



Family Voices United to End Racism against CYSHCN and Their Families (FamU)

Black History 365

November was named National Kinship Caregiver and Adoption Month by President Clinton, underscoring the vital role that relatives and close family friends play in providing stable homes for children.

Kinship care holds significant importance in communities of color due to cultural traditions, systemic challenges, and the pursuit of family preservation.

In their paper, "[Kinship Care: The African American Response to Family Preservation](#)," Scannapieco and Jackson highlight the deep roots of kinship care in Black families, tracing it back to African traditions and its continuation through enslavement, segregation, and systemic oppression.

Readings



Kinship Care

Find a [Kinship Navigator Program](#) in your state through the Grandfamilies and Kinship Support Network.



Read more about Kinship Care

Take a look at the [Kinship Care book list](#) from Library Cat.

*Learn
the
Facts*

According to the Adoption History Project, before legal adoption, Black families relied on kinship care and informal guardianship. The Civil Rights Movement spurred efforts to place Black children in adoptive homes, with the National Urban League launching the first major recruitment program in 1968. The 1994 Multiethnic Placement Act (MEPA) aimed to prevent racial discrimination in adoption, though kinship care remains the main way Black children find permanency today.



Multimedia

- [Why Kinship care for Black Families is important](#) | Juvenile Law Center
- [A Foster Care system where every child has a loving home](#) | Ted Talk
- [Informal Adoptions in African American Family Life](#) | The Pulse (NPR) Podcast



TV / Videos

- [Kinship Family: "He is an Extension of Me" Authentic Voices Video Series](#): The story of Donaniece highlights the practical and financial challenges she faces while teaching her grandson the meaning of family
- [Believe in Wonder](#), a documentary short about Black foster and adoption families



Jams

- [Stand by Me](#) by Ben E. King
- [Tell You Something \(Nana's Reprise\)](#) by Alicia Keys

