



Family Support Services of the Bay Area

Nurturing children, youth and caregivers to keep families healthy and intact.

Kinship Support Services Program (KSSP)

News Bulletin

September 2016

Are you a Relative Caregiver or Someone who is taking care of another relative's or friend's child?

Family Support Services of the Bay Area (FSSBA) offers supportive services to **Kinship** Families in Northern Alameda County. If you live in Oakland, Alameda, Emeryville, Piedmont, Berkeley or Albany we provide services in English and Spanish, which include: Information and Referral, Crisis Intervention, Case Management, Kinship Youth Program and Assistance with Legal Guardianship.

Give us a call at (510) 834—2443, Ext. 3008. We will call you back!

TIPS to help you support your child to succeed in school:

1. From the start of the school year, monitor your child's academic and behavioral progress.
2. Participate in the school's open house; get to know their teachers, and volunteer in your child's class.
3. Follow an age appropriate routine at home for homework, family meals, and bed-time.
4. Keep a journal to note any concerns with academic and behavioral issues.
5. Participate in Back-to-School Night and Parent-Teacher Conferences.
6. Request a Student Success Team (SST) meeting to discuss your concerns with school officials.
7. If you see no progress with SST and Parent-Teacher Conference meetings and you think your child needs to be evaluated for special education services then **put it in writing!** Most letters should be sent to the Director of Special Education for your child's school district.
8. Bring an agenda with discussion topics and questions to Parent-Teacher Conference/SST/ Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings.
9. Be aware that you don't have to sign the IEP at the meeting!



Take the copy of the IEP home to review and have your support team review it with you. If there are parts of the IEP that you disagree with or you think more needs to be included, you can request a follow-up with the IEP team to share your concerns. You can also consent to parts of the IEP that you do agree with so those services can start.



A Program for Youth FSSBA's Kinship Youth Program (**KYP**) is a comprehensive program that offers after-school academic support, Saturday activities, and a highly-rated summer program. **Open Activity Day** is the first step to get connected with **KYP!** If you have a youth ages 9–14, call us at **(510) 834—4006, EXT. 3076 to registrar.** Our next **Open Activity Day is Saturday, September 10.** For future dates contact us.

Kinship Support Groups in Northern Alameda County

Kinship Support Groups are a safe place to meet and talk with other caregivers. Come to share your joys and challenges without judgment and learn about other resources in the community.

New Members Welcome • Childcare Available

For Information call: (510) 834—2443, EXT. 3008

LAKE MERRIT

1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month

5:30 P.M.—7:30 P.M.

Family Support Services of the Bay Area

401—Grand Avenue, #500

WEST OAKLAND

4th Thursday of each month

10 A.M.—12 Noon

Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

1188—12th Street

EAST OAKLAND

2nd Wednesday of each month

10:30 A.M.—12:30 P.M.

1021—81ST Avenue

Branch Library

English and Spanish Language

Support Groups offered

BERKELEY

Call Family Support Services of the

Bay Area for more information

Nurturing the Spirit of Kinship and Guardianship Families

A Five-Week Series of Parenting Classes and Workshops

This series of workshops addresses the successes and concerns of those who are parenting children that are not biologically their own

Topics:

**Self-Care • Understanding Trauma • Legal Guardianship Issues •
Resources • Community Support**

Beginning on October 6, 2016

This series will meet on Thursdays from

10:00am—12:00pm

October 6 through November 3, 2016

Call to enroll: (510) 834—2443, Ext. 3008 (Space is Limited)

Where: 401 Grand Avenue, Suite 500 • Oakland • 94610

These workshops satisfy the Alameda County Probate Court requirement for parenting classes in guardianship cases.

This Collaboration of FSSBA and LAS is funded by: The Walter S. Johnson Foundation

The Kinship Program at Family Support Services of the Bay Area is made possible by our funders, including: Alameda County Social Service Agency; City of Oakland, Fund for Children and Youth; Alameda County Behavioral Healthcare Services; Bernard E. and Alma Witkin Foundation; Children's Support League; Western Digital Foundation; Well Fargo Foundation and The Safeway Foundation.