

# **Federal Funding of Kinship Services in Action**

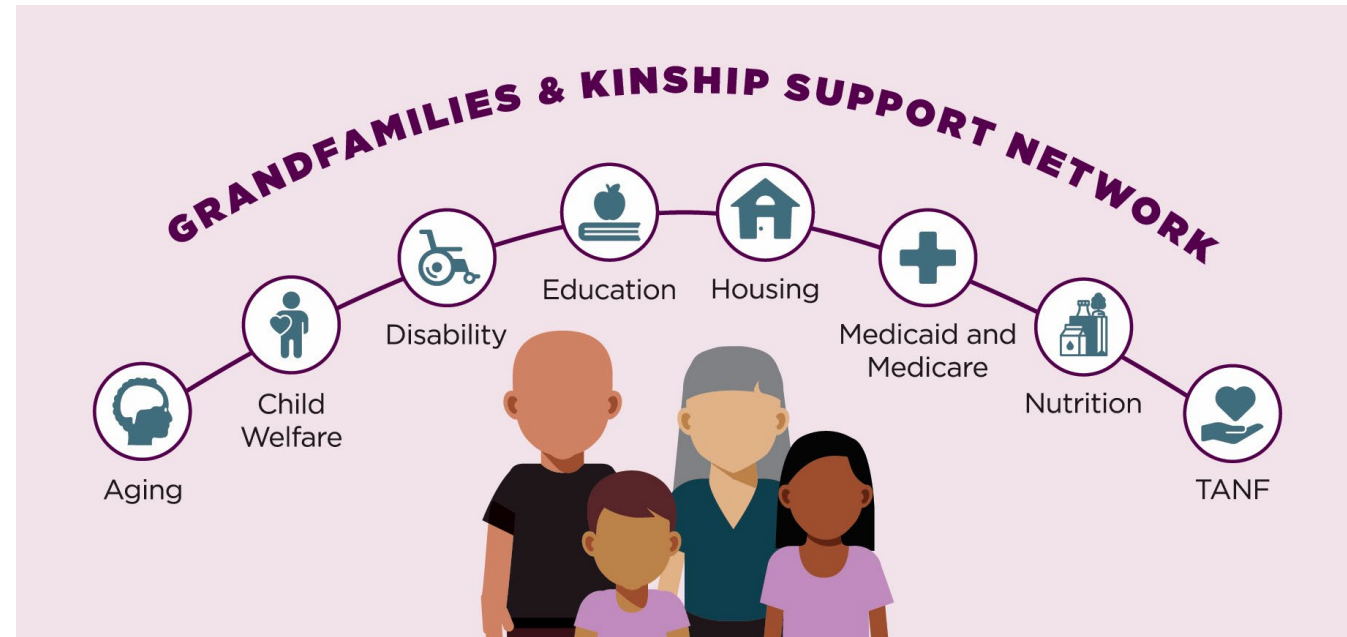
## **August 14, 2025**

- 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 panelists starting in an hour, at 3 PM ET**
- Tomorrow, all participants will receive a link to the slides and the recording

# GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK

A National Technical Assistance Center

- Since 2021, Generations United, in cooperation with the US Administration for Community Living, has operated the first-ever federally funded technical assistance center on kinship/grandfamilies
- Purpose is to provide technical assistance to the array of state, territorial, and tribal government agencies and organizations so they can better serve the families by working across systems and maximizing resources



# How We Help



## Learning Collaboratives and Information Dissemination

The Network hosts webinars and facilitates learning collaboratives.



## Individual Assistance

We respond to individual requests for help from government agencies, kinship navigators, and community-based nonprofits.



## A Centralized Hub

The Network is elevating exemplary kinship/grandfamily practices and programs from around the country on its accessible website, [www.GKSNetwork.org](http://www.GKSNetwork.org).

## The Only National Technical Assistance Center for those who Serve Kinship/Grandfamilies

We help government agencies and nonprofits in states, tribes, and territories work across jurisdictional and systemic boundaries to improve supports and services for families in which grandparents, other relatives, or close family friends are raising children.





# Welcome our Presenters



**Rachel Kinder,**  
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Atlanta Legal Aid  
Society (GA)



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**Shelly Willis,**  
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Family Education  
and Support  
Services (WA)

# **Funding Kinship Services: A Primer on Federal Funding Sources**



# Purpose

- Offer service providers in public, private, nonprofit, and community-based organizations basic information about 45 federal programs that can be used to finance kinship services and programs.
- High level overviews to point providers in the right direction and aid in future research
- Comprehensive, but not exhaustive





# Contents

- Overview
- Eligible Services
- How Funds are Distributed
- Where to Find More Information
- Examples and Advice

## National Family Caregiver Support Program

**Department:** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

**Agency:** Administration for Community Living (ACL), Administration on Aging (AOA)

### Overview

The National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP), a component of the Older Americans Act, provides grants to states and territories to support a range of services that help family and informal caregivers continue to provide care at home. The program recognizes the vital role of family caregivers and offers services to four caregiver populations:

1. Adult family members or other informal caregivers age 18 and older providing care to individuals 60 years of age and older;
2. Adult family members or other informal caregivers age 18 and older providing care to individuals of any age with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders;
3. Older relatives (not parents) age 55 and older providing care to children under the age of 18; and
4. Older relatives, including parents, age 55 and older providing care to adults ages 18–59 with disabilities.

In 2020, Congress removed the cap that limited the amount of NFCSP funds each state could devote to services for grandparents and older relatives raising relatives' children. This reform allows communities to respond to their unique needs.

### Eligible Services

States and territories can use NFCSP funds to provide five categories of support services:

1. Information to caregivers about available services
2. Assistance to caregivers in gaining access to the services
3. Individual counseling, organization of support groups, and caregiver training to assist the caregivers in the areas of health, nutrition, and financial literacy and in making decisions and solving problems relating to their caregiving roles
4. Respite care to enable caregivers to be temporarily relieved from their caregiving responsibilities
5. Supplemental services, on a limited basis, to complement the care provided by caregivers

These categories are written to be flexible and respond to the needs of the caregivers in the area being served. The fifth category, supplemental services, is particularly broad.

### How Funds are Distributed

The federal government distributes NFCSP funds directly to states and territories on a formula basis, related to the distribution of the population age 70 and older.

States and territories then allocate the funding to Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) that coordinate the provision of services using NFCSP, often through subgrants or contracts with community-based service providers. Some of the most successful AAAs that serve these families are those that have collaborations with a broad range of community-based organizations, including institutions and organizations associated with serving children, such as schools and Head Start programs.

While individual practices vary, many AAAs will share requests for proposals or other funding opportunities. Community-based organizations interested in providing services to the NFCSP target populations should contact their local AAA for more information.

### Where to Find More Information

For more information about the National Family Caregiver Support Program, interested individuals and entities can look to:

- **Administration for Community Living (ACL):** Detailed information about NFCSP, relevant guidance, and up-to-date contact information is available at <https://acl.gov/programs/support-caregivers/national-family-caregiver-support-program> [↗](#).
- **Area Agencies on Aging (AAA):** To get more information about NFCSP funding in your community and opportunities for collaboration, contact your local AAA. ACL maintains lists of these entities at [eldercare.gov](https://eldercare.gov) [↗](#).
- **USAgings:** As the national association representing and supporting AAAs, USAgings has resources and experts that can support community-based organizations looking to learn more about NFCSP at [usaging.org](https://usaging.org) [↗](#).
- **USAgings Poll Report:** As part of its role with the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network, USAgings conducted a poll to learn how the Aging Network supports kinship/grandfamilies and to assess their technical assistance and training needs and interests. A report detailing findings can be found at [gksnetwork.org/resources/usaging-topical-poll](https://gksnetwork.org/resources/usaging-topical-poll) [↗](#).

### Example

When kin caregivers in rural Tennessee were struggling with virtual learning during COVID, their AAA, the Southeast Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability (SETAAAD), partnered with a local tutoring service to support these children academically and give their kin caregivers much needed respite. Personalized learning plans, customized to each child's needs, were developed. In its first year, the program supported 30 kin caregivers and 42 children with more than 1,400 hours of tutoring. Kin caregivers reported that being part of the program helped reduce their stress, improve their relationships with the children in their care, give them some time for themselves, and lessen feelings of isolation.

While the program was initially funded using time-limited Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding, SETAAAD has continued the program using NFCSP funds.





< Resource Library

TOOLKIT

## Funding Toolkit

Download This Resource

This funding toolkit is designed primarily for nonprofit agencies and organizations that provide tailored services to kinship families, whether as the sole mission of the organization or through one specific program. In this resource, you will find tips and tools to identify and secure funding for your kinship services.

The toolkit is accompanied by a [Kinship Agency Proposal Template](#) ↓ and a guide for [Creating a Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) ↓.

# Join Us for our Next Webinar!



**Wednesday, September 10, 2025**

**2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET**

**Register Here**



# Stay Connected & Access Support

Sign up for our monthly newsletter which will provide you with updates on new Network resources

Request assistance

For the latest updates, follow the Network on LinkedIn!







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