



Kinship Connections of Wyoming

Participation and Consent Agreement

I. What is Kinship Connections of Wyoming?

Kinship Connections of Wyoming is a free service to grandparents, relatives and other caregivers who are raising children that are not their own. We know that the gift you are giving to the children you are caring for can be extremely rewarding but also very challenging.

It is our goal to minimize stressors through support and advocacy. A Kinship Navigator Specialist will ensure that your family is able to learn about, access and use appropriate programs and services to meet your needs and the needs of the children you are raising. By fostering the positive, well-being of kinship caregivers and children, the kinship caregiver will have an increased capacity to provide a safe, stable and nurturing home.

The services and support we offer can include:

- Helping connect you to resources such as legal aid, food, clothing, and counseling.
- Connecting you to communities who share your experiences through support groups and events.
- Providing educational and training activities to help remove identified barriers and encourage success.
- Helping you apply for public benefits such as cash assistance, food stamps, and Medicaid.
- Advocating for you and the children you are raising in school, court systems, health care, and mental health agencies.

II. What can you expect?

Kinship Connections of Wyoming recognizes that no two families are alike, and we are here for you and we want to meet your needs. For us to support you best it is important for us to first get to know you and your family. We like to do this by engaging in conversation that allows us to complete an assessment of your needs. For families who have more extensive needs or desire more support we will develop a Navigation Plan to help us, as a team identify what goals you have, how we should prioritize them and what we can do to accomplish them.



III. What will we ask of you?

We understand that it can be difficult to share personal information about yourself and your family, we ask that you try to be as open and honest as you can be. Please be present for and participate in any scheduled visits. If you need to cancel or reschedule, please contact your Kinship Navigator at least 24 hours in advance. If you miss more than 3 visits in a row without cancelling and rescheduling or you do not return communication with your Kinship Navigator for 90 days, we will send a letter of exit from the program. You may contact Kinship Connections of Wyoming at any time to reengage in the program.

IV. Record keeping:

During your participation in Kinship Connections of Wyoming routine information will be collected and stored in COS2, a secure online data base provided by Wyoming 2-1-1. Your information may include family background information, referrals, recommendations you or your child receives, information about the services we are providing your family, etc.

V. Confidentiality:

By completing this participation agreement, you are also providing your consent for your information to be shared with state and county agencies to meet the federal requirements of this program and to ensure we are meeting the needs of you and your family. The data may include information on the services we are providing you and your family, information you provide to your kinship navigator and information that you provide on forms you filled out in participation with the Kinship Connections of Wyoming Program.

To help make sure families are getting quality services, our program evaluators, technical assistance consultants, auditors, and quality improvement staff may review family files. All information from the file reviews is kept confidential.

Kinship Connections of Wyoming will not release your personally identifiable information outside of the program without your written permission with the following exceptions:

- According to Wyoming State law (W.S. 4-3-205 & 35-20-103), everyone is mandated to report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of a child or vulnerable adult if they have reasonable cause to believe it is occurring.
- Our program may release information if we receive a court order requiring us to do so.



- We must share identifiable information with the Department of Family Services to measure the effectiveness of our program by determining if child protection services were involved before, during or after our involvement.

VI. Service limitations:

Kinship Navigators are not therapists, counselors, psychologist, medical professionals or lawyers. We do not make any diagnoses and cannot provide legal advice. However, we can help you connect to qualified professionals and resources that can assist in these situations.

I have read and understand the above information of the Kinship Connections of Wyoming Participation Agreement and agree to participate in services. By signing this, I agree to allow the information described in section IV and V to be collected, kept, and shared by the Kinship Connections Program. I understand that at any time I can revoke this agreement in writing by contacting my kinship navigator.

Printed name of participant	Signature of participant	Date
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Printed name of Kinship Navigator	Signature of Kinship Navigator	Date
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