



NEW COMMUNITY
CORPORATION

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Serving The People Of The New Community Network

Family Service Bureau

Kinship Legal Guardianship Program

Are you currently caring for underage relatives in your home because they cannot live with their parents? Were the children placed with you through the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCPP)? Are you a Newark resident? Would you like to have people you can turn to for support, resources and assistance? If so, why not join the Family Service Bureau of Newark's Kinship Legal Guardianship Program?

The Kinship Legal Guardianship Program is a community-based program provided by Family Service Bureau of Newark that offers services to families in need. Each year the Kinship program looks to enroll families with the goal that these families can gain insight and develop skills that enable them to become more stable as a family. The Kinship Program meets these goals through monthly support meetings, home visits and supportive services. The program serves as a resource to assist kinship families in developing a network of kinship and maintaining relationships with other families who can provide support and guidance.

The Kinship Program supports grandparents and other relative caregivers in order to allow their children to remain within their extended families and communities. The program is open to relative caregivers living in Newark. Referrals are accepted from any source, including self-referrals, family members, schools, community-based organizations, DCPP, faith-based organizations and Family Service Bureau.

Support is provided to the caregivers, as well as their family, through New Community Corporation programs. Available services include family advocacy, case management, supportive counseling and crisis intervention, linkage with community resources, legal services, support groups, workshops and training, family activities and family support.

The Kinship Program has served a number of eligible families since July 2007, all of whom have been eligible for and received support, resources and assistance.

Kinship families are often headed by a grandparent, older sibling, aunts/uncles, cousins or a close friend of the family. The length of the stay in the program is 15 months. There is no cumbersome paperwork requirement, just your contact information and any identifiable needs. During the period of enrollment in the Kinship Program, families are assessed for self-sufficiency and stability.

If you are currently a caregiver and are interested in the Kinship Program, please contact Program Coordinator Michelle Villa at 973-286-3181 or 973-412-2056 for more information.