

What Is Kinship Care

- It's the full time nurturing and protection of children by relatives who have a kinship bond with the children when those children have been separated from their biological parents.

What Makes This Type of Care Challenging?

- These Families do not receive as much assistance as foster care families
- The extra need can put a strain on all familial bonds inside the family
- The transition from the grandparent role to the full time parental role can be a very difficult transition
- Many children who are now in kinship care have experienced trauma and suffer with developmental delays
- Kinship caregivers often face serious health issues and feelings of isolation while providing full time care

Cattaraugus Kinship Caregiver Program

Funders: Catholic Charities

Brookdale Foundation

Burt Foundation

Health Foundation of Western and Central
New York

How Can Catholic Charities Help?

- Outreach
 - Kinship Care Coordinators make home visits to offer support
 - We conduct weekly phone call check ins with families
- Advocacy
 - We offer Active support to all kinship family members
- Case Management
 - Helps to organize the services the family is receiving
 - Keeps track of the progress of the family
 - Helps to assess possible gaps in care

Support Groups

- Held virtually and in person
- In person they are at the Olean YMCA
- Have a speaker from the community talk about their services/programs
- Have done virtual cooking night and painting night where we delivered supplies for the families at their homes & they got on the zoom link to do the project with other kinship caregivers
- Collaborate with the Allegany County Kinship Program for these virtual events
- Do a youth group for kids who live with kinship families at Allegany Elementary and at the Olean YMCA

Eligibility

- Have Article 6 custody (permanent custody)
- Not have any involvement with Cattaraugus County DSS CPS or Child Welfare Units
- Have the TANF/Child-only grant with the county or qualify for it
- Caring for a relative or non-relative child
- The program has to serve 55 children in the grant year

Allegany County Kinship Caregiver Program

Funders: Catholic Charities
New York State Office of Children
and Family Services

Components of the grant

Adult support/educational groups

- Held once a month
- Child care available when we do them in person
- PASTA training

Youth group

- Held once a month
- Held virtually currently

- Respite
 - Held once a month or at least 3 times quarterly
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- Family Engagement activities
 - Family Fun Nights, painting nights, game night
 - Held monthly
 - Case Management and referrals
 - Home visits, linkages to community agencies, legal services, housing assistance, mental health counseling

Eligibility

- Article 6 custody, joint custody with primary placement with relative, or informal custody
- NOT guardianship or KinGap

Kinship Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjRxk4_zIqw

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 14 Meeting at Wellsville YMCA 5:30 pm

June 22nd End of the Year Rollerskating Party 5-7 pm

Funland Skate Center

July 12 11am-? Picnic at Allegany State Park Red House pavilion area

July 18-22 Camp Penuel-for all kids ages 7-11

in Catt & Allegany County

July 26th Kinship Meeting Wellsville YMCA 5:30 pm

and even more events to come! Adding activities/trips to our list soon!

Looking for Volunteers ages 17 and older to be Camp Counselors for Camp Penuel

*For students looking for community service for school and/or National Honor Society

*Retiree's/Grandparents/ Family members

*We treat volunteers throughout the week to keep their morale up

*You would directly supervising 8-10 campers in a cabin and throughout the day at the different activities

*Contact Danielle Kielar at Danielle.Kielar@ccwny.org for more info 12

Other Services with Catholic Charities

- Food Pantry
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Mental Health Counseling
- Multi-Systemic Therapy
- Domestic Violence Program for men
- Case management services for youth
- Okay Peeps Parenting program

Contact for more information

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