

Potential Resources for those Caring for Relative Children Not Involved with Child Welfare

CASH BENEFITS	
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Child-only TANF: Nearly all children in kinship care are eligible for child-only grants. Considers only the needs & income of the child. Almost all relative caregivers can receive a child-only grant on behalf of the children in their care.
Adoption Subsidy	May be available to relative caregivers who adopt children in their care.
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	May be available to children or caregivers who are disabled. This is also available to anyone over 65.
Social Security	If a child's parent(s) are deceased & were insured through the social security system at the time of death, the kin caregiver is eligible to receive a social security payment on the child's behalf.
TAX BENEFITS	
Earned Income Tax Credit	May be available for certain low or moderate income relative caregivers who are working. This tax credit is refundable, so even workers who do not earn enough to pay taxes can get cash from the IRS. Credit amount depends on income earned and number of qualifying children in the family.
Child Tax Credit	May be available to some grandparents and relatives raising children. There are age limits for dependents.
Child & Dependent Care Tax Credit	May be available to kinship caregivers who incur child care expenditures in order to work.
SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE	
Infants & Pre-School Age Children	North Carolina's Division of Child Development uses a combination of state and federal funds to provide subsidized child care services.
Before & After School Care	Many school districts offer reduced program rates that depend on a family's income and need.
HEALTH CARE	
Medicaid or Other Health Coverage	Medicaid serves low income parents, children, seniors, and people with disabilities.
Mental Health Services	Relative caregivers and the children they care for are eligible for publicly funded services for mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse services.

This figure accompanies "Providing Kinship Care Outside the Child Welfare System? You Are Not Alone" by Glenda Clare (*Fostering Perspectives*, November 2019 • www.fosteringperspectives.org)