



For family or friends who
step up to raise a child.

Kinship Reach

Supporting placement
stability for kinship families

Tues 21 October 2025

Vickie Grey
Regional Programmes Manager





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Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Kinship Reach – the launch date and going live
3. Referrals – how to make a referral and what happens next
4. Service delivery -
5. Monthly updates and practitioner meetings
6. Questions

We are Kinship



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We are made by and for our community of **kinship** carers. For too long they have been isolated without the help they need.

By supporting, advising and informing **kinship** carers, and campaigning for fairer services, we are changing lives, changing the system.

We deliver national support, advice and information and connect kinship carers.

So, **kinship** carers feel empowered rather than isolated.

How we are changing lives..



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Our 160 **peer support groups** across England and Wales offer kinship carers a way to meet other kinship carers, share experiences and exchange advice.

Run by specialists our **Advice Line** helps make kinship carers' lives just that little bit easier. Helping kinship carers navigate a sometimes complex and confusing system.

How we are changing lives..



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Workshops and roadshows for kinship carers provide free advice, tips and practical tools for those who are new to kinship care and to those who have been kinship carers for years. They are also a great way to meet and connect with other kinship carers.

We match kinship carers with other kinship carers, who are trained to provide emotional support, through our **Someone like Me** service.

How we are changing the system..



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Our **#ValueOurLove** campaign which we developed with kinship carers calls for more support for kinship families. So far it has helped secure the first ever National Kinship Care Strategy in England, with over 13,000 people having joined the campaign.

Our unique reach through **research, evidence and policy** allows us to listen to the views and expertise of thousands of kinship carers each year. As we see momentum building for change, we keep using evidence from our community and ground-breaking research projects to demonstrate the value of kinship care and what needs to change.

Meet the team:



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Helen Hird – Kinship Family Worker - helen.hird@kinship.org.uk

Your Kinship Family Worker reviews incoming referrals, supports kinship carers in your area, facilitates an online support group, helping carers to access other carers through peer support, strengthen the kinship community. Helen works closely with your teams to ensure carers receive the best possible support.

Victoria Grey – Programme Manager - Victoria.grey@kinship.org.uk

Victoria manages the contract between Kinship and the SESLIP Reach commission. She oversees incoming referrals, manages the day-to-day relationship, and produces reports and data connected to your commissioned service. Victoria also line-manages the Family Worker supporting your area to ensure delivery is consistent and impactful.

Fiona Summers – Head of Programmes – Fiona.summers@kinship.org.uk

Fiona oversees all commissioned programmes delivered by Kinship. She ensures that our services are aligned with organisational goals and that every commissioned programme meets the needs of kinship carers and local authorities.

About Kinship Reach:



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Kinship Reach is a **time-limited** and **remote** intervention for kinship families. It is a trauma-informed approach and uses a solution-focused model. It works towards a key goal and identifying strengths that kinship carers can use to **improve family outcomes** and **placement stability**. Delivered over **3 months**.

- **Time-limited** means six interventions from Kinship Family Worker, for up to 3 months
- **Remote** – we use phone or video call to support kinship carers

Kinship Reach reduces **isolation and loneliness**, builds confidence and resilience and supports kinship carers to access a thriving local kinship care community.

Making a referral to support your kinship carers?



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- **To make a referral access the live link;** <http://kinship.tfaforms.net/4860350>
- Select your Local Authority area from the drop down list.
- Complete the form and submit
- Once submitted this form is received by the Family Worker and the Programme Manager via our secure CRM – Salesforce
- The Family Worker will contact the carer via telephone within 3 working days, to introduce herself and the programme
- And book a Needs Assessment appointment with the carer

Each kinship carer referred (as part of contract numbers) will receive a copy of the Kinship Care Guide.

How will Kinship Reach support your kinship carers?



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Our Kinship Family worker will:

During the ***needs assessment*** the *Family Worker alongside* the kinship carer , will develop a short-term support plan based on their needs identified during this session. Setting one main goal to achieve during the programme. This could include:

- Becoming a new kinship carer or special guardian
- Emotional and practical support with contact
- Signposting to our free Advice Service (priority access)
- Practical support with accessing local services (including Virtual Schools)
- Accessing financial support
- Joining virtual support group
- Support to access the national Kinship Training Service (funded by Department for Education)

How will Kinship support your LA teams?



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Working closely with you, our expert Kinship Family worker will:

- Build strong relationships between your kinship carers and LA teams
- Support and signpost to your kinship **Local Offer** as you develop it
- Give extra support to your team, providing practical and emotional support to kinship carers and **unlocking access** and **knowledge** about local services
- Help to create and **support stable placements** through a holistic approach (added value of free services)
- Support your safeguarding outcomes

Kinship Reach (and Kinship Connected) are Kinship Navigator programmes and aligned to Foundations Kinship Practice Guide. Ask us for more detail.

Kinship Reach and SESLIP:



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SESLIP

South East Sector Led
Improvement Programme

How do you refer to Kinship Reach? (60 referrals over 12 months)

1. Referrals will be allocated evenly across all participating local authorities with allocated timeframes for referrals.
2. Consent is checked with kinship carer by referring team and then referral from local authority team is made to Kinship team using live link.
3. Kinship Family Worker picks up referral and contacts kinship carer at a convenient time. Needs assessment call in booked in and intervention starts.

Reporting and impact:



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Over the pilot year SESLIP will receive:

- Quarterly reports with:
 - Impact data
 - Case studies
 - Demographic data
 - Themes relating to issues being experienced across SESLIP LAs
 - Take up of Kinship other universal services - Advice / Training / Grants

Representatives from each participating local authority will be invited to a quarterly monitoring meeting to discuss the report and share reflections.

“Our Kinship Reach worker, has been incredible. She builds trusting relationships with carers, and because she’s not the council, carers will often open up to her in a different way. She becomes that neutral person who listens, who hears them, and who feeds things back in a really constructive way.”

(Social worker from Kinship Reach commissioned LA)



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