



ANNUAL REPORT | 2017



THANK YOU

From the Executive Director

When I started advocating for kin eight years ago, many had no idea what kinship care was- much less why it was important. Most people were shocked to find out that the number of children in kinship care in Clark County alone would more than fill every seat in the Thomas and Mack Center.

Thankfully, our advocacy is beginning to pay off and our community is beginning to recognize the importance of kinship families for children who can't live with their parents. In 2017, for the first time ever, Nevada recognized September as Kinship Care month.

As the only organization exclusively serving kinship families in Nevada, we are so proud that kinship families are beginning to get the recognition they so deserve. With that recognition comes an opportunity for us to have an even bigger impact in 2018 and beyond. We are ready to change the landscape for kinship families to ensure all children in kinship care have safe, stable, and nurturing homes. But before we get too far into the new year, I wanted to take a minute to reflect on our outcomes from 2017.

None of our results this year would have been possible without YOU- our donors and supporters. We are so grateful to you for your partnership and hope you are as pleased as we are with our outcomes this past year.

Together, we kept **home** in the **family** for over **2,000 children** in 2017.



Ali Caliendo, M.A.
Founder and Executive Director



WHO WE ARE

“Help Keep Home in the Family”

We believe when children can't be with their parents, they should **be with their family**. Foster Kinship strengthens kinship caregivers' capacity to provide **safe, permanent, and nurturing** homes for children. We envision a **vibrant future** for **all children** in kinship care.

Our **Kinship Navigator** and **Child Welfare Training** programs are designed to meet goals through the following objectives:

- **Legal Status:** Families are given tools to increase the stability of the home through legal means.
- **Financial Resources:** Families are assisted with applications for financial support and emergency resources.
- **Community Connection:** Families are connected with resources to increase utilization of supportive programs.
- **Emotional Support:** Families have access to support groups, caregiver education classes, family events, and therapy.



Mission	Goal	Objective
Safe Homes	Meet the immediate needs	Community Connection
Permanent Homes	Stabilize the family	Legal Status and Financial Resources
Nurturing Homes	Increase caregivers' capacity to meet well-being needs of children	Emotional Support

We provide **Kinship Navigator Program** services and **Child Welfare Training** to give emotional, financial, legal and community support to kinship caregivers. Services are provided free of charge for any individuals parenting their relative's child in Clark County, NV. Our evidence-informed and efficient service model allowed us to serve nearly 1,000 families in 2017.

The **Kinship Navigator Program** provides targeted support, information, resources, case management, and training to help vulnerable kinship families stabilize and to improve the quality of life for children in kinship care.

The **Child Welfare Training Program** ensures that kinship families caring for children in foster care received accurate, timely, and supportive information about their options, rights, and responsibilities. In addition, the program provides kinship licensing training and Life Books for children.

Outcome Focused: Foster Kinship tracks outcomes by utilizing the Family Resource Scale [FRS], which measures the adequacy of different resources in households with children. The conceptual framework predicts that inadequacy of resources will negatively affect well-being and parental commitment. On average, after receiving services from Foster Kinship, families experience a positive change from baseline in 22 out of 30 possible categories. Family Advocates note when a kinship family has achieved a key outcome of positive change related to **safe, permanent, or nurturing** homes.

Evidence-Informed: The Kinship Navigator Program model has been evaluated and shown to connect families with relevant financial resources, provide caregivers with information and referrals relevant to their specific caregiving situation, provide emotional support for caregivers, and prevent children from entering the public child welfare system (James Bell Associates, 2015).



SAFE HOMES

Meeting Immediate Needs Through Community Connection

Our first goal is to build a foundation of safety for children by meeting the immediate needs of the kinship family.

- ◆ 25 community partners provided in-kind donations of diapers, formula, books, toys, clothing, hygiene items, car seats, beds/ cribs and food for kinship families.
- ◆ To ensure all caregivers are equipped to keep their children safe, we added car seat safety classes, car seat checks, and CPR/ first aid classes.

OUTCOME: 98% of families achieved their community connection goals



893

Emergency resources - cribs, diapers, food and car seats - distributed

1692

Helpline calls & connections to local resources

523

Families completed CPR and Car Seat Safety courses



Safe Home Outcomes (Community Connection)		
	2017	Organization Total
Helpline calls	557	2192
Kinship Resource Locator Tool sent email or mail	242	319
Emergency Resources Provided	893	1356
Referrals to Community Supports Made	196	788
Individuals who attended DFS Info Session	186	524
Individuals who completed CPR/First Aid (Started May 2017)	239	239
Number of car seat safety checks (Started May 2017)	281	281
Families who completed car seat safety course (Started May 2017)	284	284
Percentage of case management families who achieved community connection goals	98%	98%



“I am a kinship caregiver who is totally grateful for Foster Kinship and all that they have done to help me. Their organization and staff introduced to me resources that I didn’t even know were available and I have been a Kinship Foster parent on and off for 13 years.

My children and I thank you so much for all you have done and always will be extremely appreciative for your assistance.” – Hope J.



Staff Spotlight: Program Support Manager Sandy Vargas ensures that Spanish-speaking kinship families have equal access to support. Sandy is a family advocate, CPR trainer, Child Passenger Safety Technician, and notary public.

PERMANENT HOMES

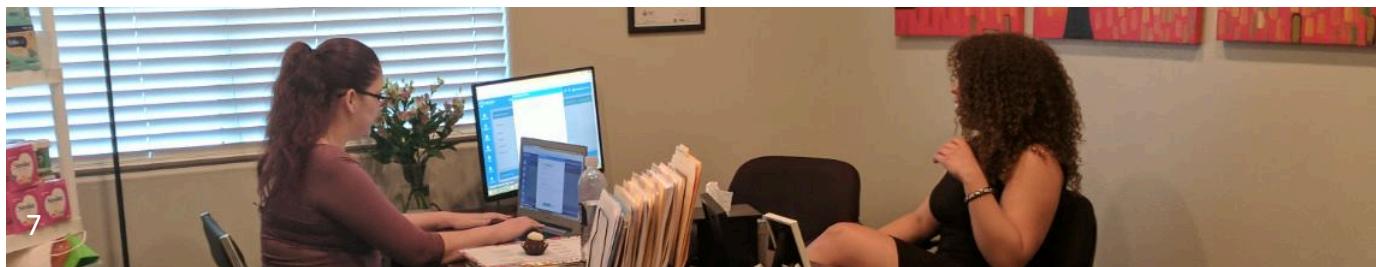
Stabilizing the Family

Through Legal Status and Financial Resources

Our second goal is to provide the most permanent home for children by stabilizing the kinship family.

- ◆ Kinship Navigator Program services provide targeted case management to help vulnerable kinship families stabilize and to improve the quality of life for children.
- ◆ Free notary and copy service reduces the burden of legal paperwork.
- ◆ Family Advocates walk alongside a family for as long as it takes to stabilize, on average 90 days.

OUTCOMES: 86% of families achieved their permanency goals. 90% achieved their financial goals.



Permanent Home Outcomes (Legal Status and Financial Resources)

	2017	Organization Total
Permanency Sessions -Guardianship, Adoption, or Licensing support	149	181
Financial Sessions- (TANF/SNAP/MEDICAID/EAP/DISABILITY)	149	244
Individuals who Completed Kinship Licensing Classes -15 hours of training	629	925
Percentage of case management families who achieved permanency goals*	86%	86%
Percentage of case management families who achieved financial assistance goals**	90%	90%



“I first learned about Foster Kinship when my 4 nieces were removed from my sister’s care. They have been with me every step of the way. They helped me with obstacles that I never knew I had to go through from licensing to food assistance to back to school events for the kids. Not only that but moral support. They always help with whatever they can no matter the circumstances.

It's like a one stop shop for kinship. It puts me at ease knowing that they are the only constant people in our lives.”- Monica D.



Program Spotlight: We partner with the Clark County Department of Family Services to ensure that kinship caregivers who care for children in the child welfare system have access to the same level of support, training, and financial reimbursement that foster parents receive. In 2017, the net number of licensed relative homes in Clark County increased by nearly 100.

NURTURING HOMES

Increase Caregivers' Capacity Through Emotional Support

Our final goal is to meet the well-being needs of children by increasing caregivers' capacity to provide nurturing care.

- ◆ A private online community ensures all caregivers have access to 24/7 support.
- ◆ A partnership with Chicanos Por La Causa provides Nurturing Parenting classes for caregivers.
- ◆ A partnership with Desert Rose Counseling Group ensures all families have access to individual and family therapy.

OUTCOMES: 98% of families achieved their emotional support goal.



442

Caregivers joined a support group

321

Families attended a family event

1587

Support calls made to kinship families



Nurturing Homes Outcomes (Emotional Support)

	2017	Organization Total
Family Advocacy Follow Ups (1:1 consults with families)	1587	2077
Individuals in the NV Kinship Caregivers FB support group- 24/7 online support	252	252
Individuals who attended Support Group	190	451
Families participating in a Family Event	321	923
Individuals participating in a nurturing parenting course (CPLC) or QPI training	65	65
Families receiving free therapy from Desert Rose Counseling Group	34	34
Percentage of case management families who achieved emotional support goals	98%	98%



“The online group that was created has been a huge help. Those on the group have helped us give our two normalcy and all the advice. This has been a huge resource to our success with our little ones. We are so blessed to be apart of the village. Thank you for your time, knowledge and above all compassion!” - Samantha J.

“This organization is amazing and has been a huge help and support. I do not think I would have made it this far without Foster Kinship.”

– Cassandra A.



Service Spotlight: Children are at the heart of everything we do. We offer free childcare for many of our program services. We also have a Life Book curriculum to help children in kinship care process their past and dream for their future. We are so committed to kids that it is not unusual to find a Family Advocate teaching a class while holding a baby!

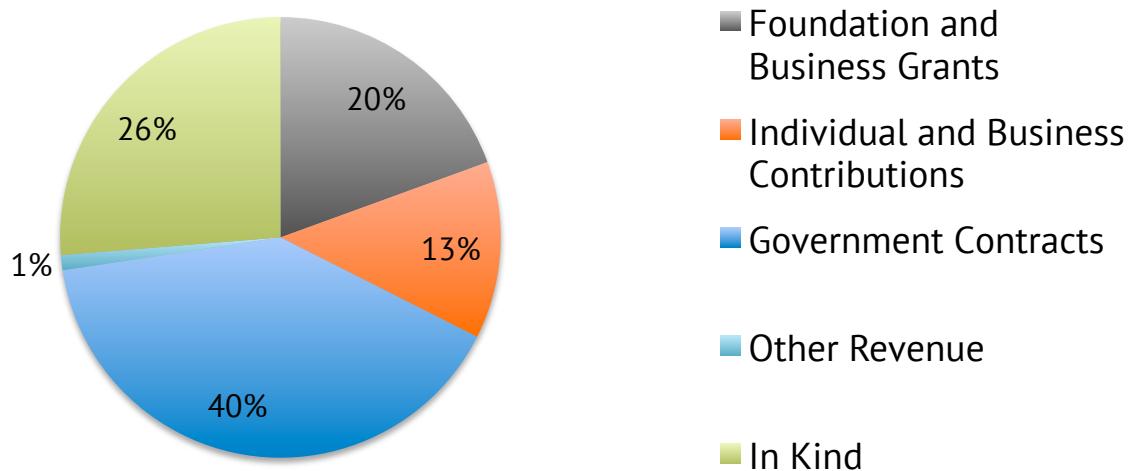
2017 FINANCIALS

Total Revenue	\$ 323,429.08
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 292,591.37
Revenue less Expenses	\$ 30,837.71

Founded in 2011, Foster Kinship is a newer non-profit in Clark County – and there is simply no other organization in the state that does the work we do. After six years we can demonstrate a proven track record of client success. We are increasing our sustainability through cultivating a diverse funding stream, and we post our 990s online. We are accountable. Even though at this time we operate on a smaller financial scale than many of our cohorts, we work well within our own budgets and are growing sustainably. We are building a reserve year over year to ensure stability for future years, which will enable us to scale efficiently.

To see a detailed breakdown of revenue and expenses, please download our 990 at www.FosterKinship.org/Donate

Funding Sources



THANK YOU 2017 SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

KEYSER FAMILY FOUNDATION

ENGELSTAD FAMILY FOUNDATION | MONDAYS DARK

IN N OUT FOUNDATION | CITY OF LAS VEGAS | ANTHEM COMMUNITY CHURCH | AMERICAN WEST HOMES | FERTITTA FOUNDATION

WOMENS CLUB OF SUMMERLIN | LAS VEGAS CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING

JAMES JOSEPH FORD FOUNDATION | BOYD FOUNDATION | BUNGIE FOUNDATION

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MARK WALLNER FOUNDATION | CLARK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

CLEANING AUTHORITY | GRANTS 4 GRANDS | ALEXANDER DAWSON SCHOOL

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TOUCH OF LOVE | SPEEDWAY CHILDREN'S CHARITIES | CHICANOS POR LA CAUSA | SAVERS

QUALITY PARENTING INITIATIVE | IN 12 DAYS | GREATER NEW JERUSALEM | EMILY MORALES

METRO POLICE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM- VIVA STRIP WALKERS | CLARK COUNTY ELECTION DEPARTMENT

DESERT ROSE COUNSELING GROUP | ROY KIM | LAS VEGAS VALLEY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION | NV BIG GIVE

DEDICATED MANAGERS | CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY ALLIANCE | SAFE KIDS WORLDWIDE | FUTONS 4 LESS

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Foster kinship provides support and resources to individuals raising their relative's children in Clark County, NV.

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