

GRANDFACTS



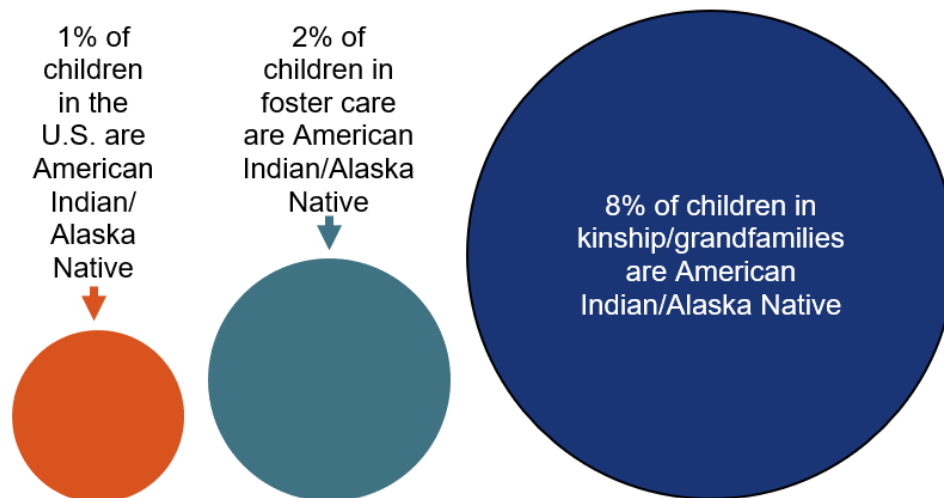
CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA FACT SHEET FOR KINSHIP/GRANDFAMILIES

This fact sheet includes national data and information on Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma tribal-specific programs that can assist kinship/grandfamilies. GrandFacts fact sheets for each state and the District of Columbia are also available [online](#).

American Indian and Alaska Native Children Disproportionately Live in Grandfamilies

While the overrepresentation of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children in kinship/grandfamilies is likely a product of the centuries-long shameful treatment of this community by the United States and the many inequities this community continues to face, it is also a reflection of their cultural strengths and resilience. Choctaw Nation places around one-third of children in tribal foster care with relative/kinship families. Choctaw Nation actively and continuously searches for family during all stages that a child is in tribal custody.

Kinship/Grandfamilies Data¹



¹ The data presented in this graphic is from the [United States Census Bureau](#), the [Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center](#), and the [Adoption and Foster Care Analysis Reporting System \(AFCARS\)](#).

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Programs That May Help

All non-kinship specific resources listed in this fact sheet are available to Choctaw Nation citizens.

Some resources are available to other tribal members or community members, which is noted in the eligibility section. Services can also be accessed by phone at (800) 522-6170, online at <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/>, or by accessing the Chahta Achvffa member portal at <https://chahtaachvffa.choctawnation.com/>.

Kinship definitions as described in Choctaw Nation Child and Family Services Policy:

Kinship placement: Out-of-home placement by a relative, stepparent, or other responsible adult who has a bond or tie with the child, or a family relationship role with the child's parent(s) or the child, prior to the child's entry into foster care.

Relative kinship home: Foster home in which the individual or family is related to the child(ren) through marriage and/or blood relationship.

Non-relative kinship home: Foster home in which the individual or family has a bond or tie with the child(ren) or child(ren)'s parents prior to the child(ren)'s entry into foster care.

Choctaw Nation service area: The Choctaw Nation service area consists of 10½ counties within the Choctaw Nation reservation boundaries: McCurtain, Le Flore, Haskell, Latimer, Pushmataha, Choctaw, Bryan, Atoka, Pittsburg, Coal, and Hughes (half). The Choctaw Nation also serves families residing off-reservation who are licensed tribal foster homes.

Services for Kinship/Grandfamilies

Helping Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/healthy-aging/>

Phone: (580) 924-7141 ext. 83849

Email: Healthyaging@cnhsa.com

Eligibility: To be eligible for services, the caregiver and/or the child must have a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB), be related by blood, and live within the Choctaw Nation reservation boundaries. The program

will also accept a relation by marriage, adoption, and fostering who is over 55 years of age.

Description: The Helping Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program under the Choctaw Health Services Department offers support to grandparents and relative caregivers who are raising their relative children.

The program offers respite care, transportation assistance, gardening supplies, clothing, day trips to museums or camps, school events, fishing supplies, legal services, daycare, and much more.

Kinship programming is funded through a mix of federal and tribal funds.

For those families that do not qualify for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program described above, Choctaw Nation offers many different opportunities and programs that may benefit Choctaw kinship families.

RESOURCES

On the following pages, resources are listed under the following categories:

- ▶ [Social and Support Services](#)
- ▶ [Housing](#)
- ▶ [Culture and Recreation](#)
- ▶ [Education and Career Development](#)
- ▶ [Legal and Court](#)
- ▶ [Medical](#)
- ▶ [Other Community Services](#)
- ▶ [Emergency Numbers](#)
- ▶ [Health Facilities](#)

Social and Support Services

Behavioral Health

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/behavioral-health/>

Eligibility: CDIB, letter of descendancy, or tribal membership card from any federally recognized tribe.

Description: Provides mental health services for adults, adolescents, and children, including individual counseling, family counseling, case management services, substance abuse counseling, child/partner abuse counseling, and more.

Chahta Himmitoa Aiahli Tohnochi (CHAT)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/chat/>

Eligibility & Description: Empowers Choctaw youth by preventing youth delinquency through mitigating mental health and substance abuse conditions prevalent among Choctaw youth and by redirecting clients to invest in their future. Provides services to school age youth 5–17 years of age or grades K-12 that reside within the Choctaw Nation service area.

Chahta Vlla Apela

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/chahta-vlla-apela/>

Service area: Atoka, Bryan, Coal, Haskell, Hughes, and Pittsburg counties

Eligibility & Description: Home-based parenting program that provides child development and parenting support to families with a child under the age of one. Provides information, encouragement, and support to families so their children can grow during the early years of life.

Chi Hullo Li

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/chi-hullo-li/>

Service area: Residential treatment facility in Talihina (LeFlore County, Oklahoma)

Eligibility & Description: Offers a long-term, comprehensive, and culturally sensitive program for Native American women with children (up to 3 children under 11 years of age).

Child Care

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/child-care/>

Eligibility & Description: Supports children aged 6 weeks to 12 years by encouraging each unique developmental stage and learning style, including temperament, personality, and cultural background. The program accepts:

- Oklahoma Department of Human Services Subsidy Program

- CNO – Child Care Assistance
- Private Pay

Child Passenger Safety Seats (Injury Prevention Program)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/ipp/>

Service area: Choctaw Nation service area

Eligibility & Provides activities to prevent or reduce the occurrence of injuries to

Description: Native Americans within the Choctaw Nation service area.

Connecting Kids to Coverage

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/connecting-kids-to-coverage/>

Eligibility & Helps families enroll in the SoonerCare, SoonerCare 2.0, and Soon-to-be-Sooners health insurance programs administered through the State of Oklahoma. Enrollment is open year-round. Coverage is offered to children, and even parents may be eligible for health benefits.

Essential Life Skills

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/essential-life-skills/>

Eligibility & Provides assistance to qualified adult, youth, and child victims of all types of crime. Services are provided to adults, youth, and children who reside within the Choctaw Nation service area and hold a CDIB from a federally recognized tribe.

Family Preservation

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/family-preservation/>

Description: Empowers families to provide adequate and safe care for at-risk children by identifying their strengths; assisting them with finding solutions; promoting family strengths, stability, and parental functions; and supporting self-reliance through short-term family supportive services, intensive family services, or in-home services.

Family Violence Prevention

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/family-violence-prevention/>

Description: Provides specialized services and resources that promote family strengths and stability and enhance the safety of victims of domestic violence, family violence, or dating violence and their dependents.

Fatherhood Services

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/fatherhood/>

Eligibility & Description: Offers guidance to Choctaw fathers 24 years of age or younger who reside within Choctaw or McCurtain counties. The program is available to fathers who are expecting or parenting a Choctaw-eligible child. The program includes access to free services such as personal visits, child screenings, group gatherings, and resource networks.

Food Distribution Program

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/food-distribution/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides nutritious foods to income-eligible households. One member of the household must have CDIB or a tribal membership card from any federally recognized tribe.

Foster Care Program

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/foster-care/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides Choctaw children with safe, stable, and nurturing homes that are culturally appropriate. The program recruits both kinship and traditional foster care homes.

Guiding Adolescent Parents (GAP)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/gap/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides home-based services to adolescent parents 24 years of age or younger who have a child under the age of one and are eligible for Choctaw Membership. Services are available to adolescent parents residing in the Choctaw Nation service area and who are seeking education or employment at the time of application. The program strives to ensure adolescent parents have the resources and support needed to create successful and sustainable families.

Healthy Aging

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/healthy-aging/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides wellness, social services, behavioral health services, case management, and providers in geriatric-specific care to assist elders aged 55 or older in achieving a higher quality of life or maintaining an optimal level of functioning and wellness.

Help in Obtaining an Uplifting Safe Environment (Project HOUSE)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/project-house/>

Service area: Choctaw Nation service area

Eligibility & Description: Provides services to tribal members, from any federally recognized tribe (valid CDIB card or tribal membership card required), in need of transitional housing assistance due to domestic violence situations.

Senior Nutrition

- Website:** <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/senior-nutrition/>
- Service area:** Choctaw Nation Community Centers in Antlers, Atoka, Bethel, Broken Bow, Coalgate, Crowder, Durant, Hugo, Idabel, McAlester, Poteau, Smithville, Spiro, Stigler, Talihina, Wilburton, and Wright City.
- Eligibility & Description:** Provides meals for elders 55 years of age or older (one meal per week, Talihina location serves meals five days a week). Hosts annual activities, including Elder Appreciation Day and honoring of the Outstanding Male and Female Elder.

Tribal Victim Assistance

- Website:** <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/victim-assistance/>
- Service area:** Choctaw Nation service area
- Eligibility & Description:** Provides comprehensive services to tribal members, from a federally recognized tribe, who are victims of crime. Services include emergency food, clothing, shelter, safety planning, goal planning, counseling, court system advocacy, and other victim advocacy services.

Tribal Victim Services

- Website:** <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/tribal-victim-services/>
- Service area:** Choctaw Nation service area
- Description:** Provides comprehensive, culturally competent, direct services to victims of crimes and their families. Licensed professional counselors provide crime victims with counseling sessions and group therapy.

Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC)

- Website:** <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/wic/>
- Phone:** (580) 920-2100 ext. 83517
- Service area:** Choctaw Nation service area
- Eligibility & Description:** Supplemental nutrition program, open to both tribal members and non-tribal members, that contributes to healthy pregnancies, healthy babies, and healthy children.

Housing

Affordable Rental Housing

- Website:** <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/affordable-rental-housing/>
- Eligibility & Description:** Offers affordable housing to households earning no more than 80% of the national median income.

Chahta Inchukka

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/chahta-inchukka/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides child development and parenting support to families with a Native child under the age of one through home-based parenting services.

Supportive Elder Housing

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/supportive-elder-housing/>

Eligibility & Description: Offers one-bedroom units for elders 62 years of age or older. Each property offers a community center, storm shelter, and a washer and dryer.

Culture and Recreation

Choctaw Cultural Center

Website: <https://choctawculturalcenter.com/>

Eligibility & Description: Offers visitors and tribal members the chance to view living traditions of the Choctaw people. The center has rotating exhibitions, a living village, as well as daily activities that include traditional activities such as stickball, lectures, social dancing, and much more.

Language Nests

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/language-nest/>

Phone: (800) 522-6170

Description: Families receive training, support, practice, and encouragement to become successful Choctaw speakers.

Youth Advisory Board

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/yab/>

Service area: Choctaw Nation service area

Eligibility & Description: Empowers students in grades 8–12 to become leaders with a servant attitude toward others. The program utilizes a leadership curriculum to develop students' potential through creative thinking, presentation, planning, and team building to foster success as tomorrow's leaders.

Education and Career Development

Career Development

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/career-development/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides Choctaw Nation citizens financial assistance for training along with a comprehensive array of career guidance services, workforce skills development, and academic skills enhancement.

Chahta Himmak Pila Pehlich (CHPP)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/chpp/>

Service area: Serves youth in Battiest, Rattan, and Wright City public schools.

Eligibility & Description: Strives to improve outcomes for Native youth aged 14–24 by increasing student engagement in school, encouraging cultural and self-identity exploration, and boosting self-confidence and leadership abilities. The summer internship is open to Native youth, from any federally recognized tribe, and in-school services are available to all youth in Battiest, Rattan, and Wright City public schools.

Head Start

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/head-start/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides education, health, nutritional, social, and other services deemed necessary to promote school readiness in children aged 3–5.

Johnson-O'Malley Program (JOM)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/johnson-omalley/>

Description: Provides funding for supplemental programs through contracts to public schools within the Choctaw Nation service area. Each school has its own JOM committee that determines what services are needed to meet the needs of its students. Services may include educational supports, cultural programs, tutoring, or a variety of other allowable options.

Jones Academy

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/jones-academy/>

Service area: Open to students from tribal nations across the United States and in particular neighboring communities in Oklahoma.

Eligibility & Description: No-cost residential school for grades 1–12, controlled by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Offers learning experiences for Native youth by helping them discover life pathways and cultivate a sense of cultural identity.

SMART Program

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/smart/>

Service area: Services are available to students in Atoka, Bryan, Choctaw, McCurtain, and Pushmataha Counties.

Eligibility & Description: Teaches middle school students, grades 6–8, to set personal goals, communicate personal limits to others, seek parental input in decisions, and explore hard facts about pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease prevention.

Student School & Activity Fund

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/ssaf/>

Eligibility & Description: Offers an annual \$100 grant to purchase school supplies and clothing for Choctaw students possessing a tribal membership card.

Success Through Academic Recognition (STAR)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/star/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides incentives to Choctaw students enrolled in grades 2–12 who possess a Choctaw Nation tribal membership card. The program rewards students for academic excellence and encourages success in the classroom.

Legal and Court

Choctaw Nation Judicial Branch

Website: <https://www.choctawnationcourt.com/>

Eligibility & Description: Offers Choctaw Nation citizens a safe place to seek justice with integrity and compassion.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/oklahoma-indian-legal-services/>

Eligibility & Description: Provides services to low-income Native people living in Oklahoma. OILS represents Native people in civil cases that are connected to their Native status. Clients must be members of federally recognized tribes.

Medical

Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/about/health/>

Service area: Southeastern Oklahoma through a hospital in Talihina and eight outlying clinics throughout the Choctaw Nation reservation

Eligibility & Description: Provides quality focused healthcare services specifically for the Native population. Services are provided through effective communications, teamwork, and preservation of the dignity, cultural values, and health of all individuals served.

Diabetes Prevention Program

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/dpp/>

Description: Group-based lifestyle change program teaches participants how to eat healthier in a realistic manner that fits individual needs, how to increase physical activity level, and how to manage the stress of everyday life.

Other Community Services

Affordable Connectivity Program

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/affordable-connectivity-program/>

Description: Offers help paying for internet service for low-income households.

Credit Repair Loans

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/credit-repair-loans/>

Service area: Choctaw Nation Reservation Area

Eligibility & Description: Offers loans up to \$10,000 to assist Choctaw Nation citizens, including payoffs of collections, charge offs, judgements, liens, and repossessions.

Emergency Services

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/emergency-services/>

Description: Offers financial assistance to tribal members who experience unique emergency situations. This program does not have an income requirement and any member experiencing an emergency or hardship is able to request this assistance.

Home Improvement Loans

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/home-improvement-loans/>

Service area: Choctaw Nation service area

Eligibility & Description: Offers loans to Choctaw Nation citizens with simple repair needs that can be easily estimated and completed.

Homeowner Energy Management Services

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/hems/>

Description: Provides energy audit services, as well as energy efficiency and cost recommendations, to eligible tribal members who own their homes.

Job for the Day

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/job-for-the-day/>

Eligibility & Description: Temporary work program for Choctaw Nation citizens 18 years or older who are looking to find a permanent job.

Mutual Help Management Services

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/hms/>

Eligibility & Description: Offers tribal members 3- or 4-bedroom brick homes built on one acre of land. House payment is based on 15% of tenant adjusted gross income.

Next Step Initiative (Personal Finance Assistance)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/next-step-initiative/>

Service area: Choctaw Nation service area
Eligibility & Description: Offers help to tribal members who do not qualify for other income-based programs, primarily assisting those looking to expand their knowledge of managing personal finances. A focus on financial wellness for long-term success.

Oklahoma Tribal License Plates (Choctaw Vehicle Tags)

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/choctaw-vehicle-tags/>

Eligibility & Description: Oklahoma vehicle tags are available for Choctaw Nation citizens. Choctaw veteran tags are also available for tribal members who are veterans.

Reintegration

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/reintegration/>

Eligibility & Description: Assists Choctaw Nation citizens who have been convicted of felony crimes by working to remove barriers for those who are transitioning back into their communities. Provides both prevention and reintegration services.

Revolving Loan Fund

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/revolving-loan-fund/>

Service area: Choctaw Nation service area
Eligibility & Description: Provides Choctaw Nation citizens micro loans for emergency home improvements and small businesses.

Section 184

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/section-184/>

Service area: Homes located in Indian Country, both on and off Choctaw lands (see Section 184 map [here](#))
Eligibility &

Description: Loan guarantee program available through approved lenders. Choctaw Home Finance down payment assistance loans are available with Section 184 loans to Choctaw Nation citizens with lender approval. Contact Choctaw Home Finance for states other than Oklahoma's requirements.

Storm Shelters

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/storm-shelters/>

Service area: Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas

Eligibility & Description: Provides a storm shelter grant to eligible Choctaw Nation citizens.

Tribal Transit

Website: <https://www.choctawnation.com/services/tribal-transit/>

Eligibility & Description: Transportation services for patients who reside in the Choctaw Nation service area. Offers transportation to non-emergency medical appointments at Choctaw Nation health clinics and specialized clinics outside of the Choctaw Nation Health Services Authority.

Emergency Numbers

Tribal Dispatch: (580) 920-1517

Health Facilities

ANTLERS WELLNESS CENTER

304 SW O St
Antlers, OK 74523
(580) 298-4723

ATOKA HEALTH CLINIC

1585 W Liberty Rd
Atoka, OK 74525
(580) 889-1981

ATOKA WELLNESS CENTER

1203 W Liberty Rd
Atoka, OK 74525
(580) 889-1981

BROKEN BOW HEALTH CLINIC

1300 E Martin Luther King Dr
Broken Bow, OK 74728
(580) 584-2740

BROKEN BOW WELLNESS CENTER

110 S Chahta Rd
Broken Bow, OK 74728
(580) 584-2740

CHI HULLO LI WOMEN'S RECOVERY CENTER

13597 SE 202 Rd
Talihina, OK 74571
(918) 567-2905

COALGATE WELLNESS CENTER

407 S Broadway St
Coalgate, OK 74723
(580) 927-9172

CROWDER WELLNESS CENTER

703 Bond St
Crowder, OK 74430
(918) 334-5666

DIABETES WELLNESS CENTER

1 Choctaw Way
Talihina, OK 74571
(918) 567-7000

DURANT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

1801 Chukka Hina
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 920-2100

DURANT REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

1801 Chukka Hina
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 920-2100

DURANT WELLNESS CENTER

2750 Big Lots Parkway
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 931-8643

HUGO HEALTH CLINIC

410 N M St
Hugo, OK 74743
(580) 326-7561

HUGO OPTOMETRY CLINIC

310 N M St
Hugo, OK 74743
(580) 326-7561

HUGO WELLNESS CENTER

304 Chahta Circle
Hugo, OK 74743
(580) 326-9422

IDABEL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

1303 S Lynn Ln
Idabel, OK 74745
(580) 286-7025

IDABEL HEALTH CLINIC

902 E Lincoln Rd
Idabel, OK 74745
(580) 286-2600

IDABEL WELLNESS CENTER

1711 Shady Dell Ln
Idabel, OK 74745
(580) 286-7381

MCALESTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

604 SE 2nd St
McAlester, OK 74501
(918) 302-0052

MCALESTER HEALTH CLINIC

1127 S George Nigh Expy
McAlester, OK 74501
(918) 423-8440

MCALESTER PATIENT RELATIONS

1414 E Wade Watts Ave
McAlester, OK 74501
(918) 426-4125

MCALESTER WELLNESS CENTER

3286 Afullota Hina
McAlester, OK 74501
(918) 429-7520

POTEAU WELLNESS CENTER

102 Kerr Ave
Poteau, OK 74953
(918) 649-1171

RUBIN WHITE HEALTH CLINIC

109 Kerr Ave
Poteau, OK 74953
(918) 649-1100

STIGLER DENTAL CLINIC

103 NW 9th St
Stigler, OK 74462
(918) 967-8878

STIGLER HEALTH CLINIC

2204 E Main St
Stigler, OK 74462
(918) 967-2200

STIGLER WELLNESS CENTER

2208 E Main St, Unit B
Stigler, OK 74462
(918) 967-9417

TALIHINA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

1 Choctaw Way
Talihina, OK 74571
(918) 567-3065

TALIHINA HEALTH AND OPTOMETRY CLINIC

205 Dallas St
Talihina, OK 74571
(918) 567-3636

TALIHINA HEALTH CARE CENTER

1 Choctaw Way
Talihina, OK 74571
(918) 567-7000

TALIHINA MENS RECOVERY CENTER

13224 SE 202 Rd
Talihina, OK 74571
(918) 567-2389

WILBURTON WELLNESS CENTER

1052 NW 1003 Ave
Wilburton, OK 74578
(918) 465-5620

Please visit www.GKSNetwork.org for [state and territory fact sheets](#) and click [here](#) for the Oklahoma GrandFacts state fact sheet.

Acknowledgements

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The Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network: A National Technical Assistance Center (Network) helps 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 whose parents are unable to do so. For more information, please visit www.GKSNetwork.org.

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