

## NH CHILDREN'S TRUST KINSHIP NAVIGATION PROGRAM

### **OUR MISSION**

New Hampshire Children's Trust is leading the drive to ensure safe, stable, and nurturing environments for children by educating, advocating, and collaborating.

#### **OUR VISION**

We envision a New Hampshire where all children grow up free from abuse and neglect.



## KINSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

#### IN NEW HAMPSHIRE:



**17,594** children under 18 live in homes where householders are grandparents or other relatives.

14,887 of these children live with grandparents.



**2,707** of these children live with other relatives.

8,000 children live with a relative with no parent present.



**In 2017**: NH had the 2nd highest rate of children affected by the opioid epidemic in the US.

- 51 out of 1000 NH children
- **14,000** NH children

The impact of each new drug epidemic on families points to the **need to provide improved supports and services to the grandparents and other relatives** who often raise children with little to no formal training on substance use disorders and related challenges.



## KINSHIP NAVIGATION PROGRAMS FILL THE GAP





## THE ROLE OF THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS

To promote and deliver the KN Program to eligible families in their communities.

- Collaborate
- Program Delivery
- Support Groups and Training
- Outreach and Promotion
- Community Partnerships
- Data Collection



## THE ROLE OF THE KINSHIP NAVIGATOR

To promote independence and enhance the well-being of the families they serve.

- Emotional Support
- Education
- Guidance
- Information
- Referral
- Follow Up

#### **PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY**

Program participation is **free**, **voluntary** and open to grandparents and relative caregivers who are raising a child/children in the absence of the child/children's biological parents.

**Testimonial:** "I have take guardianship of all 5 of my son's children because of the opioid crisis.... the Kinship Program and Families First has been a godsend. I need and have a village to take care of these babies."



### NH CHILDREN'S TRUST KINSHIP NAVIGATION PROGRAM



# WHAT IS THE KINSHIP NAVIGATION PROGRAM?

In partnership with New Hampshire's Family Resource Centers (FRCs), the **Kinship Navigation Program** provides free, voluntary, and confidential services throughout New Hampshire, linking kinship caregivers to the program and supports like food assistance, gas to get to appointments, school supplies, respite care, additional financial assistance, and much more.

### WHAT DO KINSHIP NAVIGATORS DO?

**Kinship Navigators** offer emotional support, education and guidance, and provide information, referral and follow-up services that make kinship families strong, safe, and successful.

- Help kinship caregivers understand community supports and services specific to their family's needs.
- Ensure that kinship caregivers have access to supports by guiding families through benefits & eligibility applications.
- Provide emotional support to kinship caregivers in times of need.
- Serve as an advocate for both kinship caregivers and children as they
  navigate a complex network of programs and benefits.

### KINSHIP NAVIGATOR SPOTLIGHT

"We are the heart that helps families live and be happy, healthy and thriving. I have a connection to each of them and feel we have created a common bond.

I think that being a grandparent raising a grandchild, gives me a bit of an edge. They know that I am only a phone call away!"

Rosemary Nugent
Kinship Navigator,
The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center

## **PROGRAM LOCATIONS**



