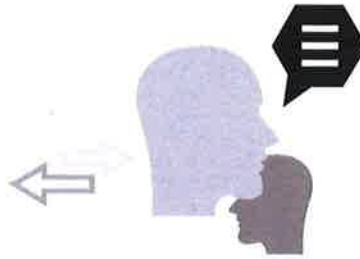


Extended Family Support Program Overview

The Extended Family Support Program (EFSP) provides short term services to relative caregiver families that are not involved in the formal child welfare system. The goal of EFSP is to:

- ❖ Assist relative caregivers to obtain private guardianship of the child.
- ❖ Assist relative caregivers to obtain the child-only grant and/or other entitlements from the Department of Human Services.
- ❖ Assist school aged children to enroll in the relative caregiver's school district.
- ❖ Help the relative caregiver to obtain basic goods and services needed to maintain a stable home for the child.
- ❖ Link relative caregivers to community resources to meet other needs.



Extended Family Support Program Provider

Agency:

Address:

City:

Phone:

Extended Family Support Program Worker

Name:

Phone:

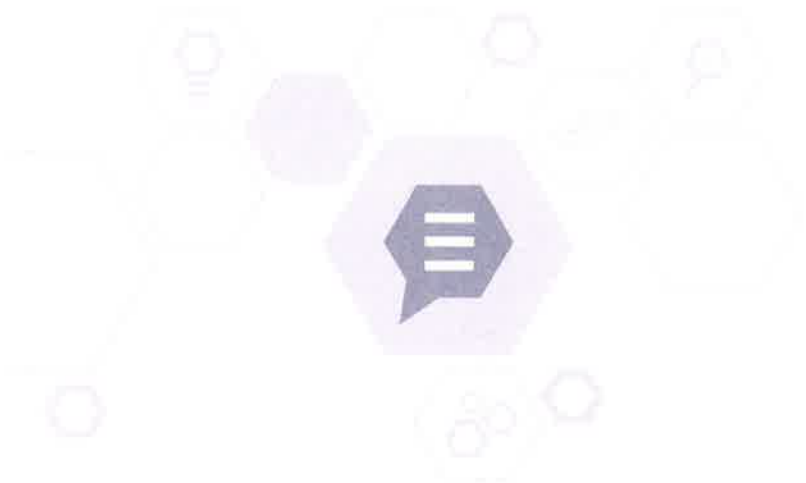
Email:

Extended Family Support Program



“Thank you for stepping
up to the plate”





Services to Obtain Guardianship

The Extended Family Support Program (EFSP) can assist a relative caregiver who wants to obtain guardianship through probate court of a relative's child living in the home of the caregiver. This includes:

- ❖ Education and advocacy about the probate court system.
- ❖ Assistance obtaining required documents.
- ❖ Arranging for legal counsel in counties where legal counsel is necessary.



Cash Assistance

The Extended Family Support Program has a limited cash assistance program to assist relative caregivers to meet the basic needs of their relative's child. Cash assistance may be used for:

LEGAL COUNSEL

Obtaining legal counsel for probate court in counties where legal counsel is necessary.

COURT FEES

Paying for court fees and court required documents by the court.

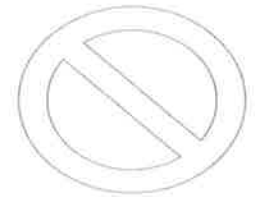
SERVICES

Obtaining basic goods and services needed to ensure that the family is stable.

Other Services Provided

The EFSP caseworkers will meet with the relative caregiver monthly until guardianship has been obtained or until other services have been provided. During this time, the EFSP worker will provide other services to stabilize the relative family, including:

- ❖ Provide crisis intervention and short term interventions to address issues in the family.
- ❖ Assist eligible families to obtain TANF benefits, subsidized daycare and other benefits that are available to the caregiver.
- ❖ Provide advocacy services to assist children to enroll in the caregiver's school district.
- ❖ Coordinate family meetings and mediation.
- ❖ Referral to and advocacy for needed services such as: financial budgeting, help looking for employment and or housing, legal services, medical and mental health services, parenting counseling and training, special education and vocational training.
- ❖ Referral for cash assistance and in-kind assistance to help meet the basic needs of the family.



Services Not Provided

When deciding whether to obtain services offered by EFSP, it is important to know what services the program does not provide. While the EFSP worker can assist the relative caregiver obtain a child only grant through the Illinois Department of Human Services, DCFS will not provide a monthly stipend to the relative.



In addition, EFSP does not:

- ❖ Assist with guardianship when a biological parent objects.
- ❖ Assist caregivers when either the caregiver or the child has an open DCFS case.
- ❖ Assist caregivers living outside of Illinois.
- ❖ Assist caregivers when a biological parent lives with the relative caregiver and is able to care for the child themselves.