

# Fairfield County Quick Guide for Kinship Caregivers

## **TANF- “Child Only Benefits” & Medicaid:**

- Apply at Job and Family Services  
239 West Main Street, Lancaster, OH 43130  
Kinship Eligibility Specialist Jennifer Donnell  
Phone: (740)652-7673  
Email: Jennifer.Donnell@jfs.ohio.gov
- Apply online at [www.benefits.ohio.gov](http://www.benefits.ohio.gov)

Relatives who have a relative child in their home can apply for “Child Only Benefits” which are based on the income of the child (not the caregiver’s income).

**If child is in agency custody, the medical care is managed by Fairfield Co. Job & Family Services.**

If the caregiver has custody, they can apply at Fairfield County Job & Family Services for medical coverage along with the “Child Only Benefits”.

## **Kinship Permanency Incentive Program:**

- Caregivers must have received custody from a court proceeding on or after July 1, 2005
- Caregivers are eligible for a total of 8 payments over a 48 month period.

**Courts must have awarded legal custody or guardianship** of the child to the grandparent, relative or other kinship caregiver, based on the best interest of the child. A Public Children's Services Agency must have been involved and completed the relative approval process including a criminal background check. For complete eligibility criteria and more information call (740)652-7854

## **Food Assistance:**

- Apply at Fairfield Co. Job and Family Services  
239 West Main Street, Lancaster, OH 43130  
Kinship Eligibility Specialist Jennifer Donnell  
Phone: (740)652-7673  
Email: Jennifer.Donnell@jfs.ohio.gov
- Apply online at [www.benefits.ohio.gov](http://www.benefits.ohio.gov)
- Explore additional resources at 211 or (740)687-0500 for information on local Food pantries & free meal programs/ visit: [www.fairfieldcounty211.org](http://www.fairfieldcounty211.org)

Food Assistance is household income based at JFS. There are community food banks in neighborhoods. To find out where food banks are located in the caregiver’s community contact 211 for food bank and food pantry locations.

Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Food Pantry  
1743 East Main Street  
Lancaster, Ohio  
Open: Monday - Friday from 8am-4pm

## **Child Care:**

- Apply at Fairfield Co. Job and Family Services  
239 West Main Street, Lancaster, OH  
Contact Kinship Eligibility Specialist Jennifer Donnell  
Phone: (740)652-7673  
Email: Jennifer.Donnell@jfs.ohio.gov
- Website: [www.fcjfs.org/services/child\\_care](http://www.fcjfs.org/services/child_care) for an application, eligibility information & instructions on how to apply
- Explore additional resources at 211

Child Care Assistance is based on household income at Fairfield County Job & Family Services.

**If child in Fairfield Co. custody and placed with you,** apply for daycare stipend through the child’s social worker. (This is not income based.)

Visit the following website to locate ODJFS licensed daycare providers in your area: [childcaresearch.ohio.gov](http://childcaresearch.ohio.gov)

## **Housing:**

- Apply at Fairfield Metropolitan Housing Auth.  
315 North Columbus Street  
Lancaster, OH 43130  
Phone: (740) 653-6618  
[www.fairfieldmha.org](http://www.fairfieldmha.org)
- Explore additional resources at 211

Fairfield Metropolitan Housing Authority offers the following services: Rent Locator, Emergency Shelters, Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), Family Self Sufficiency Program (FSS)