



Mission Statement:

AFFM provides the training, guidance, knowledge and resources needed to handle complex issues encountered by resource families as they open their hearts and homes to children in need.



“When it’s something you don’t typically plan on doing, it is reassuring to learn there are supports and services available for families, who like me, find themselves raising a relative’s child.

– *Relative Caregiver*

*Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine, Inc.
& The Kinship Program*

Serving all counties in Maine

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Kinship Program

Are you a Kinship Provider?



Kinship Providers may be Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Family Members or Family Friends Raising Children



Kinship care refers to the care of children by relatives or close family friends (often referred to as fictive kin). Relatives are the preferred resource for children who can not safely be parented by their birth parents.

Kinship care is the preferred substitute for the children as it helps to maintain the child's connection to their family.

For children entering child welfare custody, Maine DHHS requires that the family be licensed as a foster home.

Children may also be parented by a relative informally without DHHS involvement.

Kinship Program

AFFM will bring awareness to the general public, policy makers, and potential kinship caregivers of the needs, challenges, benefits, and joys of kinship care.

The Kinship Program provides empathetic and knowledgeable staff to assist families as they navigate the various child welfare systems.

AFFM's Kinship Specialists are certified Grand Family Leaders and can assist families in a variety of ways.

If you or someone you know is in need of guidance regarding kinship care please call the Kinship Program.



How Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine & The Kinship Program Can Help

- Toll Free Phone Service: Non-Judgmental Listening Support Free Services
1-800-833-9786
- Summer Camp Scholarships
- Kinship Relationships, Legal Relationships and Referrals for Behavioral Health Services.
- C.A.R.E.S. Meetings (Connecting. Advice. Resources. Education. Support.)
- Mentor Service
- A variety of Social Events
- Training Opportunities: Annual Training Conference and specific day long trainings
- Discount Card Program
- Monthly Newsletter (Family Ties)
- A Mail order or open door Lending Library of educational books, videos and audio tapes
- Holiday Parties and Holiday Gift Giving
- Information on becoming a Licensed Foster/ Adoptive home: Pros and Cons of Foster Care and Adoption for Kinship Providers
- Material goods including new and gently used clothing and school supplies