
"Kinship caregivers work tirelessly all year to raise other people's children. We are happy to celebrate them this month for the sacrifices they make year-round." - Kim Clifton, Executive Director

Impact
Update

HALOS
Because Family Matters.®

Your support
at work

FALL 2020

Thank YOU for honoring kinship families!

What would you do if your grandchildren were going into foster care? Would you risk never seeing them again? You probably had a knee-jerk reaction and thought, "No!" That's the story of kinship care. It's a story of love and sacrifice.

It's also a common story. Nearly 3 million children live in kinship care in the U.S. Most are being cared for by extended family outside the formal foster care system. The children have suffered trauma, but there isn't any financial or emotional support for the family. Kinship care isn't easy – it's a labor of love.

You're the hero of this story! Because of your generosity, kinship families in our community receive help finding and accessing resources, support groups, parenting education, and much more. Thanks to you, children will thrive, not just survive.

September is National Kinship Care Month, and you can help celebrate – this month and all year. Your continued support of kinship families tells these special families that they are not alone! You are holding their hands as they hold those of the children they love. Thank you.



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Because of YOU, kinship families have support sending children into a classroom

Alice is a 64-year-old grandmother caring for her four grandchildren. She is recovering from COVID-19 and battling other health issues. But that doesn't stop her from advocating for the best interests of her grandchildren. Two of her grandchildren fell behind in school last spring. After evaluations and conferences with school teachers, they recommended the children attend in-person classes to catch up.

Alice is nervous but believes it's better for her grandbabies to be in the classroom. Because of your support, Alice has the encouragement she needs. The children have brand new school supplies. Alice has ongoing support and access to educational resources.

Alice's determination to help her grandchildren get back on track is inspiring. It is why we honor caregivers like her every day.



YOU also help kinship families with children in virtual school succeed

What would have happened to Thomas if Spring 2020 went as planned? Thomas would have experienced a field trip to the children's museum. He would have shared whispers and jokes with friends on the school bus and enjoyed a delicious cupcake at a birthday party. Time with other children is an important piece of growing up. Restrictions put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19 have been difficult for children.



Cheryl is Thomas's grandmother. She received custody of Thomas and his three young siblings in August 2019. With allegations of an unstable home and neglect, Cheryl knew she had her work cut out for her. Thomas was thriving at school - until COVID-19 hit. Cheryl reached out to HALOS when she noticed her grandson was regressing. Thomas has had no interaction with children his age since schools shut down. Cheryl worries the isolation is damaging Thomas's progress. Unfortunately, in-person school is not an option for him right now. Cheryl needed help.

Thanks to you, Cheryl can access advice and support. Cheryl is setting up appointments to help with Thomas's development. He will be equipped to have a successful school year because of your support.

Kinship families have been hard hit by COVID-19. Here's how YOU have met their increased needs.

