



## Quick Guide for Resources for Kinship Caregivers

### TANF - “Child Only Benefits” and Medicaid

- Apply at Job and Family Services - contact 216-987-7000 for the nearest location.
- Apply online at [www.benefits.ohio.gov](http://www.benefits.ohio.gov)
- Apply by calling the HealthyStart hotline at 216-987-7346
- Apply through Ohio Benefits Bank (Now available at Family To Family Sites)

Relatives who have a relative child in their home can apply for “Child Only Benefits” which are based on the income of the child (not the caregiver’s income). If child is in agency custody, the medical care is managed by DCFS. If the caregiver has custody, they can apply at CJFS for medical along with the “Child Only Benefits”.

### Kinship Permanency Incentive Program

- Caregivers must have received custody from a court proceeding on or after July 1, 2005
- Caregivers are eligible for a total of 8 payments over a 48 month period.

Courts must have awarded legal custody or guardianship of the child to the grandparent, relative or other kinship caregiver, based on the best interest of the child. A Public Children's Services Agency must have been involved and completed the relative approval process including a criminal background check. For complete eligibility criteria and more information call 216 -881-4345.

### Food Assistance

- Apply at Job and Family Services – contact 216-987-7000 for the nearest location.
- Apply online at [www.benefits.ohio.gov](http://www.benefits.ohio.gov)
- Apply through Ohio Benefits Bank (Now available at Family To Family Sites)
- Refer to Family to Family Resource Specialist
- Explore additional resources at 211

Food Assistance is household income based at CJFS. There are community food banks in neighborhoods. To find out where food banks are located in the caregiver’s community contact 211 or the community collaborative for food bank and food pantry locations.

### Child Care

- Apply at Job and Family Services - contact 216-987-7000 for the nearest location.
- Apply by calling the Child Care hotline at 216-987-7346
- Apply through Ohio Benefits Bank (Now available at Family To Family Sites)
- Refer to Family to Family Resource Specialist
- Remember to refer to HeadStart or the Early Learning Initiatives
- Explore additional resources at 211

Child Care Assistance is household income based at CJFS.

### Housing

- Apply at CMHA by calling 216-431-1471 or at [www.cmha.net](http://www.cmha.net)
- Refer to Cleveland Housing Network
- Refer to Family to Family Resource Specialist
- Explore additional resources at 211

CMHA has the Fairfax Intergenerational Housing program which is dedicated to relative caregivers age 55 and older who have custody of at least one kinship child who is in their home.

#### ***What you can do ....***

- *Make sure your kinship caregivers know about the Family to Family collab in their community.*
- *Utilize our Resource Specialists and community partners to support our kinship caregivers.*

***Additional Resources for Relatives can be found in the DCFS Resource Guide available on the intranet and in the Ohio Resource Guide for Relatives.***