

## Stark County Job & Family Services

### Division of Human Services

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702  
Cash, food, & medical assistance applications  
Customer service: 1-844-640-OHIO (6446)  
Child Care: 330-452-4661

### Division of Children Services

402 2nd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702  
Report child abuse and neglect: 330-455-KIDS  
Foster care and adoption: 330-451-8789

### Division of Child Support

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702  
Customer service: 330-451-8930  
Payment information: [JFS.ohio.gov/ocs](https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocs)

### Executive Offices

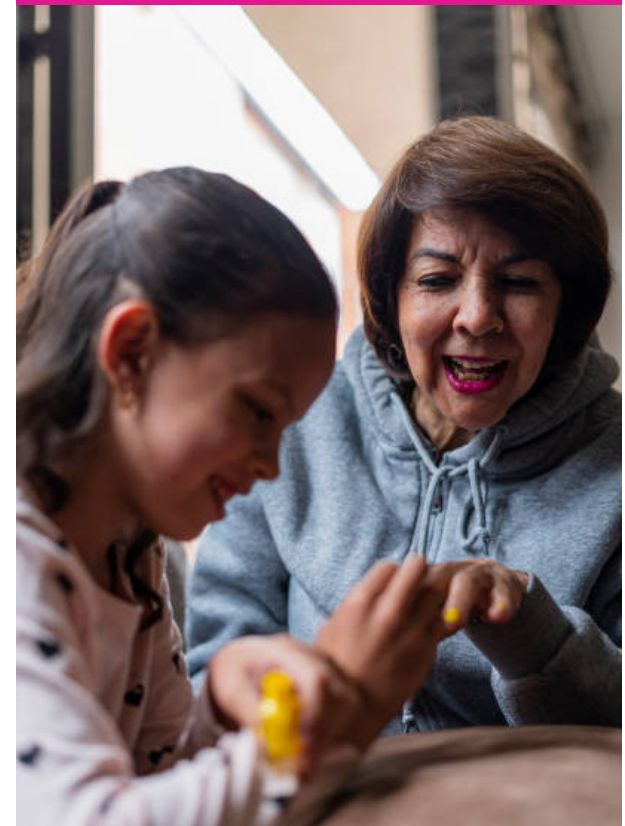
221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702  
Customer service: 330-452-4661

Visit our website at  
**StarkJFS.org**



# Kinship Care

*Division of Children Services*



**Stark County Job & Family Services**  
221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702  
Phone: 330-451-8033  
[StarkJFS.org](https://StarkJFS.org)

## What is Kinship Care

Kinship Care is an arrangement with a relative, or non-related adult with whom the current custodian or child identifies as having a familiar and long standing relationship. Placement may be temporary, or it may be permanent. Kinship caregivers agree to ensuring the child's safety while meeting their physical, mental, and emotional needs.



## What is a Kinship Coordinator

As a kinship caregiver your commitment to care for a child other than your own will be both challenging and rewarding. Children Services staff is committed to helping you support the physical, emotional, and basic needs of the child you bring into your home.

To help you in your role as a kinship caregiver, you will be assigned a Children Services kinship coordinator. Your kinship coordinator will help you navigate through services in our county and will provide you with information about agency assistance programs for which you may be eligible:

- cash assistance through Ohio Works First
- medical coverage for the children in your care
- SNAP food assistance program
- Title XX child care and other potential benefit programs
- KGAP, KPI, KSP

Your kinship coordinator will also be available to assist with information and referral to other community services in our area and to support you as you navigate the child welfare system. This includes:

- family team meetings
- court hearings
- case review
- other community meetings

## Your Kinship Coordinator Information

Children Services encourages you to be open and honest with your kinship coordinator as you work together to develop an individualized support plan just for you.

Your kinship coordinator is:

Your kinship coordinator's telephone number is:

Your kinship coordinator's email address is:

Notes:

## Why are children placed in kinship care?

Kinship Care happens when parents are unable, or unwilling, to care for a child for reasons that might include

- chronic illness or death
- substance abuse
- incarceration
- domestic violence
- child abuse or neglect
- teenage pregnancy
- unemployment
- poverty

## How is Kinship Care Established

A home study is completed. This includes background checks, fingerprints, and a home safety audit. Once all the information is gathered the kinship coordinator along with their supervisor will determine if the home meets the qualifications for approval.