Kinship Care:
Policy and Programmatic Innovations

October 27, 2026

- Welcome, we will begin at the top of the hour
- Please type in the **chat** box - your name, state, tribe (if applicable), and role
- Type questions in the **chat** box at any point during our time together
- **We will provide a separate meeting link for a 30-minute Q&A with our presenters, starting in an hour, at 3 PM ET**
- By the end of the week, all participants will receive a link to the slides and the recording

Who We Are & How We Help

Learning Collaboratives and Information Dissemination

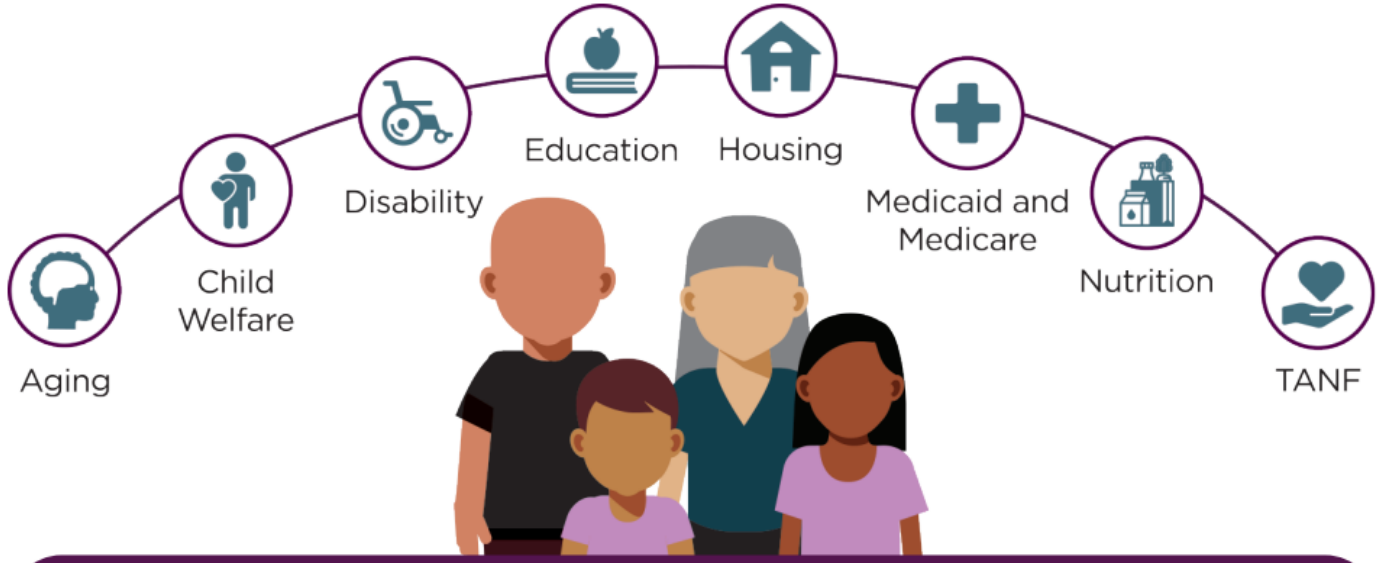
The Network hosts webinars and facilitates learning collaboratives.

A Centralized Hub

The Network is elevating exemplary kinship/grandfamily practices and programs from around the country.

Individual Assistance

We respond to individual requests for help from government agencies and nonprofit organizations.



Bridging Systems for Kinship Families

The Network helped Idaho, San Diego County, and Oneida Nation of Wisconsin optimize their collaborative approaches and improve their services. Solutions will soon be replicable for others.

Welcome Our Presenters



Stephanie Armendariz
Chapin Hall



Veronica Burroughs
Ohio Department of Children and Youth



Wendell Primus
Brookings Institution



Sheila Weaver
Idaho Caregiver Alliance

Defining Kin





Network Definition
Kin Caregivers & Grandfamily Caregivers

We use the terms “kin/grandfamily caregivers,” “grandfamily caregivers,” and “kin caregivers” to refer to the people who raise children in kinship/grandfamilies – whether they are grandparents, other family members, close family friends, or other individuals with a preexisting relationship with the family or the child. A longer explanation of our use of these terms is available here.

Glossary: www.gksnetwork.org/resources/glossary/

Array of Definitions

- No global, federal definition of kin or relative
- Programs vary
- States define these terms for purposes of child welfare and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Kin-Specific Foster Home Approval Definition Relative & Kin

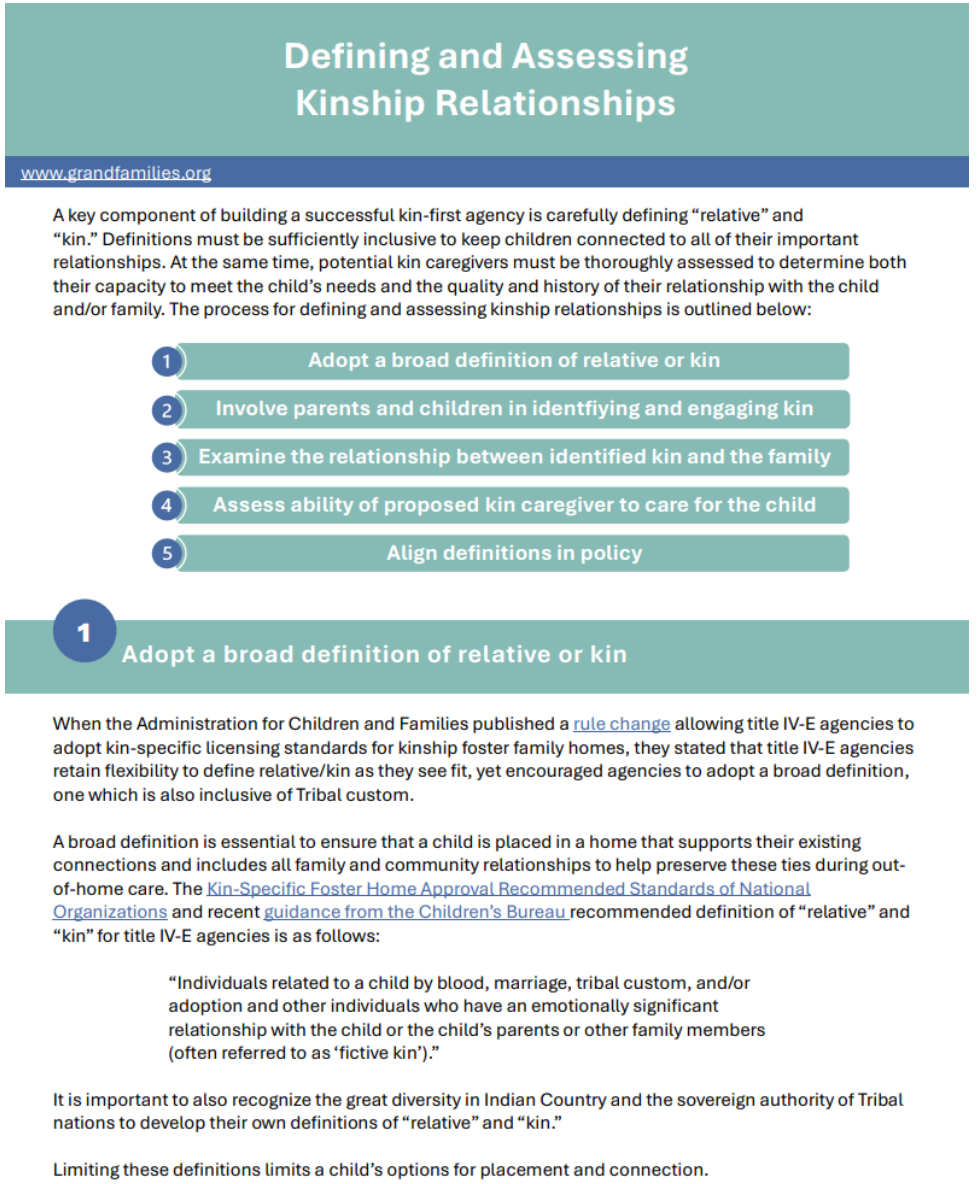
"Individuals related to a child by blood, marriage, tribal custom and/or adoption and other individuals who have an emotionally significant relationship with the child **or** the child's parents or other family members."

See pages 18 and 19 of Standards



generations united | GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK A National Technical Assistance Center

Who is Kin?



Defining and Assessing Kinship Relationships

www.grandfamilies.org

A key component of building a successful kin-first agency is carefully defining "relative" and "kin." Definitions must be sufficiently inclusive to keep children connected to all of their important relationships. At the same time, potential kin caregivers must be thoroughly assessed to determine both their capacity to meet the child's needs and the quality and history of their relationship with the child and/or family. The process for defining and assessing kinship relationships is outlined below:

1. Adopt a broad definition of relative or kin
2. Involve parents and children in identfiying and engaging kin
3. Examine the relationship between identified kin and the family
4. Assess ability of proposed kin caregiver to care for the child
5. Align definitions in policy

1 Adopt a broad definition of relative or kin

When the Administration for Children and Families published a rule change allowing title IV-E agencies to adopt kin-specific licensing standards for kinship foster family homes, they stated that title IV-E agencies retain flexibility to define relative/kin as they see fit, yet encouraged agencies to adopt a broad definition, one which is also inclusive of Tribal custom.

A broad definition is essential to ensure that a child is placed in a home that supports their existing connections and includes all family and community relationships to help preserve these ties during out-of-home care. The Kin-Specific Foster Home Approval Recommended Standards of National Organizations and recent guidance from the Children's Bureau recommended definition of "relative" and "kin" for title IV-E agencies is as follows:

> "Individuals related to a child by blood, marriage, tribal custom, and/or adoption and other individuals who have an emotionally significant relationship with the child or the child's parents or other family members (often referred to as 'fictive kin')."

It is important to also recognize the great diversity in Indian Country and the sovereign authority of Tribal nations to develop their own definitions of "relative" and "kin."

Limiting these definitions limits a child's options for placement and connection.

Resource available here

Other Child Welfare Definitions of Relative and Kin

- Can have different definitions of relative/kin for different purposes, such as federally required identification and notification of adult relatives when a child is removed from their parents

- If an adult qualifies as a relative/kin for placement and approval/licensing, should ensure that your kinship guardianship assistance program (GAP) definition aligns

National Family Caregiver Support Program

Limited to older relative caregivers:

- 55 and older
- grandparent, stepgrandparent, or other relative by blood, marriage, or adoption
- primary caregiver because the parents are unable
- has a legal relationship to the child OR is raising the child informally

Cite: 42 U.S. Code § 3030s



Other Federal Programs

Social Security: Children can ***only*** qualify based on the work records of their parents or their grandparents (under certain circumstances). See https://www.ssa.gov/people/parents/.

WIC and SNAP: No federal limit on type of familial relationship to child.

Medicaid: Federal definition of "caretaker relative" does not include kin who aren't related, but states have discretion to include them. 42 CFR § 435.4

Federal Income Tax Deductions: Unrelated kin cannot claim federal tax deductions for the child they're raising *unless* they are also the child's foster parent. For more information about a qualifying child. See: www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/dependents

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

- No federal definition of “relative” or “kin”
- Discretion to the states
- Only a few include unrelated kin
  - Colorado and Vermont are among a few states that allow non-related kin to receive TANF child-only without requiring a legal relationship, emergency, or child welfare placement
  - Connecticut and Wisconsin allow non-related kin to receive TANF child-only grants if they have obtained or are seeking legal custody or guardianship
  - In Nevada, non-related kin can qualify for a child-only (or non-needy) grant for up to 6 months while they are pursuing foster care licensure
- For each state’s definition of “relative,” see here.
- Consider aligning TANF and child welfare licensing definitions of “relative” and “kin”

For more information, see here.



Increasing Access to TANF Child-Only Benefits

Stephanie Armendariz

Senior Policy Analyst

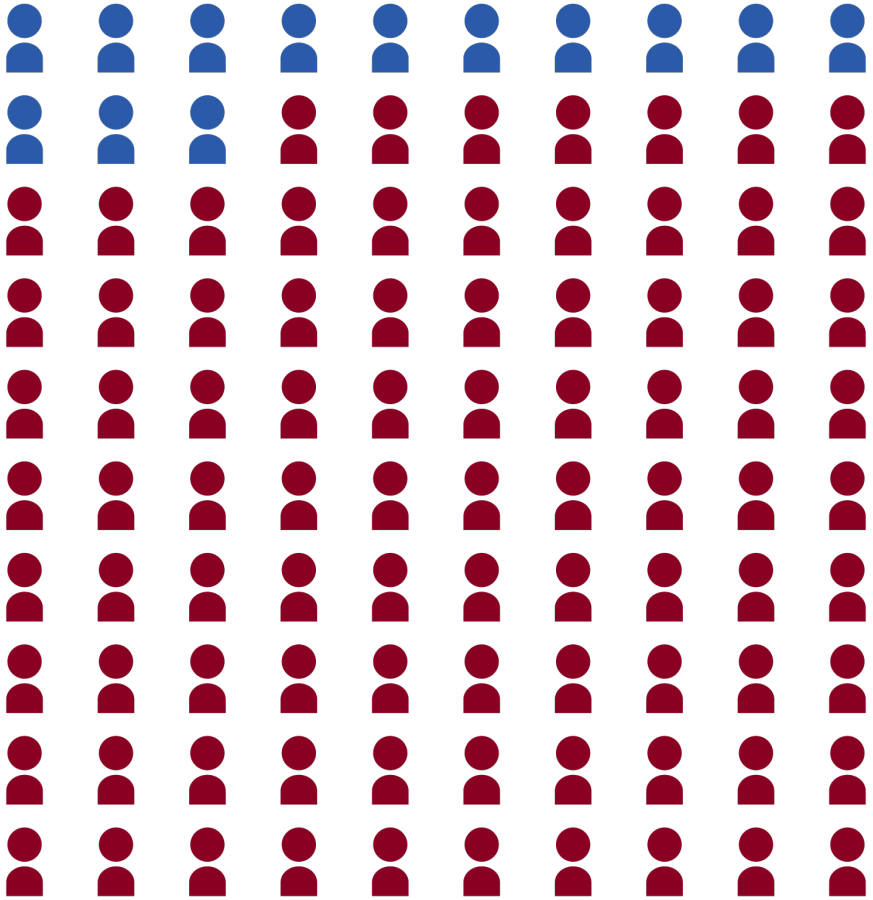
Chapin Hall

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10/27/2026

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MOST ELIGIBLE CHILDREN RAISED BY KIN MISS OUT



Source: (Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network [GKSN], 2025)

13% of children in kinship care outside the child welfare system receive a child-only grant.

87% of children in kinship care outside the child welfare system miss this monthly benefit.



Remove Barriers to Applying



Expand Which Children Qualify



Increase What Children Receive

Remove Barriers to Applying



CHILD SUPPORT RULES DRIVE MANY RELATIVES AWAY

Child support enforcement can:

Destabilize parents

When states garnish wages and suspend licenses, it can derail a parent's path to reunification.

Stir up conflict

An angry parent may take the child or turn violent.

Sources: (Azevedo-McCaffrey, 2022; GKSN, 2025; Social Security Act, 1935, § 408(a)(3))

Remove Barriers to Applying



STATES MAY EXEMPT CHILDREN IN KINSHIP CARE FROM THIS CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

Federal rules allow states to:

- **Decide whether relatives must help collect child support (“cooperation”)**
- **Use a gentler standard for relatives (“good faith” standard)**
- **Excuse relatives when pursuing support isn't in the child's best interest (“good cause”)**

Sources: (45 C.F.R. § 264.30, 2025; Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance, 2021; Social Security Act, 1935, § 454(29); Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, 1999, p. 17850; Wyoming Department of Family Services, n.d.)

Remove Barriers to Applying



MANY CAREGIVERS NEVER LEARN THE CHILD-ONLY GRANT EXISTS

Rarely named on state websites
Front-line TANF staff often aren't trained on it either.

No separate application
Caregivers must guess which family-application questions to skip.

Source: (GKSN, 2025)

Remove Barriers to Applying



SIMPLE CHANGES CAN HELP CAREGIVERS APPLY FOR THE CHILD

Leverage state websites

Name the grant and explain who's eligible on agency websites

Partner with Kinship Navigator programs

Navigator programs can both inform caregivers about the grant and support them in applying for it.

Source: (GKSN, 2025)



Remove Barriers to Applying



Expand Which Children Qualify



Increase What Children Receive

Expand Which Children Qualify



TANF AND CHILD WELFARE DISAGREE ON WHO COUNTS AS KIN

Child Welfare Agencies

can share the agency's definition of "relative" with TANF and push for one definition across both systems.

Source: (GKSN, 2025)

Expand Which Children Qualify



SMALL POLICY CHANGES CAN MAKE A BIG IMPACT

Remove policies that test the caregiver's income.

Remove rules that bar children from receiving benefits with kin because they received benefits in the past.

Source: (GKSN, 2025)



Remove Barriers to Applying



Expand Which Children Qualify

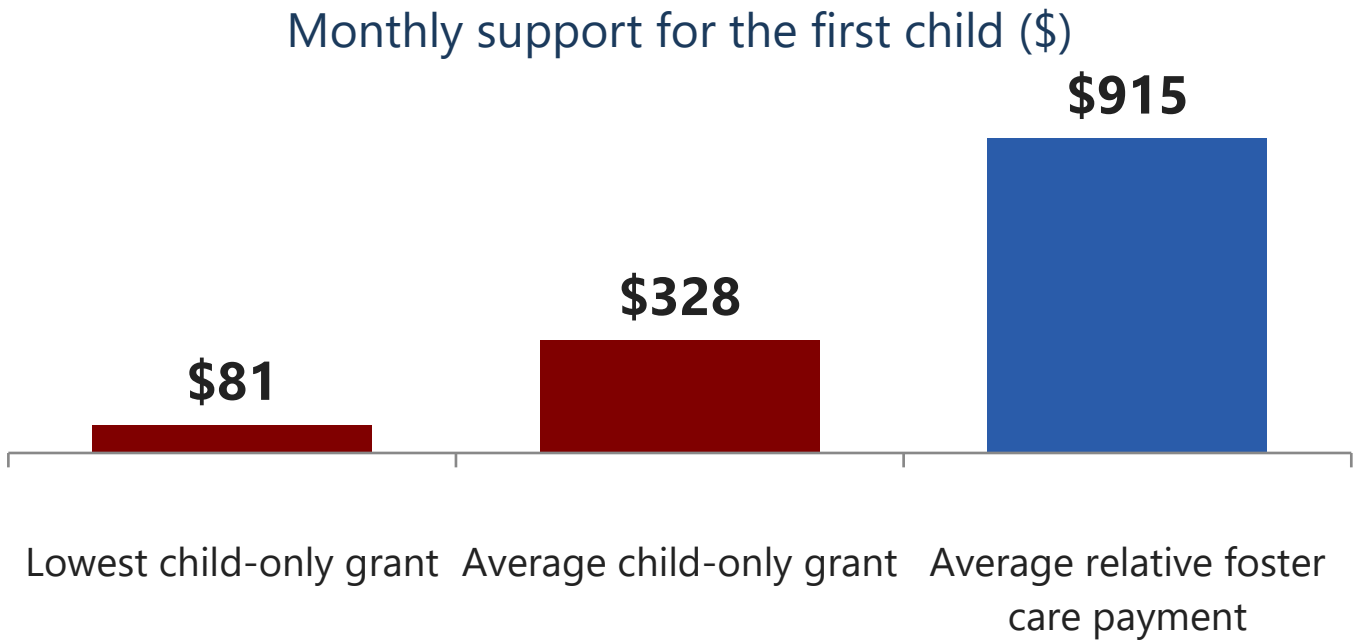


Increase What Children Receive



Increase What Children Receive

CHILD-ONLY GRANTS FALL FAR BELOW FOSTER CARE RATES



Sources: (Child Trends & GKSN, 2025; GKSN, 2025). $915 figure: AFCARS FY 2021 data (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2022, as cited in GKSN, 2025)



Increase What Children Receive

TANF CAN ALSO FUND HELP BEYOND THE CHILD'S GRANT

Louisiana: ongoing help

$450

per child, every month

- Relatives under 150% of the federal poverty level (FPL)

Texas: one-time help

$1,000

once in a lifetime, per relative

- Relatives 25 and older, at or below 200% of FPL

Sources: (GKSN, 2025; Louisiana Department of Children & Family Services, n.d.; Texas Health and Human Services Commission, n.d.)

What can you do?

State child welfare staff

Collaborate with TANF on policy changes

Nonprofit leaders

Add child-only application help to navigator services. Use GKSN's free training template.

Advocates and caregivers

Familiarize yourself with your state’s policy and prioritize what to advocate for

Sources

Azevedo-McCaffrey, D. (2022, October 13). *States should use new guidance to stop charging parents for foster care, prioritize family reunification*. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. https://www.cbpp.org/research/income-security/states-should-use-new-guidance-to-stop-charging-parents-for-foster-care

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Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, 64 Fed. Reg. 17720 (April 12, 1999) (to be codified at 45 C.F.R. pts. 260–265).

Texas Health and Human Services Commission. (n.d.). A-2410, General policy. In *Texas Works handbook*. Retrieved October 22, 2026, from https://fhb.hhs.texas.gov/handbooks/texas-works-handbook/a-2410-general-policy

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CHAPIN HALL

Ohio Kinship Navigator Programs

Veronica Burroughs
Department of Children and Youth

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio THE HEART OF IT ALL™

Ohio Department of Children & Youth

OHIO KINSHIP NAVIGATOR OVERVIEW



- Kinship Supports Intervention (KSI)/Protect Ohio
- 30 Days to Family
- Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program

OHIO DEFINITION OF KINSHIP CAREGIVER

- An individual age eighteen years or older caring for a child in place of the child's parents:
  - Individuals related by blood or adoption to the child:
    - Grandparents,
    - Siblings,
    - Aunts, uncles, nephews, and nieces,
    - Cousins,
    - Stepparents and stepsiblings,
    - Spouses and former spouses of individuals,
    - legal guardian of the child,
    - legal custodian of the child,
  - nonrelative adult that has a familiar and long-standing relationship or bond with the child or the family.

Ohio Revised Code 5180.50

KINSHIP SUPPORTS INTERVENTION (KSI) OVERVIEW

- Mission
  - promote kinship placement as best practice, increasing attention to and support for kinship placements, caregivers, and families.
- Core intervention of the county agencies that participated in the ProtectOHIO Title IV-E federal waiver demonstration project.
- Ohio's KSI targets kinship caregivers of children involved in the child welfare system, regardless of custody status or supervision orders.
- First Kinship Navigator Program on the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse
- First KNP on Ohio's State Plan

KINSHIP SUPPORTS INTERVENTION

- County based in the Public Children Services Agency (PCSA)
  - May contract with a local agency
  - Implemented in 20 counties
    - Not all claiming
- Core Components:
  - Home Assessment
  - Needs Assessment
  - Support Plan
  - Home Visits
- Services provided – ex. referrals, training, financial assistance, and connection to providers



30 DAYS TO FAMILY

- Intense, short-term family finding model utilizing strategies of diligent search and engagement to secure kinship caregiver options for children
  - Implemented in Ohio since 2017
- Known as Kinnect to Family (KTF) in Ohio
- Expanded model to include multiple pathways:
  - Prevention – keeping youth with kin
  - Initial custody and ongoing – transition youth to kinship caregivers
  - Permanent custody – expedite permanency and long term support through kinship connections
  - This adaption was approved by the 30 Days to Family model developers

KINNECT TO FAMILY



- Added to Ohio's State Plan effective 10/1/2024
- County based program
  - Branch sites for smaller counties
  - Implemented in 28 counties
- Core Components:
  - Small Caseload
  - Search tools
  - Genograms
  - Family Support Plan

OHIO KINSHIP AND ADOPTION NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

- Recently added to the Title IV-E Clearinghouse
  - Supported Rating
- DCY program, developed and operated in partnership with Kinnect
- Evaluated with both formal and informal kinship caregivers
- Positive outcomes included: greater satisfaction with OhioKAN services, improved perception of accessible community resources, increased resourcefulness, reduced concrete needs, less caregiver-child conflict, and stronger caregiver-child closeness.

OHIOKAN

- Only statewide program
- Any kinship or adoptive parent (excluding stepparent adoption)
- Core Components:
  - Needs Assessment
  - Support Plan
  - Delivered over the phone or virtually, community or home visits as needed
  - Family driven service provision
- Services provided –ex. referrals, warm handoffs, application assistance, Benefits Coordinators, and stability supports (financial support)

NEED FOR MULTIPLE PROGRAMS

- Formal families may have needs a PCSA can handle – i.e., home studies, monthly visitation, placement
- Not all PCSAs have capacity to provide kinship navigator services.
- Kinship families need assistance after the PCSA case is closed.
- Informal families need access to kinship navigator services
    - Community-based providers allows services to be accessible to all kinship caregivers



COORDINATION

- Must ensure families are not receiving services from multiple programs at the same time
- Utilize SACWIS to track families
    - Updating system to make it more clear of who is receiving services when
    - Updates will easily allow staff to identify if family is open in another program
- Ongoing meetings with our vendor and counties
- Recent change to move all programs in same DCY division to ensure all programs receive standardized messaging.





Idaho Caregiver Alliance

Idaho State Plan for Kinship Caregivers

Connecting the Dots

for kinship families across Idaho

Communication * Collaboration * Inclusivity * Capacity-Building *

Idaho Caregiver Alliance

Thank You!

Mission



To serve as the voice, convener, and catalyst for support of unpaid family caregivers across the lifespan.

Vision



Family caregivers and the people they care for are recognized, valued, and supported in Idaho.

Why this Matters to Idaho

GRANDFACTS

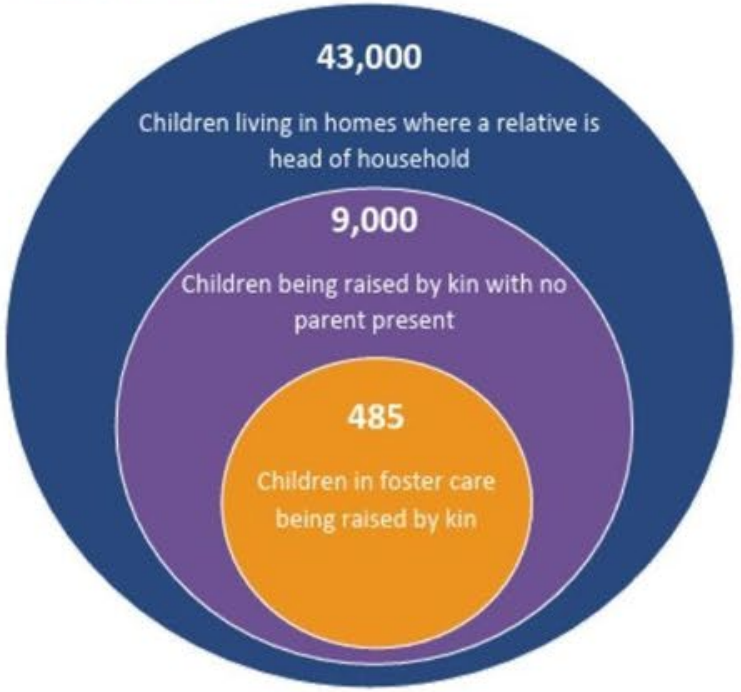
STATE FACT SHEETS FOR GRANDFAMILIES



The GrandFacts state fact sheets for grandfamilies include state-specific data and programs as well as information about public benefits, educational assistance, legal relationship options and state laws. Visit www.grandfamilies.org to find this and all GrandFacts state fact sheets.

Idaho

Grandfamilies Data



10,300

Grandparents responsible for their grandchildren in Idaho

For every **1** child raised by kin in foster care, there are **18** being raised by kin outside of foster care

Kinship families are grandparents, other adult family members, or close family friends are raising children whose parents are unable to do so.











Idaho Caregiver Alliance



STRENGTHENING KINSHIP CAREGIVERS IN IDAHO

Impact Summary to Molina Healthcare of Idaho

MOLINA HEALTHCARE

Pictured: Idaho Kinship caregivers, partners, and leaders participating in funded activities

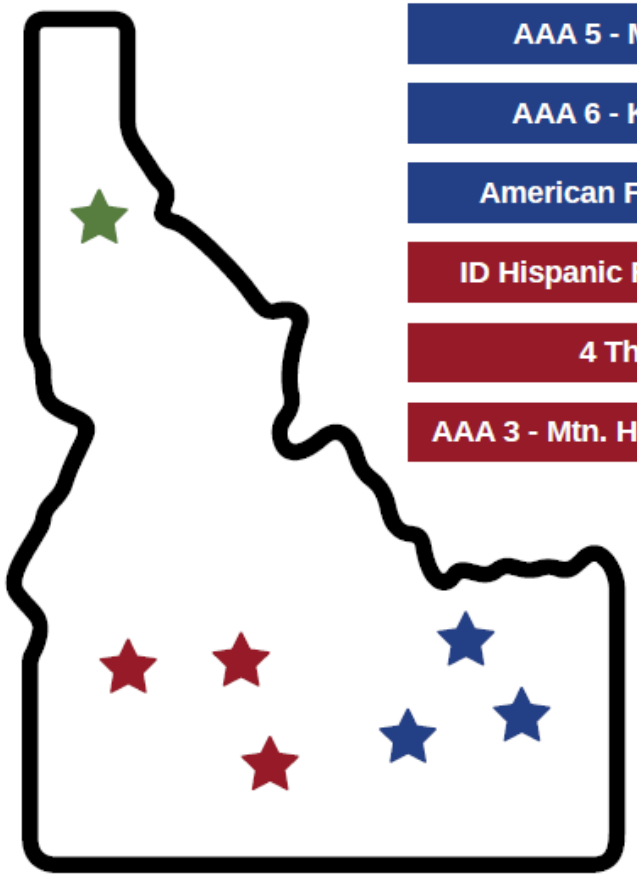
Meaningful support. Lasting impact. Stronger families.



REGIONAL KINSHIP CAREGIVER SUPPORTS

Provided varying amounts of flexible funding to regional kinship caregiver organizations to support events, respite, and direct assistance. Local partners were trusted to use these funds in ways that best reflected the unique needs and priorities of their communities.

RECIPIENTS



- N. Idaho - Relatives as Parents Inc.
- AAA 5 - Many Lodges, One Fire
- AAA 6 - Kinship Support Group
- American Falls Joint School District
- ID Hispanic Foundation Kinship Group
- 4 The Love of Kinship
- AAA 3 - Mtn. Home Kinship Support Group

"All of our families wanted to pass on their thanks for the opportunity."

Education and Community-Building



Supporting kinship and grandfamilies across Idaho

Regence BlueShield of Idaho
56 subscribers
Subscribe

CAMBIA™ health foundation



Bridging Systems

GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK
A National Technical Assistance Center

Bridging Systems for Kinship Families
Idaho
June 2024 - August 2026

Idaho competed with applicants from around the country and was awarded a unique opportunity to envision and create a statewide approach to better serve grandparents and other kin and the children they raise.



Know someone who's caring for a child that's not their own?

They may be a kinship caregiver.

11,000+
Kinship caregivers in Idaho are stepping up to care for children when their parents are unable to.

Children thrive in the care of relatives and close family friends.

Resources are available to kinship caregivers.

Financial
Support
Childcare
And more...

To access dedicated support, call 2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588, text 898211, or visit 211.idaho.gov

GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK
A National Technical Assistance Center

Kinship Families in Idaho: Legal Relationships and Public Benefits



Bridging Systems for Kinship Families in Idaho

Toolkit to Help Raise Awareness



GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK
A National Technical Assistance Center
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE
Idaho CareLine · DHW 211
Idaho Caregiver Alliance

What is a Kinship State Plan?



A shared roadmap for building on Idaho's strengths and improving connections between caregivers, communities, and resources.

1st

IN THE NATION

Idaho is developing the nation's first Kinship Caregiver State Plan

Senate Resolution 118 -

Idaho Kinship State Plan

2026 Legislative Session

Idaho Caregiver Alliance

Idaho Senate *"endorses the efforts of the Idaho Caregiver Alliance to develop a state plan for kinship caregivers..."*



The Goal is Simple



Learn from kinship caregivers and communities, strengthen connections, and make it easier for kinship families to find support and resources across Idaho.

Connecting Statewide

Partner and Community Engagement - May 2026 - April 2027

Kickoff and Convening
May 2026 - June 2026

WE ARE HERE

Data Gathering
July 2026 - August 2026

Data Analysis
September 2026

Plan Development
October - November 2026

Plan Finalization
November - December 2026

Plan Release
January - April 2027





We heard from 200+ kinship caregivers, professionals, and other stakeholders statewide through surveys, interviews, and focus groups!

Who Are Idaho Kinship Caregivers?

200+ kinship voices statewide

AGE AND GENDER

80%

Under Age 65

83%

Female

RELATIONSHIP TO CHILDREN



55%

Grandparents



15%

Fictive Kin

What Does Kinship Care Look Like?

200+ kinship voices statewide



75%

Are legal guardians



88%

Have provided care for at least one year

LENGTH OF TIME PROVIDING CARE

12%



71%



17%



Kinship Care is a Significant Commitment

Idaho kinship families are taking on substantial responsibilities and costs

60%+

CARE FOR 2 OR MORE CHILDREN

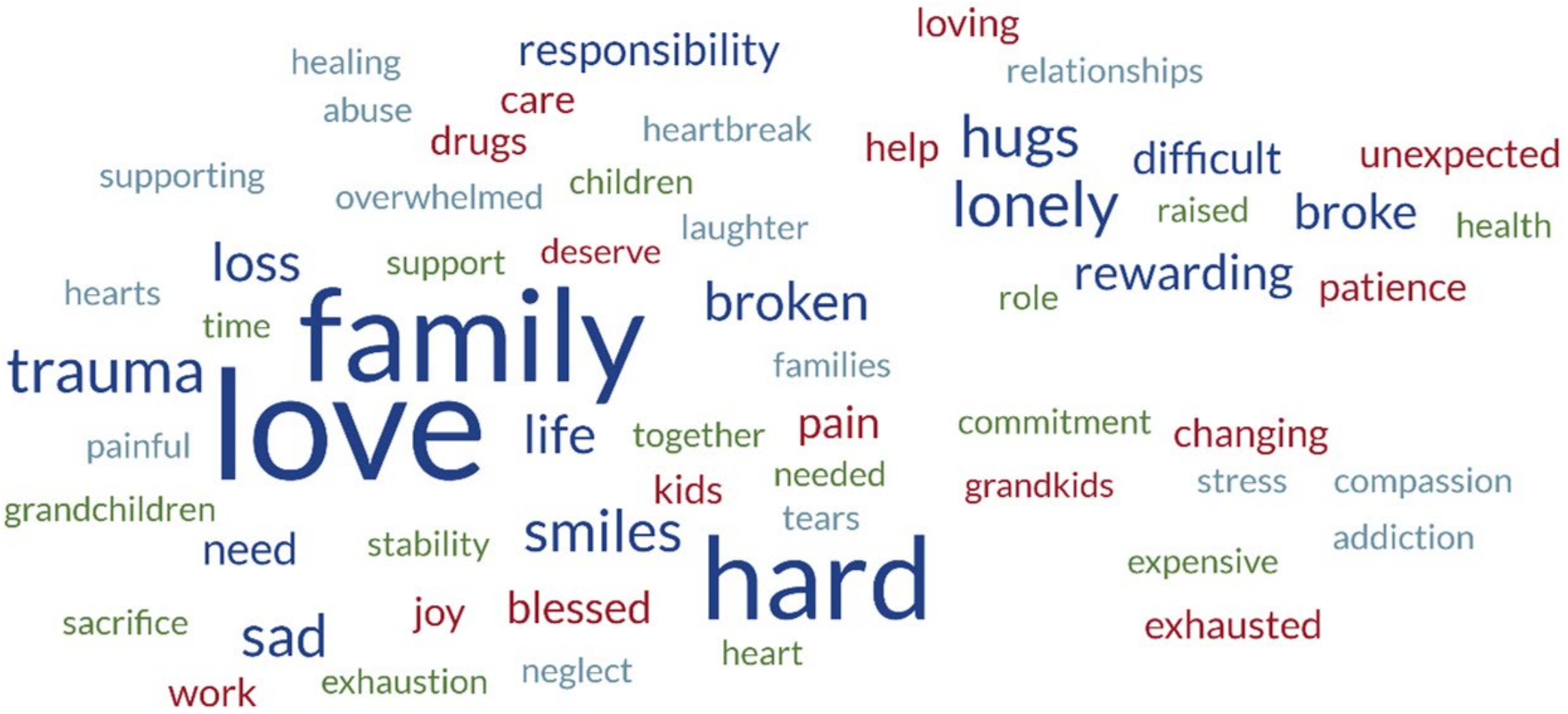


40%+

SPEND $1000+ EXTRA EACH MONTH



A glimpse of what we're hearing…



The Idaho Kinship State Plan will be released in Spring 2027





How to Stay Informed

PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM

Scan here

Sign up for ICA Newsletter
idahocaregiveralliance.com

Follow on Social Media
Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn

Sheila Weaver
sheilaweaver@boisestate.edu

Idaho Caregiver Alliance



BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

School of Public and Population Health



UnitedHealthcare®

Community Plan



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF

HEALTH & WELFARE

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS

Idaho Caregiver Alliance (ICA) activities are supported in part by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through Lifespan Respite Care Program award 90LRLI0058; by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the BOLD Public Health Programs to Address Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias award 6 NU58DP007507-03-02; and by Idaho state appropriations administered through the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW). The contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of ACL, HHS, CDC, or IDHW.

Center on Health Policy at BROOKINGS

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Assisting Low-income Grandparents Raise Grandchildren

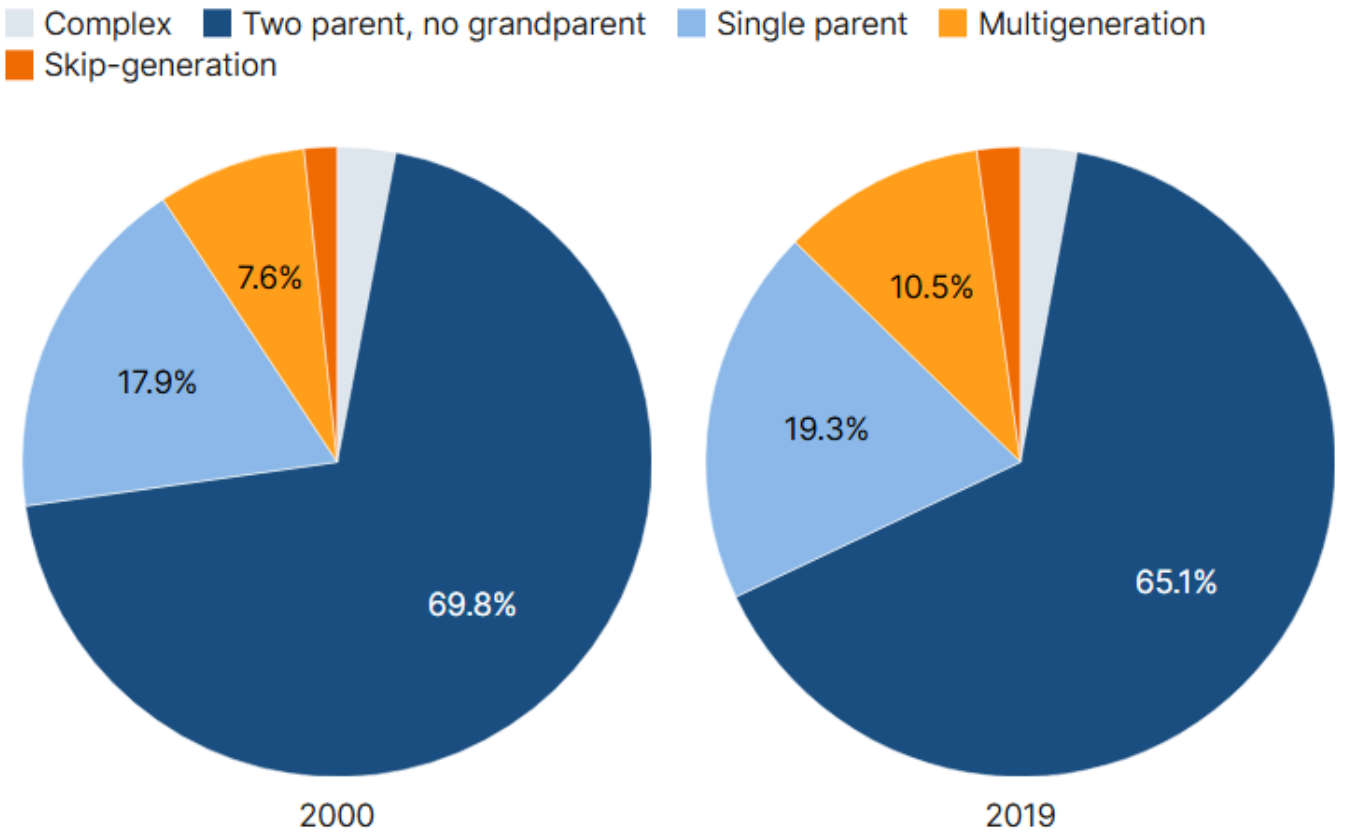
Kinship Webinar
Generations United
Chapin Hall

Wendell Primus
Center on Health Policy
The Brookings Institution

October 27, 2026

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Figure 1: Share of children living with grandparents has increased over the last two decades



Source: 2000 Census and 2019 American Community Survey.

Note: Excludes the instituionalized and those living in group quarters. Complex families includes those who don't neatly fit into parent or grandparent families, or where familial relationships aren't clear in the data.

B | Center for Economic Security and Opportunity at BROOKINGS

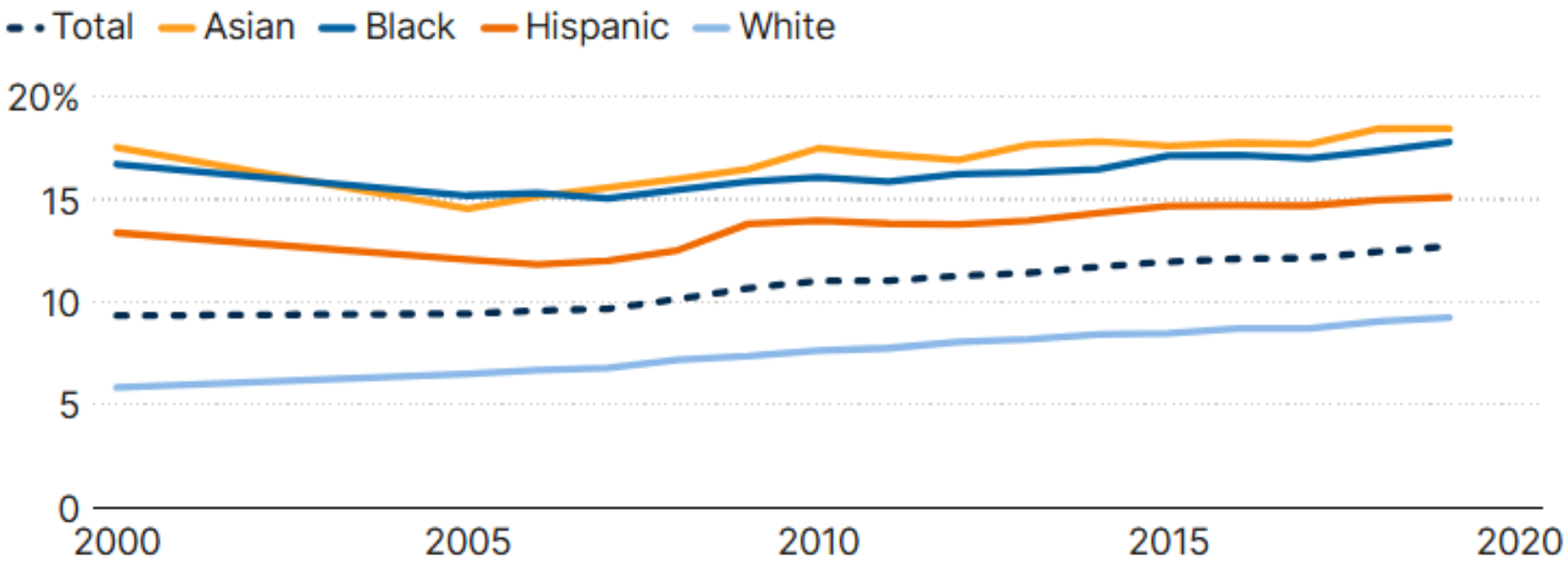
B | Center on Health Policy at BROOKINGS

Grandparents 2000, 12.3%; 2019, 15.6%

Elizabeth Link, Tara Watson, and Simran Kalkat. “More kids are living with their grandparents. Can safety net policy keep up?” *The Brookings Institution*, December 20, 2023.

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Figure 3: Black and Asian children are most likely to live with grandparents



Source: 2000 Census and 2005-2019 American Community Surveys.

Note: Excludes the institutionalized and those living in group quarters. Grandparent households includes both skip-generation and multigeneration households.

Center for Economic Security and Opportunity at BROOKINGS

Center on Health Policy at BROOKINGS

Elizabeth Link, Tara Watson, and Simran Kalkat. "More kids are living with their grandparents. Can safety net policy keep up?" *The Brookings Institution*, December 20, 2023.

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A policy to assist low-income grandparents raise grandchildren

- Grandparents (also great aunts and uncles) would be eligible to receive caregiver benefits if they provide at least 50% of the child's financial support.
- Grandparents can be < 62 and not receiving Social Security benefits. If < 62, Social Security benefit calculated like a disability benefit.
- Caregiving benefit would provide grandparents earning less than 133% of the 3-person household federal poverty (FPL) an additional $5,791 (in 2027 dollars) from Social Security per grandchild.
- The amount is determined by the amount that the FPL increases for each additional person in a household. This benefit would then phase out—reduced by 40 cents for every dollar of additional income beyond 133% of the FPL.
- Benefit would cap out at 180% of the FPL for 3-person households.

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A policy to assist low-income grandparents raise grandchildren

- The caregiver benefit would be administered through the Social Security system.
- Would be legislated in a social security solvency package; not as part of child welfare reform.
- While money is fungible, this policy is paid for by eliminating child retiree benefits, which saves $75 billion over 10 years and eliminates benefits for 600,000 children when fully implemented. More important for society to provide benefits to low-income grandparents raising grandchildren than to increase the retirement benefits of men who have children late in life (primarily by marrying much younger women).

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Characteristics of Multigenerational Households, 2023

Comparison of the American Community Survey (ACS) and Current Population Survey (CPS)

	ACS	CPS
Number of Multigen Households	4.8m	3.7m
Multigen Households, as Percentage of Households with Children	12.7%	10.1%
Number of Skipped Generation Households	0.7m	0.9m
Number of Multigen Households with GP Head-of-Household	3.2m	2.3m
Number of Multigen Households with GP Breadwinner*	2.2m	1.7m
Number of Multigen Households receiving GP Caregiver Benefits Under this Proposal	.7m	.6m

Source: Author's analysis of the ACS and CPS.

Note: Multigen = Multigenerational. GP = Grandparent. Multigen Households include those where grandchildren are living with their grandparents, regardless of whether their parents are present. The ACS has a significantly greater number of multi-generational households, possibly because they directly ask respondents whether they live with a grandchild. In the CPS ASEC, we must infer whether the house is multi-generation based on the inter-household relationship variable and thus cannot accurately identify all households that are multi-generational.

Vani Agarwal, Ben Graham, and Wendell Primus. "Improving Social Security for children and young adults in need." *The Brookings Institution*, September 5, 2025.

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An alternative policy to assist grandparents

- Provide a child benefit to all grandparents (also great aunts and uncles) where grandchildren are living with grandparents. Grandparents must be above 62 and/or receiving Social Security benefits.
- The caregiving benefit would provide grandparents an additional $8,687 dollars from Social Security per grandchild.
- No benefit if child receiving a survivor benefit or if there is a middle generation that has more income than the grandparents after accounting for housing assistance.
- No income test. Would go to many more grandparents.
- Much easier to administer.

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Comparison between old and new policies (ACS Only):

	Original Policy (Any age, 100% benefit, income test)	62+ Only, 150% benefit, no income test	62+ and SS Beneficiary Only, 150% benefit, no income test
Cost, 2027	$4.9b	$13.8b	$9.6b
Cost, 2027-2036	$48.6b	$136.7b	$95.0b
Bene HH's	$636k	1.02m	725k
Share of GP Caregiver HH's with Benefit	28.8%	46.3%	32.9%
Grandchildren with Benefit	1.02m	1.59m	1.11m
Grandparents with Benefit	840k	1.63m	1.16m
Average Benefit	$7,713	$13,531	$13,231
Median HH Income Increase	22.6%	13.5%	14.3%

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Conclusion

- Either policy would help many grandparents
- Alternative policy more in line with Social Security policies; however much more expensive.
- Would reduce state costs
- These grandparents are doing society a big favor. No need to find stranger foster parents.
- Is an important addition to safety net. This cost more beneficial to children compared to parents with dependent children reaching retirement age.

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