

FosteringWA

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The Next Steps After Placement...

Here are some guidelines to assist you in your journey as relative/suitable other caregivers:

- Attend the class “Kinship 101” to learn more about your role as a relative/suitable other caregiver. This course is also available online as a webinar once a month. You can find this course at: <http://www.alliancecatalog.org/course-catalog> (This site also has many classes that can be helpful in your role as a caregiver.)
- Attend a Support Group in your area. Support Groups are a great way to get training on challenges you may face as a caregiver and to meet other caregivers. Connecting with other caregivers will help develop your support base. If you want information on the Support Groups for your area, contact Fostering WA.
- Join our Facebook Group **FosteringWA Relative/Suitable Other Caregiver Support Group** at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/278464526248063/>.
- Apply for TANF on behalf of the child(ren) placed in your home. You can call to apply at 1.877.501.2233 or go online at www.washingtonconnection.org. You can also go in person to your local Community Services Office (CSO) to apply. If you need help locating your local CSO Office, go here: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-find-an-office>.
- The DSHS site has a lot of useful information for Kinship Caregivers: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/home-and-community-services-kinship-care/kinship-care>.
- Understanding the Dependency Court Process for Caregivers <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SESA/publications/documents/22-1741.pdf>
- Kinship Care: Relative and Suitable Other Placement <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SESA/publications/documents/22-1765.pdf>
- There can be some added support to becoming a licensed caregiver versus having an approved relative home study. If you are interested in becoming licensed, talk with your home study worker to see if you would qualify. Fostering WA can also be a support to you during that process.
- Fostering WA staff are a great support within the caregiver community. If you want to be connected to the Recruiter Peer Mentor (RPM) for your area, contact us!

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