

Name: Carolyn Fatsis

Organization: Dane County Department of Human Services

Job Title: Kinship Care Social Worker

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Website: https://danecountyhumanservices.org/Children-Youth-and-Family/Out-of-Home-Care

What county/area you serve: Dane County

Give a brief description of your organization/agency and how you serve relative caregivers: DCHS is one of the largest agencies within the Dane County government. In the past two years, the Children, Youth, and Families Division split into two segments: 1-serving CPS, ongoing Child Welfare, and Youth Justice; 2-Prevention, Early Intervention (PEI). Foster Care, Kinship Care, etc., are part of the PEI programs. Over the years, the Kinship Care Program has grown. More children are being placed in relative homes versus Foster Care. The Dane County Voluntary Kinship Care Program (VKC) serves approximately 160 families. As a social worker in the VKC Program, I/we make every effort to provide timely benefits, support, and resources/ referrals to relative families.

Why serving on the RCP workgroup is important to you? I am still relatively new to my position serving relative families. I want to learn more about the statewide program and current community resources/services available to them and work to improve community services that better meet relative family needs.

Anything else you'd like to add? I look forward to meeting and working with fellow Kinship Care Social Workers and relative families on this committee.

