

# Our Beliefs



Children have the right to be permanent members of stable, healthy families.

AFFM serves all resource families, including licensed relatives, non-relative caregivers, adoptive parents, foster parents, and caregivers not involved with DHHS. AFFM believes all resource families should have total support and recognizes that kinship providers experience unique challenges when caring for a relative's child.

Access to services, which help enhance families' abilities, develop new skills, and provide the best parenting and a quality home environment, is imperative.

AFFM endeavors to provide unbiased support to those who are involved in children's lives.

# Where to Find Us



304 Hancock Street Suite 2A  
Bangor, Maine, 04401



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Saco, Maine, 04072

[www.affm.net](http://www.affm.net)



207-827-2331

Office Hours 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. | M-F

1-800-833-9786

Toll free phone available  
24/7



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

# Mission

*AFFM's mission is to provide the training, guidance, knowledge and resources needed to handle the complex issues encountered by resource families as they open their hearts and homes to children in need.*



AFFM has a highly skilled and empathetic staff to provide listening support, systems education, guidance, and training. AFFM relies on outside agency collaborations and on volunteers to donate their time and talents to assist in the many components of their work. Without the Board of Directors, volunteers and the support of agency partners, much of AFFM's work could not be accomplished.

Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine, Inc. and The Kinship Program (AFFM) is supported by a contract with the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, donations, and grants. AFFM is a non-profit association which maintains 501(c) tax-exempt status.

AFFM is a member-driven organization. AFFM membership is composed of resource families- foster, adoptive and kinship providers.

# SUPPORTS

## *Services provided to all resource families include:*

- Empathetic non-judgmental listening support
- Training/caregiver education
- Peer Support
- Annual Conference
- Pre and post-adoption support
- Kinship Navigation
- Family Ties Newsletter
- Lending library
- Youth camp scholarships
- Information on becoming a licensed foster
- Information on becoming an adoptive home
- Material goods - tangible
- Discounted passes
- Holiday program
- Back-to-school program
- Clothing closets
- Annual social family events
- Collaboration with private and public agencies
- Information and referrals to an array of supports

AFFM helps prepare resource families for the challenges they will face by providing easily- accessible services. Most services are at no cost to families served. AFFM is dedicated to assisting resource families in finding appropriate supports for the unique circumstances they encounter.

**C.A.R.E.S.**  
Connect. Advice. Resources. Education. Support.

AFFM provides C.A.R.E.S meetings both in-person and virtually for resource families statewide. Families will be able to:

- Socialize with other resource families
- Receive support for complex situations
- Lean into your experiences to help others
- Receive training on important topics
- Utilize free onsite childcare at the in-person meeting sites.
- Give children the opportunity to have fun with other children
- Build upon your supportive community and develop connections that can last a lifetime
- Receive information about various systems of support that are available to you

# RESOURCE FAMILY MENTOR SERVICE

The Resource Family Mentor Service is a support to help resource families get accustomed to their new caregiver role. Upon request, caregivers can be matched with a mentor who has been through similar situations and share similar interests. The resource mentor is there to:

- Support, encourage, and inform resource families on how to partner effectively with systems of support
- Inform the family of resources that will strengthen and preserve their family
- Provide a direct link to AFFM and the support they offer