



2023

# Annual Report



Accurate information, at the right time, so caregivers  
can make the best decisions for their families®.

(702) 546-9988  
[www.FosterKinship.org](http://www.FosterKinship.org)



# INTRODUCTION

**Fos·ter** - to encourage or promote  
**Kin·ship** - family connections

## 2.5 million children nationwide

are growing up without either of their parents. Whether they are absent, unwilling, or unable to effectively raise their children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and other relatives boldly intervene to provide these children with full-time, long-term care in an arrangement known as kinship care.

## 30,000 children in Nevada

are living in kinship care with the vast majority—26,000 children—residing in Clark County (Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2023). These children face immense adversity from a young age, often grappling with sexual, physical, and emotional abuse and neglect; parental substance misuse and addiction; domestic violence; gun violence; parental incarceration; and parental death.

## Foster Kinship was founded in 2011

with a mission to strengthen kinship caregivers' capacity to provide **safe, stable, and nurturing** homes for these vulnerable children. We are the only organization in Nevada exclusively serving kinship families, and we serve approximately 5,000 children annually.

The two foundational beliefs of Foster Kinship are:

1. Children should live with their family when they can't live with their parents; and,
2. All kinship caregivers should have the support, tools, and training to raise healthy children who can break generational cycles of abuse and neglect.

Foster Kinship helps "keep home in the family" and envisions a **vibrant future for all children in kinship care**.

# REFLECTIONS FROM THE FOUNDER

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In 2023, we embarked on a journey of healing that resonated with many in our community. Over the past twelve years, Foster Kinship has been committed to serving kinship families in Nevada. We've honed our ability to provide essential stabilization to families navigating sudden life changes as they welcomed their relatives' children into their homes with love.

Yet, our vision extends far beyond stability. At Foster Kinship, we recognize the profound need for healing within families – healing from complex traumas, reshaping family dynamics, and developing the tools to break cycles of abuse and neglect. In 2023, we made significant strides in

expanding our services centered around healing, including our direct child and youth services, trauma-informed workshops, support groups, and mental/behavioral health support.

The response was overwhelming, with families embracing these services wholeheartedly as they sought both stability and long-term healing. None of this would have been possible without the generous support of our dedicated donors, who shared our belief and invested in our mission.

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude and excitement for the opportunities ahead. Together with the children and families we serve, we remain steadfast in our commitment to creating a more vibrant future for all children in kinship care.

Dr. Ali Caliendo  
Founder and Executive Director  
Foster Kinship



# PROGRAMS

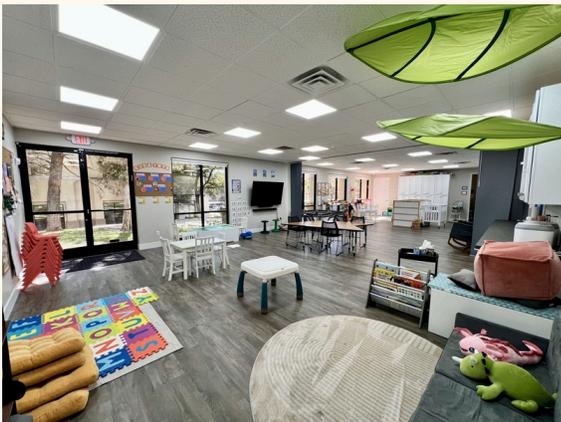


## Kinship Navigator Program

Evidence-based family stabilization program designed to increase the stability and well-being of the kinship family by providing targeted information, referral, support, basic needs, case management, and direct childcare services.

## Marcie's Heart

On-site resource center and market that runs on donations, time, and love from the community. Families have free access to clothes, shoes, diapers, cribs, formula, car seats, and other daily needs items for infants, children, teens, and adults.



## Child and Youth Interventions

Trauma- and disability-informed services for children living in kinship care, including respite, youth support groups, nurture groups, behavioral consultations, and mental health service navigation. Importantly, caregivers receive free and safe opportunities to practice self-care.

## Kinship Training Institute

Specialized, free training to caregivers, parents, and professionals, including trauma-informed parenting education, workshops, conferences, and resource fairs. Child Welfare Training is also provided which includes new caregiver information sessions, kinship licensing classes, car seat safety classes, and CPR/First Aid/AED training.



# YEAR IN REVIEW

March

Launched **'Thriving After'** to support families who have achieved permanency through guardianship or adoption

April

Our Kinship Navigator Program officially became **evidence-based!**

June

Launched **'Family Forward'** to offer peer support to parents and help the entire family

September

Held our **Stronger Together Conference** with speakers who are nationally recognized experts in the field

October

**We moved!** Our new facility has greater capacity to serve families in an accessible and hospitable environment.

October

Began our **Navigator Expansion**—implementing our evidence-based Navigator model throughout the country

November

Launched our **Youth Advocacy Board (Y.A.B.)** to elevate the voices of kinship/foster youth and create policy change

# OUR OUTCOMES

In 2023, we provided over **39,000 services** to 2,877 unique kinship families and 6,620 children.

**1,613**

**NEW  
FAMILIES  
SERVED**

**4,807**

**EMERGENCY  
RESOURCES  
DISTRIBUTED**

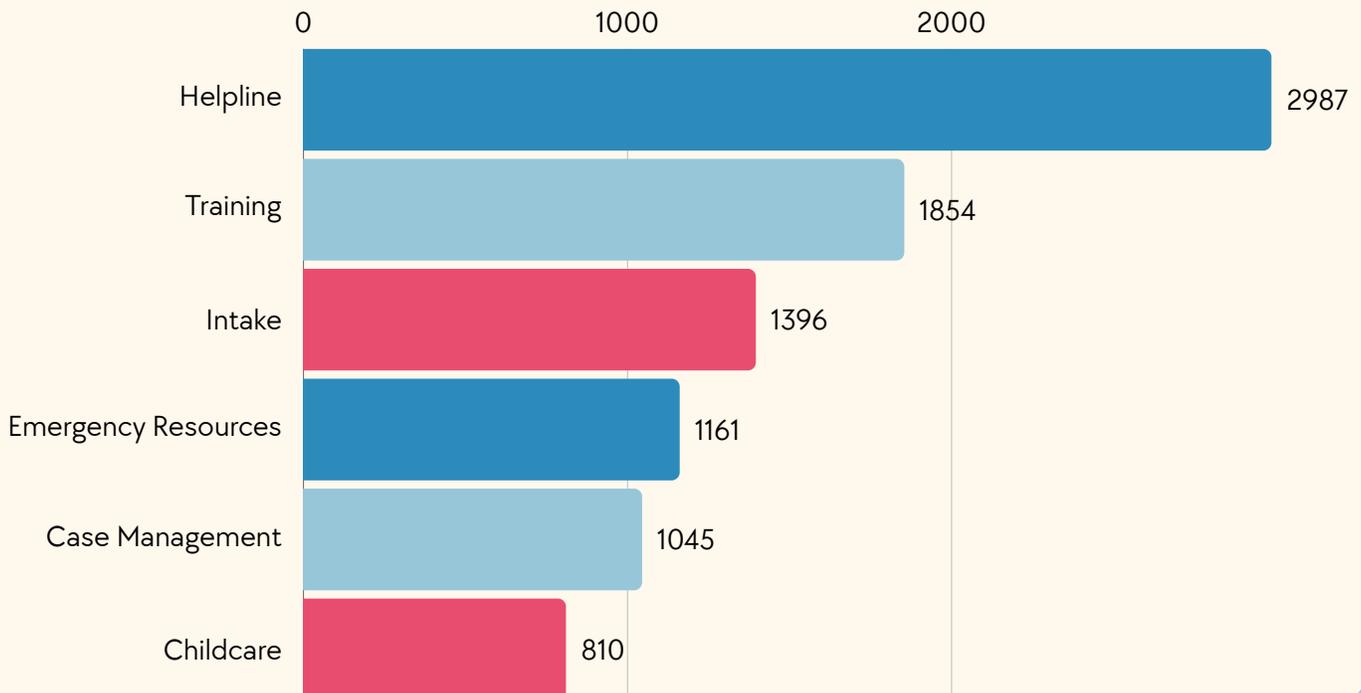
**16,000**

**CHILDREN  
HELPED  
TO DATE**

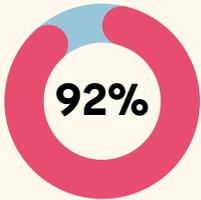
## Number of Services Provided



## Number of Families Served



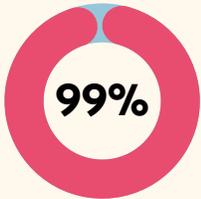
# OUR IMPACT



families obtained **legal capacity**  
(Benchmark: 80%)



families achieved **financial stability**  
(Benchmark: 80%)



families received **parenting and child connection**  
(Benchmark: 90%)



families experienced **emotional support**  
(Benchmark: 90%)

**FOSTER KINSHIP'S STAFF PROVIDES OVER**

# 225

years of combined **professional** experience serving kinship families as well as **personal** experience as kinship caregivers, former kinship children, or foster/adoptive parents.



**Title IV-E Prevention Services CLEARINGHOUSE**

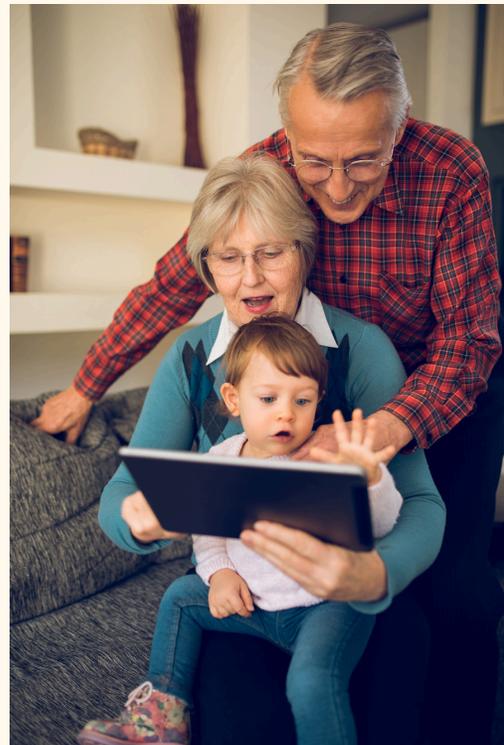
Our flagship Navigator Program is **1 of 4** functioning, evidence-based Navigator models in the nation. Our services are proven to:



**INCREASE CAREGIVER'S ACCESS TO SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**



**DECREASE RATES OF CHILDREN ENTERING TRADITIONAL FOSTER CARE WITH STRANGERS**





The foster system is complex and often, families feel like they have to navigate it alone. Foster Kinship advocates for the whole family. I've witnessed it in the community and then myself. Their team takes the time and the burden away by providing responsive customer service and walking alongside us. Each team member has been a joy to work with and I am so grateful they are a resource in our community! Foster Kinship takes their role as a leader in the field seriously and you can feel it from each one of their staff!

-Testimonial from a kinship caregiver



**Thank you** to our donors and supporters for believing in our mission and investing in our children. **Thank you** to kinship families for keeping home in the family.

