

Kinship care in New Brunswick

1st Edition



Information and support
for people caring for, or
considering caring for, a
child or youth they have a
close relationship with.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

This guide is designed to support kinship care providers, and your feedback helps us make it better.

Please share your thoughts, suggestions, or questions anytime by visiting socialsupportsnb.ca/feedback or scanning the QR code below.



This guide was last updated March 2026

Welcome and overview

About this guide

Becoming a kinship care provider is a big decision. Whether you're considering this role or already caring for a child or youth you have a close relationship with, this guide will support you every step of the way.

We built this guide with feedback from caregivers in New Brunswick. Many shared that clear information, understanding available supports, and feeling more prepared are key to success in this important role.

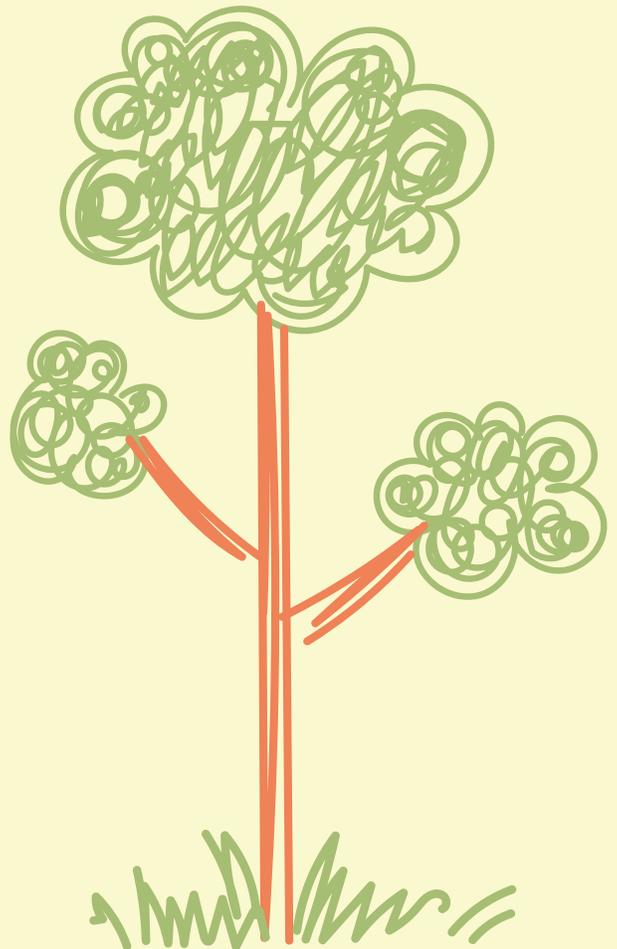
Inside, you'll find helpful details about:

- how kinship care works
- your responsibilities and what to expect
- understanding legal information and decision-making
- managing relationships with parents, extended family, and others in the child or youth's life
- the supports and services available to you
- how to access help when needed

The guide also includes answers to commonly asked questions and guidance to help you feel prepared and confident.

↪ **This information is intended to be shared!** Please feel free to print and distribute.

(!) Please note that this guide is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional, medical, legal, or financial advice. Programs and information can change over time, so please check details with the services and agencies mentioned in this document.



A message to kinship care providers

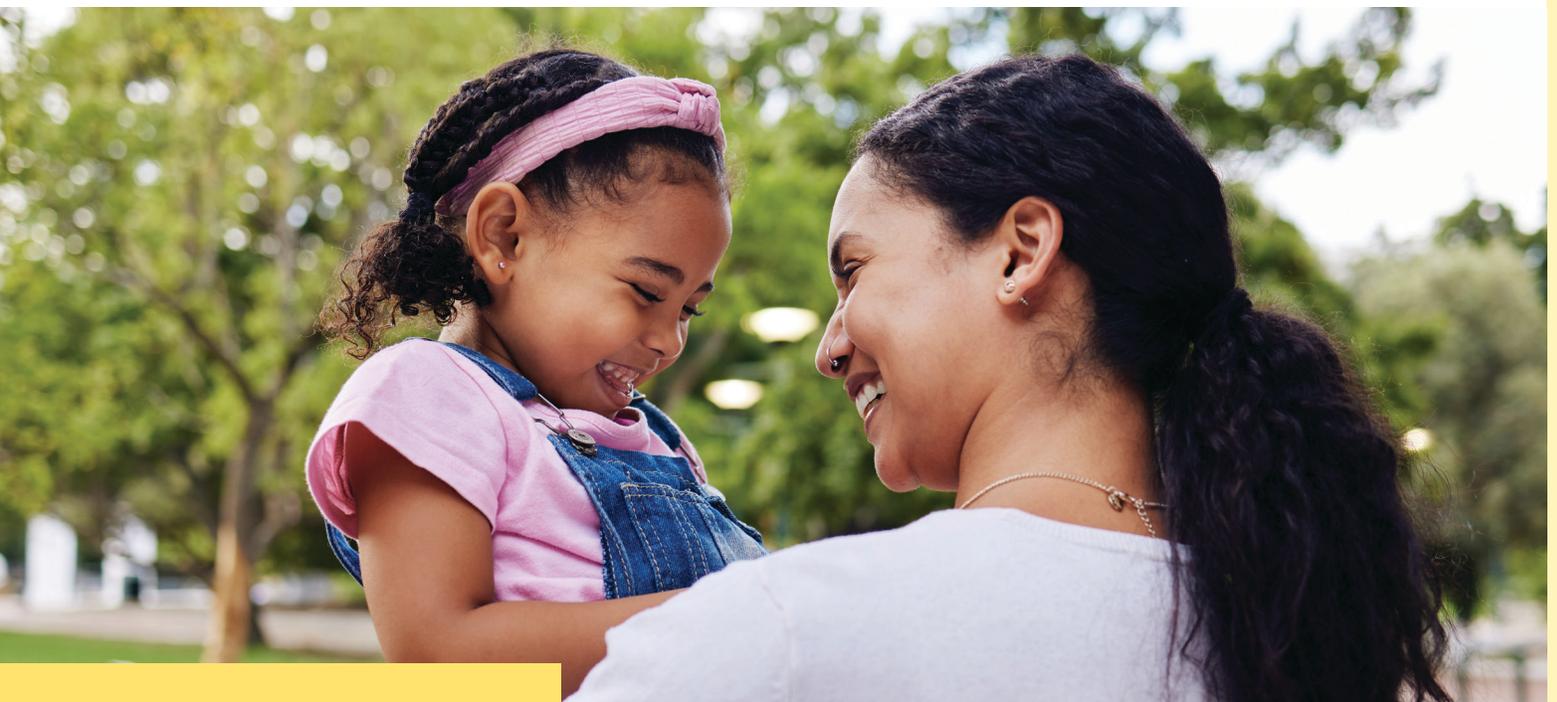
Thank you for stepping up to care for a child or youth you have a close relationship with. We understand this role can be both rewarding and challenging. It requires patience, hard work, and dedication, while you also balance your family's needs and daily life.

The care you provide creates a safe, stable, and familiar place for the child or youth during a time that can feel uncertain or difficult for everyone. Beyond care, you offer comfort, support, and a meaningful connection.

It's okay to feel overwhelmed or to have questions along the way, that's normal. Support is available to guide and assist you, so you don't have to face every challenge alone.

Your role is essential, and your efforts have a lasting and positive impact on the child or youth in your care.

Thank you
for making
a difference
in a way only
★YOU★ can.



Overview: Roadmap to kinship care

Your role as a kinship care provider
As a kinship care provider, you provide love, support, and stability to a child or youth **you already have a close relationship with.**

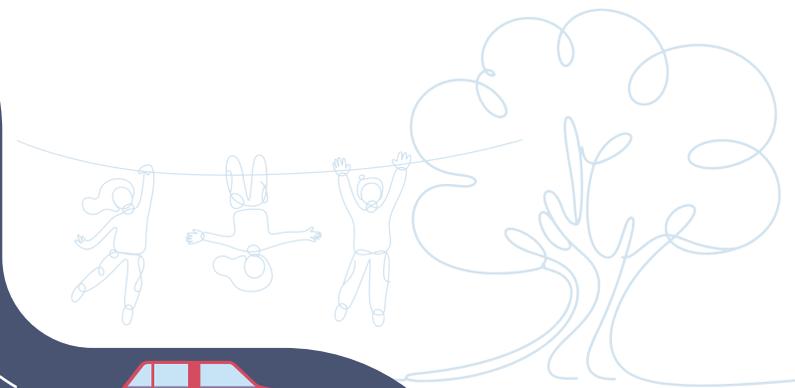


🚩 Getting started

Are you considering providing care for a child or youth you know and care about?

- ➔ Learn **how kinship care works** and what's involved by exploring this guide.
- ➔ Take time to consider whether this commitment is **right for you** and your family.

Your social worker is here to answer questions and support you along the way!



✔ Getting approved as a kinship care provider

A social worker will work with you to better understand your family's situation, relationships, and readiness to take on this important role.

Together, you'll explore three key areas:

- ➔ Creating a **safe home environment**
- ➔ Understanding the **child or youth's needs**
- ➔ Understanding **your (the kinship care provider's) needs**





Next steps

Once the assessment is complete, your social worker will **share the outcome** and **explain what happens next**.



Working as a team

If you are approved as a kinship care provider, you'll become part of the child or youth's support team. You'll work closely with social workers, social worker technicians, and/or human service counsellors to meet the child or youth's needs and **support their long-term goals**.



Planning for the future

The goal of kinship care is to support the child or youth in safely returning to their parents when it is in their best interest. Kinship care often begins as a temporary solution, but if the child or youth cannot return home, you'll work with your social worker on a long term plan.



Supports and resources for kinship care providers



Monthly payments



Seasonal allowances



Health card



Tailored supports