

KINSHIP NAVIGATOR PROGRAM DICKENSON COUNTY



In the United States more than 2 million children are living in kinship families. Children living with kin have a sense of permanency, nurturing, safety, and well-being. Kinship care also assists in maintaining the family's culture, traditions, values, and goals, and kinship placements help children maintain connections not only to family members, but often to their schools and communities.

Challenges kinship families may experience

- Financial difficulties
- Physical health issues
- Emotional stress from parenting again
- Strained relationships with the children's parents
- Lack of information about training for parenting children who may have experienced trauma
- Limited support of other kinship families

Kinship Navigator programs provide help in accessing appropriate resources to support the kinship family in being successful.



**For more information please contact:
Nancy Boyd Kinship Navigator 276-926-7169
Or Dickenson County Dept. of Social Services
276-926-1661**



Kinship Navigator Program

A kinship caregiver

is related by blood, marriage or adoption 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.

Kinship families may be eligible for benefits such as SNAP, TANF, child care assistance or Medicaid for the child. Your Kinship Navigator can link you to benefits, school assistance, legal support or other community activities and resources such as parenting sessions or other topic sessions that help with raising a child that may have experienced trauma. We serve the following areas in SWVA

Dickenson County
Buchanan County
Tazewell County
Russell County
City of Norton
Scott County
Wise County
Lee County