Kinship is Key

 **National Kinship Month is here**

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| [https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fnationalcasagal.org%2Fkinship-care-keeps-children-and-youth-connected%2F&psig=AOvVaw3JZh7y5nbr-AHySGJUu-uH&ust=1755106020470000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBYQjRxqFwoTCJjZrYPmhY8DFQAAAAAdAAAAABAEhttps://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fnationalcasagal.org%2Fkinship-care-keeps-children-and-youth-connected%2F&psig=AOvVaw3JZh7y5nbr-AHySGJUu-uH&ust=1755106020470000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBYQjRxqFwoTCJjZrYPmhY8DFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fnationalcasagal.org%2Fkinship-care-keeps-children-and-youth-connected%2F&psig=AOvVaw3JZh7y5nbr-AHySGJUu-uH&ust=1755106020470000&source=images&cd=vfe&opi=89978449&ved=0CBYQjRxqFwoTCJjZrYPmhY8DFQAAAAAdAAAAABAE) |

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| September is**National kinship care month**This month and every day, we recognize and celebrate the love shared within our kinship families. We are proud of the promise of hope kinship provides and the commitment of the advocates and allies who work tirelessly to serve kinship caregiving families. | September is  Labor dayHats off to American Workers and their contribution to our country! “Choose a job you love, and you will never work a day in your life.”  | September is **Suicide prevention month**I pledge to T.A.L.K. (Take action with love and kindness) I will learn the suicide warning signs. I will check in with anyone I’m worried about, and will offer support without judgment.  |
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|  | Mon, September 1, 2025Labor Day is….a federal holiday in the United States celebrated on the first Monday of September to honor and recognize the American labor movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements in the United States. |

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| National Suicide prevention monthSeptember is a time to remember the lives lost to suicide, acknowledge the millions more who have experienced suicidal thoughts and the many individuals, families and communities that have been impacted by suicide.  |  |
| **THE THREE C’S IN SUICIDE PREVENTION** 1. **CONNECTION**

Ensuring the person feels understood and not isolated. Active listening, empathy, and validation of feelings. 1. **COLLABORATION**

Working together with the individual to identify the root causes of their distress and explore potential solutions**.**1. **CHOICE**

Empowering the person by involving them in decisions about their care and recovery.  |  |
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**What is Kinship Care?**

Kinship care is the full time care, nurturing, and protection of children by relatives, members of their tribes or clans, godparents, stepparents, or any adult who has a kinship bond with a child. This definition is designed to be inclusive and respectful of cultural values and ties of affection. It allows a child to grow into adulthood in a family environment.

**Kinship Care's Growth in Recent Years**

Kinship Care has existed since the beginning of families. In history, the idea of relatives helping to care for children was common place when geography was not a barrier. Today, many cultures and families still utilize informal kinship care to care for children. Sometimes, it is only for short time periods, other times children move in with relatives permanently. The reasons for kinship care is as varied and diverse as families are but some of the reasons that children may live with relatives include:

deployment of parents in the military

parental mental/physical illness or substance abuse

death of a parent

poverty; the parent’s work requirements

incarceration

family violence, a relative’s concern for health, safety, and well-being of the child

Regardless of the reason that children move in with relatives, the number of kinship families is on the rise. In Michigan, approximately 52,000 children live in kinship families.

September is

Kinship Care month

Are you a Kinship Caregiver?

We can help! Call 989-736-8879 ask for Kristie

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**What is the purpose of Labor Day?**

Labor Day, celebrated on the first Monday in September, is an annual tribute to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It's a celebration of the contributions of workers to the country's strength, prosperity, and well-being.

The holiday also marks the unofficial end of summer for many Americans.

Labor Day acknowledges the hard work, dedication, and sacrifices of American workers

throughout history and in the present day.

Celebrating the Labor Movement:

The holiday has its roots in the late 19th century labor movement, which fought for better

working conditions, fair wages, and reasonable hours.

Symbolic End of Summer:

Labor Day is widely recognized as the end of the summer season for many,

with end-of-summer celebrations and activities.

Day of Rest and Relaxation:

For many, Labor Day provides a well-deserved day off to relax, spend time

 with family and friends, and enjoy the long weekend.

Community Celebrations:

Labor Day is often marked by parades, picnics, barbecues, and other community gatherings,

fostering a sense of togetherness and celebration.

