

## Are there exceptions?

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You will not be eligible for kinship care payments if:

- The child receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) on their own behalf.
- The natural parent(s) reside in the home. (exceptions may be made in specific cases)
- The criminal background check results do not meet State requirements.
- The child resides with someone not identified as a legal relative or like kin provider.
- The jurisdictional and need criteria are not met as defined by Wisconsin State Statutes.

## Are there other services?

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The child may be eligible for Medical Assistance and Child Care Funding.

Eligibility for these programs is determined by W-2 Economic Support programs. To apply, call the Northern Income Maintenance Consortium at 1-888-794-5722 and ask about Medical Assistance and/or Child Care.



**ONEIDA COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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## How do I apply for Kinship Care?

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Request a Packet from the Oneida  
County Human Services Department

Program Coordinators:

Sophia Africano  
safricano@oneidacountywi.gov

Marsha Holley  
mholley@oneidacountywi.gov

Oneida County Courthouse  
1 South Oneida Ave  
PO Box 400  
Rhineland, WI 54501  
715-362-5695



**ONEIDA COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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## Kinship Care Program

## What is Kinship Care?

Kinship Care is a program to help support a child who lives outside of his or her home with a relative or like kin provider.

The child may be placed in the home by Child Protective Services under a Court Order (Court Ordered Kinship Care) OR it may be a voluntary agreement between the caregiver and the child's parents/legal guardians (Voluntary Kinship Care).

Under the Program, eligible caregivers receive Kinship Care Payments to help care for the child(ren) in their care. These payments are in the amount of \$375.00 per month, per child.



## How Does it Work?

The caregiver fills out an application to apply for kinship care benefits. The Program Coordinator then completes an assessment to determine if the criteria mandated by the State of Wisconsin is met. The assessment process includes:

- A criminal background check on any adult in the home or anyone employed in the home who will have regular contact with the child.
- A home visit to assure that the living situation is safe for the child. This may be conducted by a Social Worker who places the child in your home or the Program Coordinator
- A record check to determine if the applicant or any member of the household has a past history of referrals to Child Protective Services. (continued...)



- Applicant must provide information on the child's parents to be referred to the Child Support Agency as an attempt will be made to recoup the cost of the Kinship Care funding.
- The Program Coordinator must attempt to contact the child's natural parents to be sure they know of and approve the child's living arrangements, unless it is a Court-ordered placement.

Caregivers with Court-Ordered placement of the child approved for Kinship Care funding are required to proceed with Foster Home Licensing.

Oneida County receives an allocation from the State of Wisconsin to fund the Kinship Care Program.

Depending on availability of funds, there may be a waiting list for funding for approved, non-court ordered cases.

