



Child Welfare Information Gateway

Child Welfare

Information Gateway is your connection to trusted resources on the child welfare continuum. We provide publications, research, and learning tools selected by experts to support thriving children, youth, families, and communities.



About

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Find Help With a Personal Situation

Child Welfare Information Gateway does not have the authority to intervene in personal matters. Please see our resources on finding help with a personal situation.

How to Report Child Abuse and Neglect

To report child abuse and neglect, please contact Child Help USA at 1.800.4 A Child (1.800.422.4453) or see our list of State child abuse and neglect reporting numbers.

**Reunification
From Foster
Care: A**

**Partnering
With
Relatives to**



hen a family is brought safely
the **most common goal** for
th in foster care. It is also the
sult. Many parents have been
with their children, and so
, it may feel overwhelming.
not alone. A team of
rt and guide you toward
a your child.

National parent and famil



Grievance process

Guide for Parents

This factsheet can help parents navigate the process of reunifying with their children from foster care. It also describes parents' rights, case planning, and working with resource parents.



expectations for kinship factors influence how family for a relative's children interact rents, including the nature of and the available supports. We encourage communication. We will work with you to assess and provide the training necessary for a healthy partnership with a relative that maintains appropriate boundaries and improves the odds for

Words to remember



References

F/ACF/HHS | 800.394.3366 | Email: info@childwelfare.gov | <https://www.childwelfare.gov>

Promote Reunification

Shares stories and advice from caregivers and birth parents who have experienced kinship care on the importance of maintaining boundaries, managing family dynamics, building trust, positive parenting and communication, and securing support.

Preparing Children and Youth for Adoption or Other Family Permanency

Explore ways for child welfare professionals to better understand the feelings and emotions children may experience regarding permanency and how to prepare them for placements with families, including adoptive, guardianship and kinship placements.



Reunifying Families

Tailored, intensive, and family-centered services help support families as they work on their reunification goals. Child welfare agencies implement many strategies that build on family strengths and address safety concerns.



Permanency

Permanency is a permanent, stable living situation, ideally one in which family connections are preserved. Children thrive best in permanent situations—with their family of origin, foster families, or adoptive families.



Foster Care

Foster care is a temporary living situation for children and youth who cannot safely live at home with their parents or other caregivers. While in foster care, children may live with relatives or other licensed caregivers.

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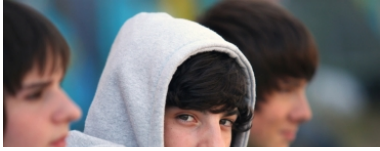
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Child Welfare Outcomes 2022 Data Released

The CWO Data Site now includes data from 2018-2022 and will be available before the Congressional Report is released. The site has a new look and feel and improved accessibility while keeping its familiar functionality for exploring the data.

[Access the Data Site](#)

Explore Topics and Series



Addressing mental and behavioral health in a strengths-based, holistic way can help improve a family's well-being and reduce the risk of maltreatment.



Recruiting and Retaining Families for Children and Youth in Foster Care

Deliberately recruiting resource families who reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children coming into care and providing equitable support to families is essential to retaining foster parents and ensuring long-term placement stability.



Adoption Search and Reunion

People who have been adopted and members of their families of origin may seek to reconnect after adoption. For everyone involved, the search and reunion process may be emotional, requiring patience and understanding.



Relational Permanency

Child welfare professionals should understand the importance of relational permanency, which occurs when youth develop long-term connections with siblings, relatives, and other caring adults who make them feel loved and connected.

Explore Our Library Catalog

Search Information Gateway's library catalog, one of the Nation's largest collections of child welfare-related resources. The library includes peer-reviewed journal articles, books, evaluation reports, Children's Bureau final grant reports, program reports, and more.

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[1-800-394-3366](tel:18003943366) **info@childwelfare.gov**



[childwelfare.gov](https://www.childwelfare.gov)

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