

HOW TO BECOME A KINSHIP CAREGIVER?

If you know a child in your family who may need care and you would like to help, we encourage you to contact one of our 10 member CFS Agencies. These include:



ANCRC (Child and Family All Nations Coordinated Response Network)
1-888-945-2627

Animikii Ozoson Child & Family Services
1-877-300-5111



Anishinaabe Child & Family Services
1-855-413-7853



Dakota Ojibway Child & Family Services
1-877-508-8289



Intertribal Child & Family Services
1-866-573-4461



Peguis Child & Family Services
1-877-777-2049



Sagkeeng Child & Family Services
1-877-367-4020



Sandy Bay Child & Family Services
1-866-235-6968



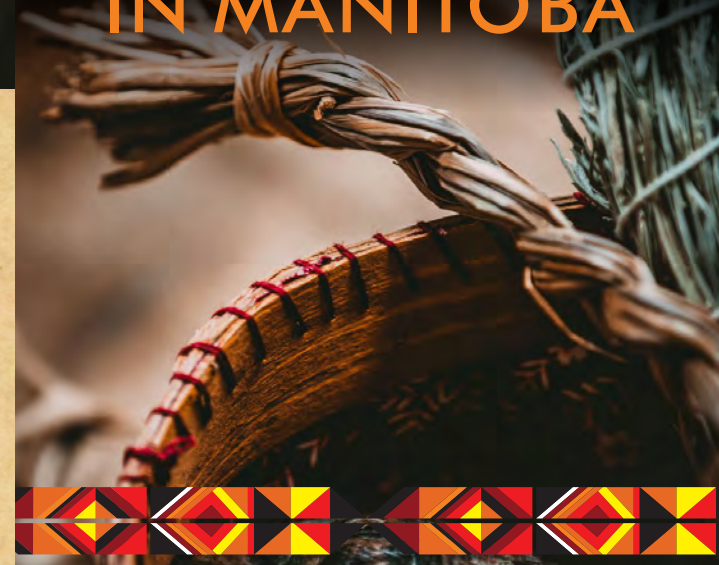
Southeast Child & Family Services
204-766-2655



West Region Child & Family Services
1-866-636-6100



PROMOTING KINSHIP CARE IN MANITOBA



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Southern Network Kinship Home Licensing Standard was developed through input and guidance from our 10 member CFS Agencies and the Southern Network Elders Council.

OUR CHILDREN ARE SACRED GIFTS FROM CREATOR



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What is kinship care?

Kinship care is rooted in traditional connectedness between children, caregivers and community, and has long been a custom in First Nations communities. If a child is unable to be cared for by their biological parents, then other family members or members of the community come forward to care for the child. For the Southern First Nations Network of Care (Southern Network), kinship care is defined as a family home that is approved to care for a specific child based on a family connection or significant relationship to the child, such as:

- blood ties;
- family ties;
- common ancestry; or
- community member.



What is the role of the Southern Network?

In 2003, by proclamation of The Child and Family Services Authorities Act, four new CFS Authorities were established, including the First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority (Southern Network). The Southern Network is responsible for the management of the delivery of child and family services through our 10 member CFS Agencies.

As well, in collaboration with our member CFS Agencies, we are responsible for developing and implementing culturally appropriate standards for services, practices and procedures.

What are the benefits of kinship care?

Based on a review of the literature, the benefits of kinship care are well recognized. Compared to stranger-based foster care, we know that children in kinship care:

- maintain a stronger connection with their family, community and culture;
 - are more likely to say that they feel loved;
 - experience fewer moves and less trauma;
 - are more likely to be placed with their siblings;
 - are less likely to change schools;
 - are more likely to indicate that they like living in a kinship home;
 - are less likely to run away; and
- are more likely to remain with their parents when they return home.

Kinship Home Licensing Standard

The Southern Network Kinship Home Licensing Standard was introduced in April 2015. The standard, which is in compliance with the *Foster Homes Licensing Regulation and The Child and Family Services Act* in Manitoba, allows our member CFS Agencies to license kinship caregivers through a culturally appropriate process. The purpose of the standard is to:

- encourage family and extended family members to become kinship caregivers
- streamline the existing foster care application process, to make it less bureaucratic with fewer barriers, less intrusive, and more culturally appropriate
- maintain family, community and cultural connections for children in care and move away from a reliance on stranger-based foster homes

