

# Kinship Care Services

*“The majority of kinship caregivers are not receiving the financial help for which they are eligible, and many do not even realize that certain government supports exist to help them care for the children they have taken in.”*

*- Annie E. Casey Foundation*

## A Kinship Caregiver...

is related by blood or marriage, who has been placed in the role of caregiver for a child. The Kinship Caregiver role includes any adult who has a kinship bond with a child. This may be a grandparent, godparent, aunt, uncle, sibling or other relative. The home arrangement may be formal or informal; temporary or permanent.

*There are no financial guidelines for this program.*

Contact Kinship Navigator

757-645-5457

fax: 757-259-3188

[jamescitycountyva.gov](http://jamescitycountyva.gov)



 *financial assistance*

 *legal referrals*

 *education & support groups*

 *information & referrals*

 *basic needs*

 *child care & respite referral*

 *outreach & public education*

## Greater Williamsburg Regional Kinship Program

*Are you caring for  
someone else's child?*



## Financial Assistance

The Greater Williamsburg Regional Kinship Program (GWRKP) may assist you with applying for the following services:

- SNAP (formerly food stamps) provides help with the purchase of food items.
- Medicaid provides help with expenses for medical services.
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) provides temporary monthly financial help for families with children.
- General Relief provides temporary financial help for non-relative caregivers who are caring for an unrelated child.
- Childcare Assistance helps income-eligible caregivers, who are working or in school, with expenses related to childcare.

There are three ways to apply for financial assistance in one or more of the available programs:

1. **In person:** Local Department of Social Services Office.  
[www.dss.virginia.gov/localagency](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/localagency)
2. **Online:** Submit an application at [commonhelp.virginia.gov](http://commonhelp.virginia.gov)
3. **The Eligibility Call Center.**  
1-855-635-4370

## Legal Guidance

**9th District Court Services Unit:**

4093 Ironbound Road. A relative or non-relative can go to Court Services to file for custody:  
757-564-2460



## Questions to Consider

- Are you caring for a child age 0-18 full-time?
- Are you related to the child by blood, marriage or a kinship bond?
- Are you caring for the child temporarily or permanently?
- Do you have a formal or informal custody arrangement?

## School Registration Process

The GWRKP may help you obtain the documents you will need to register children for James City County, Williamsburg, York County and Poquoson schools.

Registration occurs at the school the child will be attending. We assist with school registration for the following localities: James City County, Williamsburg, York County and Poquoson schools.

The GWRKP can provide information regarding possible transportation services and special needs programs for your school district that may benefit your family.

**For more information email us at:**  
[DSS@jamescitycountyva.gov](mailto:DSS@jamescitycountyva.gov)

## Childcare & Summer Camps

Call GWRKP for a list of free or low-cost childcare and summer activities for your kin-child in your area.

- **United Way:** [www.uwvp.org](http://www.uwvp.org)
- **Williamsburg Head Start:** 757-229-6417
- **York County Head Start:** 757-890-3888
- **Williamsburg Parks & Recreation Activity Hotline:** 757-259-3777
- **James City County Recreation Center:** 757-259-4200
- **York County Parks, Recreation & Tourism:** 757-890-3500
- **Poquoson Parks & Recreation:** 757-868-3580

## Supportive Services

The GWRKP may help you obtain the following documents for the child or children in your care:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Immunization Record
- Health Insurance Card
- Medical and Educational Authorization
- Notary Services
- Clothing
- Hygiene Supplies
- Food
- Housing

**Greater Williamsburg Network of Care**  
[GWACAC.va.networkofcare.org](http://GWACAC.va.networkofcare.org)

*We are here to help your families flourish.*