

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



238 State St Suite 5,
Brewer, ME 04412



333 Lincoln Street, Suite 101
Saco, Maine, 04072

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



The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, creed, gender, sexual programs, services, or activities, or its hiring or employment practices. This notice is provided as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and in accordance with Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Maine Human Rights Act and Executive Order Regarding State of Maine Contracts for Services. Questions, concerns, complaints or requests for additional information regarding the ADA may be forwarded to the DHHS ADA Compliance/EEO Coordinators, #11 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333, 207-287-4289 (V), or 287-3488 (V) 1-888-577-6690 (TTY). Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication in program and services of DHHS are invited to make their needs and preferences known to one of the ADA Compliance/EEO Coordinators. This notice is available in alternate formats, upon request.



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