

Kids Central, Inc. System of Care Procedure Manual

Series: Kinship

Policy Name: Determination of Kinship Family

Policy Number: 1300

Origination Date: 10/24/11

Revision Date: 04/04/13

Kids Central defines kinship care as any living arrangement in which children live full-time with neither of their parents but instead are cared for by a relative or someone with whom they have had a prior relationship. A relative can include persons beyond blood relatives-for example, friends of family, members of tribes, godparents, stepparents, or any adult who has a kinship bond with a child. This definition is designed to be inclusive and respectful of cultural values and ties of affection.

Kinship caregiving can be formal or informal. Formal is when the child is placed with the kinship caregiver through court intervention and there is an open dependency case. A dependency case manager is assigned to the case and is the lead on the case. Informal is where the parents placed the child without court intervention.

Services Area and Eligible Population for Kinship Services

1. Kids Central Inc will provide Kinship services to all kinship children and families in Circuit 5, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, and Lake County regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, gender, religion, and sexual orientation. Kinship provider is defined as anyone caring for a child related to them or can have a family type bond with the child such as a godparent.
2. Eligible Clients are all relatives that are caring for their relative children through may or may not be involved with the formalized child welfare system.
3. All cases referred to the Kids Central Kinship program, the kinship supervisor and kinship case manager will be listed as a service provider in FSFN.
4. Under certain circumstances services may be provided to Kinship Caregivers where the parents of the child (ren) are residing in the home. This exception must be approved by the Kinship Supervisor or the Director of Prevention Services.

Approved By:

John Cooper, Chief Executive Officer

Date