

Kinship Connection Newsletter

April 2023



PARTNERSHIP FOR
STRONG
FAMILIES



Join the Group

Connect with parents, share helpful information, learn about upcoming events, and support each other. Search “PSF’s Kinship Support Network” on Facebook!

Reminder

Providers can look up the last 12 months of payments in the PSF Payment Lookup Portal. To locate the link visit pfsf.org; under the foster care tab, select "Partner Family Resources". If you need your provider ID, your Caregiver Support Specialist can assist.

Foster & Adoptive Parent Association (FAPA)

Virtual FAPA Meetings take place the fourth Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m. Contact alachuacountyfapa@gmail.com for a meeting link. Columbia County FAPA also meets in person monthly. Email Jerrod@thenestlakecity.com for more information. Join the FAPA Facebook Groups by searching for the Alachua County FAPA and Columbia County FAPA.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

PSF Kinship Navigation team and the Level 1 Kinship Licensed Caregiver Support team are available to assist caregivers with a variety of resources and connections within our system and the community.

Relative and Non-Relative Caregivers can reach the Kinship Navigation team by emailing Kinship@pfsf.org or calling (352) 244-1500, option 8.

Level 1 Kinship Licensed Foster Caregivers can reach out to their assigned Caregiver Support Specialist or email Level1@pfsf.org.

RELATIVE & NON-RELATIVE CAREGIVER BENEFITS

Children who are placed with a Relative or Non-Relative Caregiver through a Dependency Court action by the child welfare system are eligible to receive financial assistance as long as the child has been Adjudicated Dependent by the court. The monthly rates vary by the child's age: 0-5 years - \$242, 6-12 years - \$248, and 13-17 years - \$298. Caregivers will receive an enhanced rate for the first 6 months that is equal to the Level 1 Kinship Licensed rates. Contact Kinship@pfsf.org for assistance with a referral and information on how to apply for caregiver financial assistance.

LEVEL 1 KINSHIP LICENSED FOSTER HOME


Becoming licensed as a Level 1 Foster Parent means you are only licensed for the child you have placed in your home. Completing the requirements to become Level 1 licensed provides monthly board rates for the child that vary by age: 0-5 years - \$551.61, 6-12 years - \$565.74, and 13-17 years - \$728.41. Licensed caregivers may be eligible to participate in the Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) in the event the child achieves permanency through Permanent Guardianship. GAP enables caregivers to continue receiving funds if they re-locate out of state. In some cases, youth closed after age 16 may be eligible for Extended Guardianship Assistance Program (EGAP). If you want to learn more about GAP and EGAP, contact Kinship@pfsf.org. Are you interested in becoming Level 1 licensed? Reach out to our licensing team at Level1@pfsf.org or Jasma Neal at (352) 317-9093.

PSF Network of Community Resource Centers

PSF's Family Resource Centers offer free services to local families, including emergency food pantries, clothing closets, financial literacy, employability workshops, afterschool programs, referrals to other social service agencies, and more! Services vary by location and no referral. PSF encourages caregivers to utilize the network of community resource centers to access concrete and community services.


**LIBRARY
PARTNERSHIP**
912 N E 16th Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601
352-334-0161


SWAG
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
807 SW 64th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32607
352-505-6823


**CONE PARK LIBRARY
RESOURCE CENTER**
2801 East University Avenue
Gainesville, FL 32641
352-334-0456


**TRI-COUNTY
COMMUNITY
RESOURCE CENTER**
15 North Main Street
Chiefland, FL 32626
352-507-4000


NORTHSTAR
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
255 NE Coach Anders Lane
Lake City, FL 32055
386-758-3319

Case Management On Call

Alachua
352-226-4675
Camelot Community Care

Dixie, Levy & Gilchrist
352-664-8969
Lutheran Services Florida

Columbia
352-664-8968
Lutheran Services Florida

Baker, Bradford & Union
352-401-2129
Camelot Community Care

**Suwannee, Lafayette, Hamilton
Madison & Taylor**
850-570-9716
Camelot Community Care



UNDERSTANDING THE ORGANIZATION

Partnership for Strong Families (PSF) is the Lead Community Based Care agency serving North Central Florida. PSF contracts with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to provide foster care, adoption and related services for Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, and Union Counties.

PSF provides Foster Home licensing, Placement and Adoption Services in house. Case Management services are provided through contracts with Lutheran Services Florida and Camelot Community Care. Case management agencies are assigned by the child's home county of jurisdiction.



HELPFUL CONTACTS FOR KINSHIP CAREGIVERS

Tuition Waivers for youth in Kinship care or closed to Permanent Guardianship email Kinship@pfsf.org

Primary Care Provider changes email PCPChange@pfsf.org