



*"The Anishnaabe child is a gift from the Creator. The child represents all creation; its place is at the centre and must always remain our focus."*

**KGCF's Elders Advisory Group**



**Kina Gbezhgomi**  
Child and Family Services

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**Foster Care Department**

**Our Children.  
Our Responsibility.**

**Kina Gbezhgomi**  
Child & Family Services



# Our Children. Our Responsibility.

**Kina Gbezhgomi**  
Child & Family Services  
Foster Care Department

## Our Children. Our Responsibility.

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services (KGCFSS) is a corporation servicing our seven member communities:

- Sheguiandah First Nation
- M'Chigeeng First Nation
- Sheshegwaning First Nation
- Zhiibaahaasing First Nation
- Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation
- Whitefish River First Nation
- Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve

We are seeking loving, safe Anishnaabe caregivers for Anishnaabe children that require foster care. Many of these children are your neighbours, cousins, nieces, nephews, grandchildren and community members. However, each year many Anishnaabe children are placed with non-Native foster families because we do not have enough Anishnaabe homes available. Our communities have the knowledge, skills and family networks to take care of our children. We need Anishnaabe people like you to become foster caregivers.

## Why do children require foster care?

There are a variety of reasons why children in our communities might require the care of a foster family. These include:

- Neglect, physical or sexual abuse
- Emotional harm and/or exposure to conflict
- Child has been abandoned or orphaned
- Conflict between the child and the caregiver
- Current caregiver has a demonstrated inability to care for or protect the child

## What do Foster Parents do?

The role of the foster family is to provide a safe and nurturing home until the birth family is ready to meet the needs of their child.

Foster parents help the child to understand what is happening and to cope with their feelings during this difficult time. They need to be able to respond to the child with patience, calm, love and guidance. Foster parents are vitally important in supporting the child's relationship with their birth family.

## How are Foster Parents supported?

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services assist foster parents by providing:

- 24 hour support
- Home visits
- Resources for meeting the child's needs
- Compensation for expenses and daily care
- Reimbursement for cultural activities, sports and recreation
- Education and Training Supports

## Become a Foster Parent today.

If you are interested in fostering, contact our Foster Care Department to discuss the program in more detail. We will begin a Foster Care Home Study that includes the following:

- Police vulnerable sector check and CAS record checks (household members 18 years and older)
- Personal references
- Medical report
- Housing and safety review
- Individual interviews for household members (6 years of age and older)

Foster parents can decide to provide care for specific children known to them through kinship or customary care or provide regular care to First Nations' children as required. Foster parents are urgently needed to provide regular care, specialized and therapeutic foster care services, as well as relief services.

Become a foster parent today and help our Anishnaabe children to stay connected with our communities.

### Vision:

Kina Gbezhgomi Child and Family Services will honour and support our family's and community's inherent authority to care for their children based on unity, traditions, values, beliefs and customs.

### Mission:

Our services ensure children are protected and stay connected with their culture, language and community while strengthening family and community relationships.

