

Expanding School Supports for Kinship Caregivers and Grandfamilies

Educators see increasing numbers of students who live in kinship care or grandfamilies. Yet efforts that offer educators meaningful, evidence-based strategies to better support these families as they navigate schooling for their children are scarce.

The Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Appalachia will host a **community of practice (CoP)** for professionals, advocates, and educators who support kinship caregivers and grandfamilies across Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.



JOIN US!

We are currently recruiting CoP members to participate in our quarterly meetings!

We welcome cross-sector leaders and activists, including (but not limited to) educators, social workers, mental health specialists, and others from community-based organizations.

CoP members will:

- Connect with other professionals serving kinship caregivers and grandfamilies.
- Identify high-priority unmet needs and necessary steps to best support kinship caregivers, grandfamilies, and students.
- Develop a shared understanding about the state of available research related to supporting these families.
- Share understanding, experiences, and evidence-based practices to build the capacity of educators and school staff to support these families as they help their children thrive in school settings.



If you're interested in joining this free CoP, please register and join one of two kickoff meetings:

March 20, 2023: 1-2 pm Eastern
March 30, 2023: 10-11 am Eastern

If neither meeting date works, please reach out to learn more:

Kayla Benson: kbenson@edvgroup.org
Victoria Schaefer: victoria.schaefer@sri.com

Scan the QR code to go to
the registration page



Learn more about REL Appalachia and find additional resources: <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/rel/region/appalachia>