



GRANDFACTS

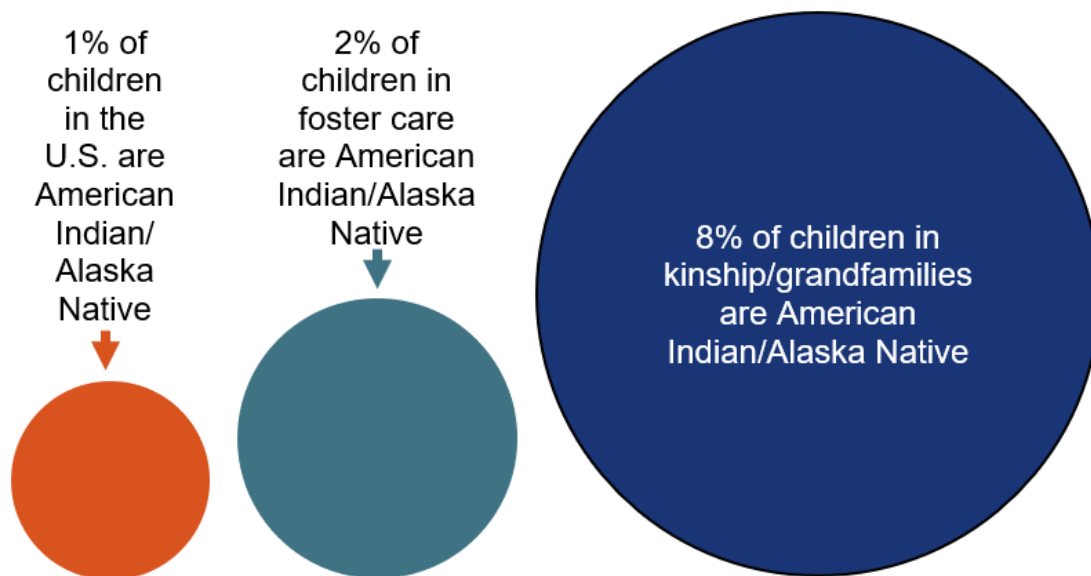
EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS FACT SHEET FOR KINSHIP/GRANDFAMILIES

This fact sheet includes national data and information on Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) 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.

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 \(AFCARS\)](#).

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) Programs That May Help

Tribal programs that provide support, resources, and assistance to kinship/grandfamilies can be found by contacting Foster Care Licensing Coordinator Lisa Young at lisayoung@ebci-nsn.gov or Family Safety Worker Nicolas Squirrell at nicosqui@ebci-nsn.gov.

Kinship relative definition: (A) a person who has reached the age of eighteen who is related by blood or marriage to a child, including but not limited to grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, in-laws, niece, or nephew, first or second cousins, or stepparents; or (B) a person who provides parenting to a child in the traditional Cherokee way; or (C) an individual with a substantial relationship to the child.

“This speaks to the [Cherokee] culture—Cherokee people didn’t need to be blood related to be family.”

-Lisa Young

Services for Kinship/Grandfamilies

EBCI Kinship Navigator Program

Website: Coming soon

Phone: (828) 359-1520

Email: lisayoung@ebci-nsn.gov or nicosqui@ebci-nsn.gov

Service Area: Anyone caring for an EBCI child. Also serves kinship families residing on tribal trust land.

Description: The Kinship Navigator Program for the EBCI offers families caring for their relatives services and support. They offer licensing to families and act as a point of contact to assist families in connecting to resources. A big part of their program is caregiver and kinship trainings. The EBCI parenting curriculum is described below.

EBCI National Training Development Curriculum (NTDC)

Phone: (828) 359-1520

Email: lisayoung@ebci-nsn.gov or nicosqui@ebci-nsn.gov

Service Area & Eligibility: Anyone caring for EBCI children can request to take the course. *Note: Foster care payments are only available to those caring for children under the custody of EBCI.*

Description: This curriculum was developed in collaboration with several tribes and adapted specifically for Eastern Band of Cherokee Indian

kinship families to address their specific needs. It is set up with a series of themes that build on the principles and teachings of each lesson. Themes include building resilience of caregivers and cultural humility, which are two of the most popular themes. Other themes include changes in kinship parenting, trauma-related behaviors, trauma-informed parenting, impact of substance abuse, foster care means to support (adapted for kinship), and sexual trauma. Families can take the training at their own pace, and it is available both in person and online. The curriculum offers kinship families an easier path (than the traditional foster care licensing) to obtaining a kinship care license if they choose to care for their relative children.

The curriculum allows providers to be flexible with the families they work with, offering them an opportunity to build relationships and connections.

The development of the curriculum was funded through a federal grant awarded to Spaulding for Children. Those with lived experience, which includes kinship caregivers and elders, are included in the adaption and review of the content.

RESOURCES

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

- ▶ [Social and Support Services](#)
- ▶ [Culture and Recreation](#)
- ▶ [Education](#)
- ▶ [Legal and Court](#)
- ▶ [Medical and Dental](#)
- ▶ [Other Community Services](#)
- ▶ [Emergency Numbers](#)

Social and Support Services

Analenisgi Recovery Center

Website: <https://cherokeehospital.org/locations/analenisgi/>

Phone: (828) 497-9163; (828) 497-6892

Description: Provides adult outpatient and recovery center services with an emphasis on Cherokee history, arts, crafts, and the unique healing aspects of Cherokee culture.

Cancer Support Group

Phone: (828) 497-0788

Description: Provides counseling and support services to cancer patients that may include supplies, travel, and meals.

Car Seat Program

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/tsalagi-public-health/>

Phone: (828) 359-6216

Eligibility: EBCI enrollment card must be presented.

Description: Provides up to two car seats per child at a fraction of the cost.

Child Advocacy Heart to Heart

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/heart-to-heart/>

Phone: (828) 359-6313

Description: Assists victims of child abuse and their families throughout the child's involvement in the prosecution process.

Child Support & Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/tanf/>

Cherokee Phone: (828) 497-4317

Snowbird Phone: (828) 479-1000

Eligibility & Service Area: Serves families who are enrolled members of EBCI or other federally recognized tribes and live on the Cherokee Indian Reservation in parts of Swain, Jackson, Cherokee, Graham, and Haywood counties in Western North Carolina.

In addition to being an enrolled member and living on the Qualla Boundary, you must have at least one minor child in the home.

Domestic Violence

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/domestic-violence/>

Phone: (828) 359-6830

Description: Assists individuals with situations involving domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, and dating violence by offering services to empower the victim and break the cycle of abuse.

Family Safety Program

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/family-safety/>

Phone: (828) 359-1520

Description: Provides child and adult protective services to the children and families in the Cherokee community.

Family Support Services—Snowbird

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/family-support-services/>

Phone: (828) 346-6975; (828) 359-6092

Description: Assist residents of the Qualla Boundary with public and social welfare issues such as child custody, family problems, and financial hardships.

Handicapped & Elderly Living Program “H.E.L.P.”

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-education/handicapped-elderly-living-program/>

Phone: (828) 359-6925

Eligibility & Description: Provides home repair services to Senior citizens (59 ½ and older) who are enrolled members of the EBCI. Enrolled members who are 59 ½ or younger with a medical and/or mental disability may also apply for assistance with home repairs. Applicants under 59 ½ years of age are required to provide a copy of their Social Security Disability Statement.

Juvenile Services

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/juvenile-services/>

Phone: (828) 359-6832

Description: Ensures the safety of the community and the well-being and safety of the youths under the juvenile services care, holds juvenile offenders accountable to victims and communities, and assists youths in developing competency and character to aid them in becoming successful members of society.

Kanvwtiyi Treatment Center Snowbird

Website: <https://cherokeehospital.org/locations/the-kanvwtiyi-residential-treatment-center/>

Phone: (828) 346-6000

Description: Provides residential treatment in the Snowbird Community.

Public Health & Human Services

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/>

Cherokee Phone: (828) 359-6882

Snowbird Phone: (828) 346-6991

24/7 Public Health Emergency Phone: (828) 359-6180

Description: Programs designed to improve individual—and community—quality of life.

Public Safety

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-operations/emergency-services/>

Phone: (828) 359-6431

Description: Provides emergency services and can provide emergency assistance to the EBCI communities and visitors.

Qualla Housing Authority

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-housing/qualla-housing/>

Phone: (828) 359-6320

Eligibility & Description: Provides affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

Senior Citizens Program

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-education/senior-citizens-program/>

Phone: (828) 359-6860

Eligibility & Description: Provides assistance to older persons and persons with disabilities so that they can live with dignity and choice in their homes and communities for as long as possible.

Sequoyah Fund

Website: <https://sequoyahfund.org/>

Phone: (828) 359-5005

Service Area: Serves the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians on the Qualla Boundary and throughout the seven westernmost counties of North Carolina.

Description: Provides loans (business, home repair, etc.), financial literacy, training programs, and more. The fund also provides youth programming with the Youth Entrepreneurship Camp and Kituwah Savings Program.

Supplemental Health Insurance Program (SHIP)

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/supplemental-health-insurance/>

Phone: (828) 359-6194; (828) 359-6183

Service Area: Within the five-county service area

Eligibility & Description: Provides free guidance to EBCI elders and disabled members to make them aware of all alternative resources that are available to them.

Soco Creek Village Apartments

Phone: (828) 497-0066

Description: Offers a community of affordable apartment homes in Cherokee.

Syringe Services Program

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/syringe-service-program/>

Phone: (828) 359-6879

Description: Provides comprehensive harm reduction services, such as providing participants with sterile syringes and clean injection equipment. Provides a safe, non-judgmental environment for anyone participating in the program, and develops meaningful relationships with participants in hopes of nurturing the need to recover.

Tribal Food Distribution

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/tribal-food-distribution-program/>

Phone: (828) 359-9751

Eligibility & Description: Distributes nutritious foods to eligible households living within the four county areas of the Qualla Indian Boundary (lands in Jackson, Swain, Cherokee, and Graham counties) that fall within United States Department of Agriculture regulations.

Unity Healing Center

Website: <https://www.ihs.gov/nashville/healthcarefacilities/unity/>

Phone: (828) 554-0500

Description: Provides a long-term intensive residential treatment program for youth ages 13 to 17 years old.

W.I.C. Women/Infant/Children

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/wic-program/>

Phone: (828) 359-6237

Description: Provides supplemental nutrition services for women, infants, and children.

Culture and Recreation

Co-op Qualla Arts and Crafts

Website: <https://quallaartsandcrafts.org/>

Phone: (828) 497-3103

Description: Provides a year-round market for Cherokee handicrafts, to promote high standards of workmanship and design, to help craftspeople solve their problems, and to secure better prices for their craftwork.

One Feather

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

Phone: (828) 359-6262

Description: Provides Eastern Band of Cherokee news, sports, and events.

Parks & Rec

Birdtown Gym Phone: (828) 359-6890

Big Cove Gym Phone: (828) 497-7172

John Crowe Gym Phone: (828) 359-0149

Painttown Gym Phone: (828) 359-3345

Snowbird Gym Phone: (828) 346-6961

Wolfetown Gym Phone: (828) 359-4823

Big Y Gym Phone: (828) 497-9649

Qualla Library

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-education/qualla-boundary-public-library/>

Cherokee Phone: (828) 359-6725

Snowbird Phone: (828) 346-6971

Service Area: Serves enrolled members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, residents of the Qualla Boundary, and the surrounding Swain and Jackson Counties.

Description: Provides excellent service and convenient access to resources to meet educational, informational, and recreational needs.

Youth Center

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-education/cherokee-youth-center/>

Cherokee Phone: (828) 359-8113

Snowbird Phone: (828) 346-6900

Description: Provides programming for all young people.

Education

Agelink—Cherokee Boys Club

Website: <https://www.cherokeeboysclub.com/agelink/>

Phone: (828) 497-67-26

Age Served: 6 months to 5 years

Description: Provides childcare and other early childhood programming primarily to parents and guardians who are employees on the Qualla Boundary, but any family may apply.

Cherokee Central School

Website: <https://www.ccs-nc.org/>

Phone: (828) 554-5000

Age Served: Kindergarten to 12th grade

Education & Training

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

Phone: (828) 359-6650

Description: Assists those in the community to set high educational goals and achieve those goals.

Graham County Indian Education

Website: <https://cherokeepreservation.org/>

Phone: (828) 479-9820

Description: Works as a liaison between the community, school, tribal programs, and the home to support children in their pursuit of goals.

Hope Center—Cherokee Pre-K

Website: <https://ces.ccs-nc.org/>

Phone: (828) 554-5101

Age Served: 4 years of age by August 31st

Cooperative Extension

Website: <https://ebci.ces.ncsu.edu/>

Phone: (828) 359-6930

Description: Offers extension courses in 4-H youth development, agriculture, community, food safety and processing, soil, water, air, and many more.

Kaleidoscope Dreams Daycare

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/kaleidoscope1999/>

Phone: (828) 497-4946

Age Served: 6 weeks to 12 years

Description: Provides daycare and after-school care in Swain County.

New Kituwah Academy

Website: <https://ebcikpep.com/nka-elementary/>

Phone: (828) 359-6101

Age Served: 0-5 (early childhood program)
Kindergarten-6th grade
Adult immersion

Description: Provides a nurturing learning environment in a language immersion setting where students, staff, families, and the community work in

partnership to rekindle the language and to instill pride in being “Kituwah First.”

Oconaluftee Job Corps

Website: <https://oconaluftee.jobcorps.gov/>
Phone: (828) 497-5411
Location: Cherokee, NC
Description: Provides education, training, and job placement for young people aged 16-24.

Qualla Boundary Head Start

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/head-start-early-head-start/>
Dora Reed Center Phone: (828) 359-6590
Big Cove Center Phone: (828) 359-3034
Age Served: 6 weeks to 5 years
Description: Provides early childhood education and support to parents.

Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO)

Website: <https://ebci-tero.com/>
Phone: (828) 359-6421
Description: Works with Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians citizens and local Indian applicants to encourage work with certified economic entities who do work on the EBCI tribal trust lands (Qualla Indian Boundary).

Legal and Court

Legal Assistance Office

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/attorney-general/civil-law/>
Phone: (828) 359-7400
Description: Expands access to justice for the Cherokee community through direct legal representation, community outreach, and advocacy.

Prosecutor’s Office

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/attorney-general/criminal-law/>

Phone: (828) 359-6207

Description: Prosecutes criminal, traffic, and juvenile cases in the Cherokee Court and prosecutes in federal court qualifying criminal cases occurring within the jurisdiction of the tribe.

Tribal Court

Website: <https://ebci.com/government/judicial/>

Phone: (828) 359-1068

Description: Hears criminal, civil, domestic violence (civil and criminal), small claims, juvenile, traffic, family safety, child support, and drug court cases, with sessions nearly every day.

Cherokee Justice Center (Jail)

Website: <https://ebci.com/government/judicial/>

Phone: (828) 359-6691

Medical and Dental

Children's Dental

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/childrens-dental/>

Phone: (828) 359-6197

Description: Works with daycare centers and schools to provide information in an age-appropriate format and provides dental screenings in the daycare centers and schools on the Qualla Boundary.

Diabetes Program

Website: <https://cherokeehospital.org/>

Phone: (828) 497-1991

Pediatrics—Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority (CIHA)

Website: <https://cherokeehospital.org/>

Phone: (828) 497-9163

Description: Provides accessible, quality-focused, patient- and family-centered healthcare, while responsibly managing the tribe's resources.

Women's Wellness

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/tsalagi-public-health/>

Phone: (828) 359-6240

Description: Provides quality health, wellness, and disease prevention services to eligible women with emphasis on breast and cervical cancer screening and early detection.

Other Community Services

Animal Control

Phone: (828) 359-2380

Description: Provides animal control services and adoption program.

Emergency Preparedness

Website: <https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/preparedness/>

Phone: (828) 359-1500

Description: Prepares for and responds to public health emergencies and threats.

Enrollment

Website: <https://ebci.com/enrollment/>

Phone: (828) 359-6465

Description: Provides enrollment services and a Cherokee genealogy research service to search for records prior to the 1924 Baker Roll.

Recycling and Sanitation

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-housing/infrastructure-and-public-facilities/>

Phone: (828) 359-6143; (828) 359-6140

Description: Provides collection, handling, processing, and disposal of all solid waste generated on the Qualla Boundary. This includes household garbage, recycling, commercial waste, food waste, and bio solids from the tribal wastewater plant.

Transit

Website: <http://www.cherokeetransit.com/community.html>

Cherokee Phone: (828) 359-6300

Snowbird Phone: (828) 346-6743
Description: Provides EBCI public transit services.

Emergency Numbers

Police Departments

Cherokee Police Phone: (828) 359-6600
Swain County Sheriff Phone: (828) 488-0159
Jackson County Sheriff: (828) 586-8901
Cherokee County Sheriff Phone: (828) 837-2589

Fire Departments

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-operations/emergency-services/>
Cherokee Fire Phone: (828) 359-6584
West Swain Fire (Bryson City) Phone: (828) 488-9134
Sylva Fire Phone: (828) 586-1020
Service Area: Qualla Boundary and the surrounding communities
Description: Provides emergency services.

EMS Department

Website: <https://ebci.com/services/departments/department-of-operations/emergency-services/>
Cherokee Tribal EMS Phone: (828) 497-6405 or 911
Swain County EMS Phone: (828) 488-6021 or 911
Jackson County EMS: (828) 586-7000 or 911
Service Area: Qualla Boundary, the surrounding communities, and Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Description: Responds to and addresses all emergency and non-emergency calls. Provides pre-hospital instruction and community education.

Local Hospitals

Cherokee Indian Hospital: <https://cherokeehospital.org/>

Phone: (828) 497-9163
Swain Community Hospital (Bryson City): <https://www.myswaincommunity.com/>
Phone: (828) 488-2155
Harris Regional Hospital (Sylva): <https://myharrisregional.com/>
Phone: (828) 586-7000

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