

# Kinship Quarterly Strengthening Families

## October 2025

### Kinship Day Care

Day care is important for children because it provides crucial social, emotional, and cognitive development in children and structured learning with peers and teachers. It prepares children for school by enhancing their academic skills and teaching them routines, while also promoting their physical growth and building resilience. Additionally, day care offers a safe, nurturing environment for children and provides essential support for working caregivers to maintain their careers.

### Kinship Daycare

Children in a relative or fictive kin placement are now eligible for DFPS-funded day care services if all caregivers meet at least one of the following:

1. Employed at least 20 hours per week;
2. Over the age of 65; or
3. A documented disability.

This change replaces the previous 40-hour-per-week work criteria for caregivers. The following criteria remain unchanged and must also apply:

1. The caregiver is a Texas resident;
2. The child is in DFPS managing conservatorship;
3. The child is 6 years old or younger (12 years or younger for summer care) or is younger than 18 years old if the child has a developmental delay or a physical disability;
4. The child is not receiving adoption assistance; and
5. The caregiver verifies in writing that the caregiver has attempted to find appropriate day care services for the child through community services, including: Head Start programs; prekindergarten classes; early education programs offered in public schools; and any other available and appropriate resources in the caregiver's community such as neighbors, friends, relatives, etc.



Texas Department of  
**Family and Protective Services**  
*Child Protective Services*





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## What You Should Know About Fentanyl

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid. Prescription fentanyl is safe when taken as prescribed by a doctor to treat severe pain. However, illicitly manufactured fentanyl is also distributed through illegal drug markets.

Illegally manufactured fentanyl is often added to other substances like counterfeit (fake) pills, heroin, cocaine and methamphetamine. Even in small doses, fentanyl exposure can cause a fatal overdose. Naloxone is a medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids— including fentanyl. Naloxone is available at many pharmacies in Texas without a prescription.

### According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Fentanyl is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.
- More than 150 people die every day in the U.S. from overdoses related to synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

## Texans can fight the fentanyl crisis.

### Signs of overdose:

- Small, constricted “pinpoint” pupils
- Face is extremely pale and feels cold or clammy to the touch
- Body goes limp
- Fingernails or lips have a purple or blue color
- Vomiting or making gurgling noises
- Cannot be awakened or unable to speak
- Breathing or heartbeat slows or stops

### How to save a life:

1. Call 911 right away.
2. Try to wake the person up.
3. Give naloxone, if available
4. Begin rescue breathing or CPR.
5. Turn the person on their side to prevent choking.
6. Stay with the person until emergency services arrive.

**[OnePillKillsTX.com](http://OnePillKillsTX.com)**

## Resources

- **Superior/STAR Health**  
[www.fostercaretx.com/for-members/find-a-provider.html](http://www.fostercaretx.com/for-members/find-a-provider.html)
- **Parenting Tips**  
[www.getparentingtips.com](http://www.getparentingtips.com)
- **Housing/Utility Assistance Programs**  
[www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/get\\_help\\_paying\\_rent.html](http://www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/get_help_paying_rent.html)
- **Your Texas Benefits**  
[www.yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/Home](http://www.yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/Home)
- **2-1-1 Texas**  
[www.211texas.org](http://www.211texas.org)
- **Texas WIC**  
[Texaswic.org/](http://Texaswic.org/)
- **Kinship Manual**  
[www.dfps.texas.gov/Child\\_Protection/Kinship\\_Care/documents/KinshipManual.pdf](http://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child_Protection/Kinship_Care/documents/KinshipManual.pdf)
- **Texas Kinship Caregivers Facebook Page**  
[facebook.com/TexasKinshipCaregivers](https://facebook.com/TexasKinshipCaregivers)
- **Kinship Care**  
[www.dfps.texas.gov/Child\\_Protection/Kinship\\_Care/default.asp](http://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child_Protection/Kinship_Care/default.asp)