

*NEW Kinship care in New Brunswick guide

INFORMATION FOR STAFF | February 2026

In 2025, we engaged with Kinship care providers in New Brunswick to better understand their needs. They identified common challenges including difficulty accessing information, unanswered questions, and a lack of shareable resources. With their feedback, a guide was created to support kinship care providers at every stage of their journey.

Stories and experiences from our kinship community

New Brunswick kinship providers are committed for the long term! Over 90% of families said they plan to continue supporting the young person they are caring for into adulthood.



Preparation and support are key!

When asked, kinship care providers in New Brunswick told us that preparation and support make a big difference. Having access to the right tools and guidance helps make caregiving more manageable and successful.

“Being prepared helped me feel confident and capable.”



Connection and training provide valuable support. Many kinship care providers shared that they were unaware of opportunities to connect with others in similar situations. Others didn't realize there were training options available to help manage the impacts of trauma. Access to resources can offer much-needed guidance and a sense of community.

“The children’s trauma was harder to deal with than I expected.”

What's in the guide?

The guide is designed to support people caring for, or considering caring for, a child or youth they have a close relationship with. Inside the guide you'll find information on:

- Understanding kinship care,
- Steps in becoming a kinship care provider,
- Financial supports,
- Legal information and decision-making
- What to expect day to day,
- Ways to support children and youth,
- Navigating relationships with parents and family,
- Caring for yourself,
- Planning for the future, and
- Where to turn for support.



Where can I find it?

- Printed copies of the guide will be available in zone offices soon!
- Families can request a printed copy by calling 2-1-1.
- The guide is also available online at socialsupportsnb.ca/kinship.



Feedback is welcome!

The guide includes a built-in feedback tool. Everyone is encouraged to share their thoughts and suggestions by visiting socialsupportsnb.ca/feedback or scanning the QR code found inside the guide.

Looking ahead

This work sets the foundation for the next phase, which will focus on developing a companion guide in partnership with the New Brunswick Foster Family Association (NBFFA). Feedback shared by nearly 100 foster families will help inform a similar resource that reflects their unique experiences, needs, and perspectives.

We hope this guide will be a valuable resource for New Brunswick's kinship care community, and we look forward to your feedback!

Join us in spreading the word by sharing this guide with your teams and networks.



Questions or comments?

Should you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out to ssnb@gnb.ca at any time.



Kinship care in New Brunswick

1st Edition

SOCIALSUPPORTSNB.CA/KINSHIP