How to Contact Us
(609) 895-0283

HOURS • Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm
Scheduled Saturday and Evening hours

LOCATION • 168 Franklin Corner Road
Bldg 1, 2nd Floor, Suite 220 (use elevator)
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

Dolores Bryant, Director
   x131
   Kinship Services

Tonya Powell, Supervisor
   x135
   Kinship Connections Program

Alice Lightner, Caregiver Specialist
   x132
   GrandFamily Success Center

Allison Taite-Tarver, Senior Specialist
   x133

Robert Obzut, Senior Specialist
   x112

Debbie Piccione, Caregiver Specialist
   x118

Isaira Rosario, Caregiver Specialist
   x116

GrandFamily Success Center
&
Kinship Connections Programs
of Mercer County

Bridging the Gap

The Children’s Home Society
OF NEW JERSEY®

Founded in 1894, The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey is a nonsectarian, non-for-profit private agency that promotes the welfare of infants, children, adolescents and parents throughout New Jersey and Bucks County, Pennsylvania. As a comprehensive counseling, placement, parenting education and child care agency, CHS of NJ touches the lives of 41,000 children and families each year.

We save children’s lives and build healthy families.

Values

We value services that work, that are all evaluated, and that help children and parents to help themselves. Our services are delivered with dignity, cultural sensitivity and respect for our clients.

Vision

Every child is in a safe, caring, and permanent family. All children and parents have the skills and knowledge they need to help themselves long after our active case involvement has ended.

Major Service Areas

♥ Child Welfare/Permanency
♥ Clinical/Mental Health
♥ Early Childhood and Parenting Education
♥ Maternal/Child Health
♥ Family & Community
♥ School Based
♥ Child Care
♥ Kinship

Licensed Adoption Agency in New Jersey and Pennsylvania

The provision of services and referrals of clients are made without regard to race, color, religious creed, disability, ancestry, national origin (including limited English proficiency), age and sex.

The Children’s Home Society of New Jersey
635 South Clinton Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08611
(609) 695-6274 ♥ Fax (609) 394-5769
www.chsofnj.org
www.facebook.com/CHSoNJ

Partners

♥ Nicholson Foundation
♥ NJ Dept. of Children & Families
♥ US Social Security Administration, Trenton Office
♥ Trenton Board of Education

Funded by

♥ Nicholson Foundation
♥ Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau

The Children’s Bureau
What is the Mercer County GrandFamily Success Center?

The Mercer County GrandFamily Success Center is a community-based center for grandparents and other family members who are raising their young kin. The center provides support groups and activities for children and kin caregivers who are seeking information and support. Come visit our family lounge and relax. Meet others who are raising their grandchildren, nieces or nephews. All services are free and confidential. We welcome all relative caregivers who are raising children and live in Mercer County.

Goals

The goals of the GrandFamily Success Center are to:

- To promote kinship family well-being
- To link kinship families to community services
- To empower and support kinship families
- To help kinship families build on their own strengths

Eligibility

- Residents of Mercer County
- Adult caregiver raising a relative child
- Must have custodial care of children (children must live with the caregiver)

Programs & Services

Our services include:

- Information and Referral Services
  - Assistance with NJ Family Care applications
  - Linkage to Health Care Services
  - Linkage to Housing Services
  - Assistance with Custody Issues
  - Assistance with Social Security applications
  - Assistance with Education/School issues

- Parent Education & Support Groups

- Children and Youth Support & Activities Group

- Individual help with your needs

- Family Goal Planning through Support Sessions/Family Conferences

- Family Activities
  - Family Fun Night
  - Games Night
  - Movie Night
  - Community Resources Fair

- Advocacy
  - GrandParent Advisory Council
  - Helping you connect with community services

What is the Kinship Connections Program?

The Kinship Connections Program of Mercer County is a federally funded program. The purpose of the program is to address the unique needs of grandparents and other family members who are raising kin by offering parent education, family activities, and linkages to community resources. In addition, relative kin caregivers will have the opportunity to participate in Family Success Conferences. These conferences are informal gatherings that address more sensitive family issues and needs and you get to choose and include family and friends who you think can be helpful.

Goals of Family Success Conferences

- To strengthen family relationships
- To empower families to make their own decisions
- To identify family and community resources and supports
- To help find others who care and who will agree to help you on specific needs

Eligibility

- Residents of Mercer County
- Adult caregiver raising a relative child
- Must have custodial care of children (children must live with the caregiver)
- Cannot have an active DCP&P case