

## Funding for Kinship Caregivers

- Relative and nonrelative caregivers can apply for TANF and food stamps through DCF Access immediately upon placement.
  - Food stamp eligibility is based on caregiver's income.
- Relative and nonrelative caregiver funds are not available until the child is adjudicated dependent.
  - Caregiver/Case Manager must apply for relative/nonrelative caregiver funds, they are not automatic.
  - There must be an approved relative homestudy in FSN for approval.
  - There is no backpay for relative/nonrelative caregiver funds.
  - The caregiver will receive an enhanced payment for the first 6 months (equivalent to foster care board payment). The rate will then drop down to \$242-292 if the caregiver is not Level 1 licensed.
  - Relative/nonrelative caregiver funds are paid by DCF.
- All relative/nonrelative and Level 1 caregivers will receive a childcare subsidy of \$200 per month per child for all children ages 0-5 or school entry.
  - Funding is paid by CNSWFL.
- All relative/nonrelative caregivers must be referred to Level 1 licensing.
  - Placement homestudy and change of custody must be completed and child must already be residing with the caregiver for Level 1 licensing.
  - Funding starts effective the date of licensure.
  - Payment is issued around the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for the prior month (prorated if the child is not there for the full month).
  - There is no backpay for Level 1 funding.
- Funding available to Level 1 caregiver:
  - Monthly foster care board rate: \$586.90 for ages 0-5; \$601.94 for ages 6-12; \$704.94 for ages 13-17
  - For ages 13-17 there is a 10% Supplemental Room & Board Rate, which calculates to an additional amount of \$70.46 monthly
  - Childcare stipend: \$200 per month per child ages 0-5 (or school entry)
  - Annual back to school clothing allowance per child: \$200 (ages 0-4); \$300 (ages 5-17) (CNSWFL added benefit, may not be available in other counties)
  - Diaper stipend: \$30 per month per child ages 0-3 (CNSWFL added benefit, may not be available in other counties)
  - Mileage reimbursement for travel for the child (medical, dental, visitation, meetings, etc.): \$0.445 per mile (CNSWFL added benefit, may not be available in other counties)