

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY



Kinship Stipend Program Annual Report

Report Date: April 1, 2023
Reporting Period: CY2023

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Laws 2022, Second Regular Session, Chapter, 313, Section 17, on or before March 31, 2023 the Arizona Department of Child Safety (the “Department” or “ADCS”) is required to report to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) the number of children who are part of the kinship stipend program and reside with a nonrelative caretaker of fictive kinship. A ‘fictive kinship caregiver’ means an adult person who has a significant relationship with a child, and who is caring for a child who is under the care custody and control of the Department.

During the 2022 legislative session, the kinship stipend amount increased from \$75.00 per child/youth per month to \$300.00 per child/youth per month. The Department appreciates the additional support this will provide caregivers who are committed to providing a family-like setting to children who benefit from being able to remain in the care of persons with whom they familiar and already have a relationship. This experience can be very beneficial to helping the child or youth transition to out-of-home care and reduce the trauma. It is critical these caregivers receive as much support as possible to ensure they can be more prepared to provide a safe, stable, loving and nurturing home.

KINSHIP STIPEND PROGRAM RESULTS

The table describes the number of children or youth were were residing with a fictive kinship caregiver and for whom the caregiver was receiveing the kinship stipend. Kinship placement that did not have a known relationship in the system were distributed by the same percentage as the known data.

Table 1a

	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
Fictive Kinship Caregiver (Non-Relative)	494	474	469	459	444	439
Kinship Caregiver (Relative)	4,827	4,872	4,768	4,661	4,516	4,458
Total Kinship	5,321	5,346	5,237	5,120	4,960	4,897

Table 1b

	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023
Fictive Kinship Caregiver (Non-Relative)	475	445	466	434	430	417
Kinship Caregiver (Relative)	4,552	4,588	4,480	4,482	4,407	4,365
Total Kinship	5,027	5,033	4,946	4,916	4,837	4,782