

Available Resources for

Relatives as Caregivers

In Kansas, one in four children in the custody of the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) live with relatives - relatives who are dedicated to providing primary care for grandchildren, nieces, nephews or siblings who are in foster care. Relatives providing care for children in out of home placement have options for financial assistance and access to other supports.

Important Information about Available Resources for

Relatives as Caregivers for children in the custody of the Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services

Financial Support

Relatives may apply for Temporary Assistance for Families (TAF), childcare and a medical card for each child by contacting the closest SRS Service Center. Call 1-888-369-4777 or visit www.srskansas.org to obtain information concerning the closest center.

Relatives may become the payee for benefits the child might be receiving, such as, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Assistance (SSA) by contacting the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213.

If child placing agency standards are met, relatives may negotiate a financial plan with the child's case management provider.

If KDHE licensing standards are met, relatives may receive financial assistance for the related child from the child's case management provider without completing foster parent training.

Relatives may receive financial assistance at the foster home payment rate, if licensed as a foster care home through KDHE and are willing to provide care for both related and non-related children. To learn more, contact the child's case management provider.

Requirements

To meet the requirements for financial assistance, a walkthrough of the home is conducted and each adult living in the home must pass criminal background check(s) by the child placing agency or the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and each adult living in the home must pass a Child Abuse Neglect registry check.

Kinship Support

With an increase in relatives providing care for children, support and resource groups are being formed across the state. For information on available support groups, contact the Kansas Department on Aging at 1-800-432-3535 or visit their website for the Relatives as Parents Program www.agingkansas.org

To Find Out More

Call the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services at 1-888-369-4777