

## **Current Ohio Revised Code Language regarding Kinship Navigator Programming**

### 5101.85 Kinship caregiver defined.

As used in sections 5101.851 to 5101.853 of the Revised Code, "kinship caregiver" means any of the following who is eighteen years of age or older and is caring for a child in place of the child's parents:

- (A) The following individuals related by blood or adoption to the child:
  - (1) Grandparents, including grandparents with the prefix "great," "great-great," or "great-great-great";
  - (2) Siblings;
  - (3) Aunts, uncles, nephews, and nieces, including such relatives with the prefix "great," "great-great," "grand," or "great-grand";
  - (4) First cousins and first cousins once removed.
- (B) Stepparents and stepsiblings of the child;
- (C) Spouses and former spouses of individuals named in divisions (A) and (B) of this section;
- (D) A legal guardian of the child;
- (E) A legal custodian of the child.

### 5101.851 Statewide program of kinship care navigators.

The department of job and family services may establish a statewide program of kinship care navigators to assist kinship caregivers who are seeking information regarding, or assistance obtaining, services and benefits available at the state and local level that address the needs of those caregivers residing in each county. The program shall provide to kinship caregivers information and referral services and assistance obtaining support services including the following:

- (A) Publicly funded child care;
- (B) Respite care;
- (C) Training related to caring for special needs children;
- (D) A toll-free telephone number that may be called to obtain basic information about the rights of, and services available to, kinship caregivers;
- (E) Legal services.

### 5101.852 Payments for kinship caregivers.

Within available funds, the department of job and family services shall make payments to public children services agencies for the purpose of permitting the agencies to provide kinship care navigator information and referral services and assistance obtaining support services to kinship caregivers pursuant to the kinship care navigator program. The department may provide training and technical assistance concerning the needs of kinship caregivers to employees of public children services agencies and to persons or entities that serve kinship caregivers or perform the duties of a kinship care navigator and are under contract with an agency.

### 5101.853 Adoption of rules.

The department of job and family services may adopt rules to implement the kinship care navigators program. The rules shall be adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, except that rules governing fiscal and administrative matters related to implementation of the navigators program are internal management rules and shall be adopted under section 111.15 of the Revised Code.

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