



Bridging Systems for Kinship Families Idaho June 2024 - August 2026

Idaho competed with applicants from around the country and was awarded a unique opportunity to envision and create a statewide approach to better serve grandparents and other kin and the children they raise.

The Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network (Network) – the nation’s first and only federally funded technical assistance center on kinship/grandfamilies – is supporting the State’s government agencies and nonprofit organizations to work together, break down silos, and holistically support these diverse families.

Using a cross-system approach that leverages Idaho’s many talents and resources, the State and its partners, including lived experts, are working with the Network, its parent organization, Generations United, five partner organizations, and a cadre of subject matter experts, also including lived experts.

At the end of the two-year project, the Network will document lessons learned for other states to be able to replicate what Idaho achieved.

Idaho Kinship Goals



GOAL 1 – MAP ASSETS

To inform the overall project, conduct statewide asset mapping of resources available to kinship families and identify how the available resources can interconnect and be leveraged to better support the families.



GOAL 2 – ENGAGE COMMUNITY

To build community support for kinship families, design a multi-faceted communication strategy to (1) **engage** agencies that serve kinship families, (2) **expand** agencies’ awareness of other agencies’ supports and the strengths and needs of the families, and (3) **inform** kinship families and the broader community of these available services.



GOAL 3 – STREAMLINE SUPPORTS

To facilitate access to services and streamline supports for kinship families, leverage and coordinate community assets and community engagement.

The Network is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$9,950,000 with 95 percentage funded by ACL/HHS and \$523,684 and 5 percentage funded by non-government sources. The contents are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

The Network is a project of Generations United.