

# **Kinship Care Agreements**

Helping families stay  
strong and together



## What is a Kinship Care Agreement?

A Kinship Care Agreement is a plan between you, a caregiver and CFS.

- It is voluntary. No court is involved.
- You help choose who cares for your child.
- The child lives with a relative or someone close to your family.
- The caregiver must be approved by CFS.
- The agreement explains what help and support will be given.
- You stay involved in important decisions for your child.
- The caregiver may make some day-to-day decisions. The types of decisions will be written in the agreement.
- Your child is not in the care of a CFS agency.

**Signing an agreement does not take away your role as your child's parent.**

## How can a Kinship Care Agreement Help?

- You can get help while your child stays with family or trusted adults they already know.
- Your child stays connected to family, culture, language and community.
- You help make the plan for your family.
- You stay involved in decisions for your child.

**The caregiver may be able to receive the Canada Child Benefit. This may include the Child Disability Benefit if your child qualifies.**

## How do I ask about a Kinship Care Agreement?

**You can ask about an agreement at any time.**

- If you already have a CFS worker, talk to them.
- Your CFS worker can review your situation to see if an agreement is a good fit.
- If an agreement is a good fit, your worker will explain what support may be included.

## Important to Know

Kinship Care Agreements are not regular financial support programs.

CFS offers them when there are challenges that, if left unaddressed, may lead to safety concerns for a child.

If your family is already caring for a child safely without CFS, an agreement may not be offered.

If you are looking for help but don't need CFS involvement, call **211** or visit **mb.211.ca** to find services in your community.

- You can ask for an agreement.
- CFS decides whether it's the right fit.
- Not all families will be offered one.
- If safety concerns remain, CFS may take more steps to keep a child safe.
- Signing an agreement does not take away your role as a parent.

## What help may be included in a Kinship Care Agreement?

**Support depends on your family's needs.**

CFS agencies may offer some services directly or help connect you to programs in your community. The kinds of help that may be included are:

- Parenting programs, family helpers or youth mentors.
- Daycare or summer programs for children.
- Help applying for housing or emergency shelter.
- Referrals to counselling, mental health or addictions support.
- Indigenous cultural programs, land-based healing, Elder teachings or traditional medicines.
- Limited financial help like bus fare, food or children's clothing.

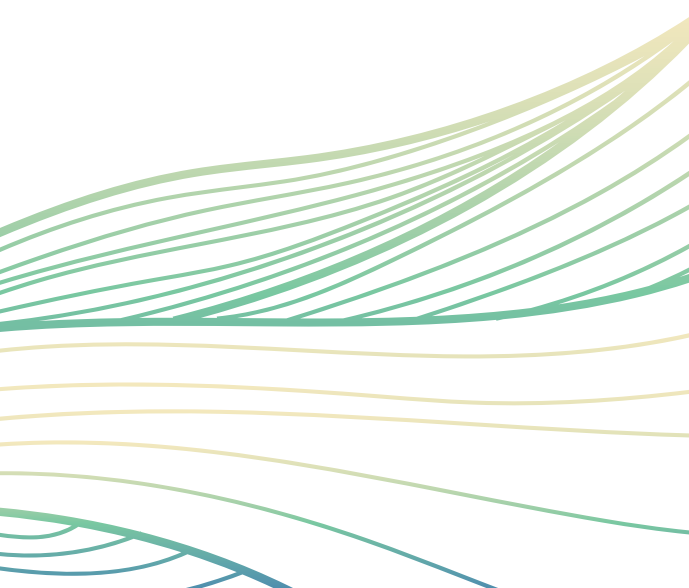
*Your CFS worker will talk with you about what supports are available and how to access them.*





## **Working together to keep families strong**

In October 2024, new agreements that give CFS more ways to help families stay together became law.

- Family support agreements
  - Kinship care agreements
  - Customary care agreements
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## Need Help or More Information?

Talk to your CFS worker about whether a kinship care agreement could help your family.



Scan the QR for a list of CFS contacts or visit:  
[manitoba.ca/fs/childfam/cfsagencies.html](https://www.manitoba.ca/fs/childfam/cfsagencies.html)

