

KINSHIP ROAD MAP

Are you raising your grandchild, another family member's child, or a close family friend's child? This roadmap will guide you step by step through this new journey. Check the back for resources to help you along the way.

Step

Establish Care

01

If possible, work with the child's parents to get important information and documents. You will need the child's Social Security number. Get a "power of attorney" signed by the parents that spells out your role. If the parents are absent, complete a "caregiver's authorization affidavit."

- * If the child was placed with you by the County's Child and Family Well Being Department (CFWB), work with your case worker. They can help you get Resource Family Approval to care for your kinship child.

Step

Address Basic Needs

02

Schedule health checkups, enroll the child in school, and connect with community resources. Consider applying for benefits such as Medi-Cal, CalFresh, WIC, CalWORKS child-only or family grants, and childcare subsidies.

- * If the child was placed with you by CFWB, work with your caseworker on the child's health and education needs. Your caseworker can help you get resources such as foster care payments, child care, and more.

Step

Secure Other Support

03

Consider joining a caregiver support group for advice and emotional help. If needed for the child, get counseling and/or help for developmental needs.

- * If the child was placed with you by CFWB, your case worker can help connect you to services for you and the child.

Step

Consider Permanent Legal Options

04

Consider options, like adoption or guardianship, for creating a legally permanent family.

- * If the child was placed with you by CFWB and can't go back to their parents, think about adoption or guardianship. These are your legal options for leaving foster care with the child. Adoption assistance and KinGAP are possible financial supports for those leaving foster care.

Resources



ROAD MAP RESOURCES

County of San Diego GRG (211) – Connect with local resources and support for kinship caregivers in San Diego – <https://211.my.site.com/s/?targetpop=YK-6500.3600>

YMCA Kinship Support – Connect with a kinship navigator who can help you find tailored resources. They can help you join a kinship support group near you – <http://shorturl.at/tlZLa>, call 877-YMCA-4-KIN (877-9622-4-546) or email kinshipyfs@ymcasd.org

Establish Care

Caregiver’s Authorization Affidavit to obtain the authority to enroll the child in school and get medical care –

www4.courts.ca.gov/documents/caregiver.pdf

Power of Attorney form –

<https://selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/guardianship/other-options>

Address Basic Needs

BenefitsCal – Information on applying for CalFresh, CalWORKS child-only or family grants, Medi-CAL, WIC, and other programs – <https://benefitscal.com/>

Childcare eligibility information –
<https://childcaresandiego.com/>

Feeding San Diego – Locate food banks – <https://feedingsandiego.org/>

Secure Other Support

San Diego Access & Crisis Line - Immediate help from experienced and multi-lingual counselors – (888) 724-7240

Project KEEP – Support groups and training – <https://shorturl.at/QvqH0>

FAKCE/Grossmont College – Training for kinship caregivers – <https://fakce.org>

San Diego Regional Center – Support for children with developmental disabilities – <http://www.sdrc.org/>

To learn more,
scan the QR code
with your phone



Consider Permanent Legal Options

Information on obtaining guardianship through probate court –

<https://sdcourt.ca.gov/sdcourt/probate2/guardianship> AND <https://selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/guardianship>

San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program – (619) 235-5656 – <https://sdvlp.org/>

Information on adoption –

<https://selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/independent-adoption>

Chart for kinship resource families that compares guardianship and adoption. It also shows differences in financial support for each – <https://shorturl.at/CbaP3>