinship Care Program provides support to relative caregivers who have taken custody

of children who cannot be cared for by their parents. The program is based on a strength-based, Family Development model and focuses on academic success for the youth.

### [Dayton Children's Kinship Navigator Program \(in partnership with Montgomery Children Services\)](#)

The kinship navigator program, in partnership with the Montgomery County Department of Job and Family Services, aims to empower and stabilize kinship families so children in kinship care can thrive. Through positive interactions and programming, the kinship navigator program assists caregiving families to find and develop stable and consistent relationships with relative or non-relative children they are caring for within their homes. Kinship relationships are important because they provide children with the support they need to stay healthy, maintain relationships and grow in a supportive environment.

### [Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio](#)

Kinship programs offer support to grandparents raising grandchildren

### [Fairhill Partners \(Cleveland\) Kinship Program](#)

The number of kinship caregivers (older adult relatives, usually grandparents, raising children) has been growing but since the onset of the recession, these numbers have spiked. According to a Pew Foundation analysis, the number of kinship families increased by 6 percent between 2007 and 2008 alone. If this describes your family, come to Fairhill for education, support, and to meet other kinship caregivers in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.

## **National Private and Governmental Organizations**

### [Grandfamilies.org](#)

Grandfamilies.org serves as a national legal resource in support of grandfamilies within and outside the child welfare system to:

- educate individuals about state laws, legislation and policy in support of grandfamilies
- assist interested policymakers, advocates, caregivers, and attorneys in exploring policy options to support relatives and the children in their care
- provide technical assistance and training

### [AARP: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren](#)

If you are raising a grandchild or another relative's child, you are not alone. Millions of grandparents and other relatives are raising children. The Guide for GrandFamilies can help you find your way with tips, tools and resources to the services and support you need to take care of yourself and your family.

### [Administration for Children and Families Children's Bureau \(kinship resources\)](#)

The Children's Bureau (CB) focuses on improving the lives of children and families through programs that reduce child abuse and neglect, increase the number of adoptions, and strengthen foster care.

### [US Department of Health and Human Service Child Welfare Information Gateway](#) (kinship page)

Child Welfare Information Gateway promotes the safety, permanency, and well-being of

children, youth, and families by connecting child welfare, adoption, and related professionals as well as the public to information, resources, and tools covering topics on child welfare, child abuse and neglect, out-of-home care, adoption, and more. A service of the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, we provide access to print and electronic publications, websites, databases, and online learning tools for improving child welfare practice, including resources that can be shared with families.

## **Legal Resources**

### [Family and Youth Law Center \(FYLaw\) at Capital University Law School](#)

The Family and Youth Law Center at Capital University Law School (FYLaw) works within child welfare, adoption, and juvenile justice systems to support positive outcomes for children, youth, and families. Established in 1998 as the National Center for Adoption Law & Policy, FYLaw partners with local, state, and national agencies and organizations in collaborations aimed at improving the laws, policies, and practices associated with child protection, adoption, and juvenile justice systems.

### [OHIO LEGAL AID](#)

Ohio Legal Aid is comprised of nine legal aid organizations that serve Ohioans struggling to make ends meet by providing high quality legal help and problem solving throughout Ohio's 88 counties. Each of these organizations provide legal counsel – at no cost to the client – to help Ohioans achieve justice for themselves and their families.  
866-LAWOHIO (866-529-6446)

### [SOUTHEASTERN LEGAL SERVICES](#)

Legal help without attorney fees to people with low income and limited savings and assets.  
(800) 589-5888

### [COMMUNITY LEGAL AID](#)

A non-profit law firm serving the legal needs of low-income individuals and families, and seniors with an issue in central northeast Ohio.  
1-800-998-9454

### [OHIO STATE BAR ASSOCIATION](#)

The Ohio Bar Association Visit helps to connect the public with helpful legal information and services. Visit and fill in the form "Do You Need a Lawyer?" for help.

### [LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF COLUMBUS](#)

The Legal Aid Society of Columbus provides assistance and guidance to those navigating our complex legal systems.

### [LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND](#)

Legal Aid secures justice and resolves fundamental problems for those who are low income and vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Lorain counties.

### [LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF GREATER CINCINNATI](#)

Resolves legal problems for the most vulnerable in our community, helping them achieve greater economic and family stability

## **Links to County Children Services Kinship Program Webpages**

*[Note: Click here for a county contact if your county is not on this list](#)*

[Ashland County Children Services \(brochure\)](#)

[Athens County Children Services](#)

[Butler County Children Services](#)

[Clark County Children Services](#)

[Clinton County Children Services](#)

[Columbiana County Job and Family Services](#)

[Coshocton County Job and Family Services](#)

[Cuyahoga County Children Services](#)

[Fairfield County Job and Family Services](#)

[Franklin County Children Services](#)

[Greene County Children Services](#)

[Guernsey County Children Services](#) (fact sheet)

[Hamilton County Children Services](#)

[Lake County Children Services](#)

[Licking County Children Services](#)

[Lorain County Department of Aging](#)

[Lucas County Children Services](#)

[Mahoning County Children Services](#)

[Montgomery County Children Services](#)

[Muskingum County Adult and Child Protective Services](#)

[Richland County Children Services](#)

[Sandusky County Job & Family Services](#)

[Scioto County Children Services Kinship Facebook Page](#)

[Stark County Job & Family Services](#)

[Summit County Children Services](#)

[Tuscarawas County Job and Family Services \(brochure\)](#)

[Warren County Children Services](#)

Wayne County Children Services

***\*Site descriptions are taken verbatim from the sites linked to. Inclusion of an organization on this list is for informational use only and does not constitute an endorsement or representation as to the accuracy or nature of the organization's information or services.***