

About Lutheran Family Services

For over 130 years, Lutheran Family Services (LFS) has worked to build stronger people, families, and communities. With its vision of safety, hope, and well-being for all people, LFS brings decades of experience and earned trust to serving people of all ages and situations. LFS has answers for those struggling with life's greatest challenges or support for parents who simply want the best for their children. LFS serves children who are victims of sexual abuse or labor trafficking, persons with severe and persistent mental illness, veterans, refugees, and children in foster care. LFS staff members do their work with excellence and humility, a sense of community responsibility, and a commitment to dignity and justice for all.



To learn more about the Kinship Care Program

(833) 572-2053

kinshipintake@OneLFS.org

Lutheran Family Services Kinship Care Program Locations

North Omaha Center for Healthy Families®

3040 Lake Street
Omaha, NE 68111
(402) 504-1733

Mourning Hope Grief Center

1311 South Folsom Street
Lincoln, NE 68522
(402) 441-7940

Rupert Dunklau Center for Healthy Families®

1420 East Military Avenue
Fremont, NE 68025
(402) 721-1774

Online services available statewide

OneLFS.org

LFS Headquarters

7929 West Center Road | Omaha, NE 68124 | (402) 342-7038



Kinship Care Program

Kinship Navigation and
Support Services in Nebraska



What is Kinship Care?

Kinship care is the supervision of children by relatives, or another adult who has a relationship or bond with a child. The goal of kinship care is to keep children safe and nurtured when their parents cannot fulfill those duties. Relatives are often preferred kinship care providers, as it helps preserve children's connections with their families.

The Benefits of Kinship Care

Kinship care is a more beneficial arrangement for children than formal foster care placement because of benefits like:

- Children are more successful when they live with people they know and trust.

- Kinship care supports family preservation. The children keep their family identity.
- It reduces trauma and feelings of separation and loss.
- It supports the child's community and culture.

The Kinship Care Program transforms communities and child welfare. It prevents children from entering the complicated child welfare system and supports kinship families navigating temporary delegation of parental rights, guardianship, or potential adoption.

Financial Support

While the state of Nebraska does not provide any stipend for informal kinship placements, Lutheran Family Services' (LFS) Kinship Care Program can help caregivers navigate possible resources that offer financial assistance.

Helping with the Challenges of Kinship Care

The LFS Kinship Care Program offers vital support and resources to families navigating kinship care challenges. Below are some options available to you:

- Free services
- No time limit for services
- Voluntary enrollment
- Client-led SMART goals
- Client voice and choice approach
- Trauma-informed approach
- Peer groups
- Case management
- Referrals to legal services
- Family team conferencing
- Benefit enrollment
- Educational workshops

The Facts of Kinship Care:

National

- **2.4 million children** are cared for by someone other than their biological parents.

Nebraska

- **31,219 children** live in homes where a relative is the head of the household.
- **15,000 children** are currently raised by kin with no parent present.
- **1,096 children in foster care** are being raised by kin.
- **9,032 grandparents** are responsible for raising their grandchildren.

GrandFamilies & Kinship Support Network
<https://www.gksnetwork.org/resources/grandfamilies-kinship-families-strengths-challenges/>

We invite you to **support** the **life-changing** work of **LFS**. For more information on how to volunteer or make a gift, please visit "Get Involved" at **www.OneLFS.org**.

