When a child is not able to safely remain at home with their parents, or adopted, a family or like-family member who is willing and able to provide care for the child, is the next best alternative. This allows the child to live with people they already know and trust, providing stability and a sense of hope for the child.

Thank you for opening your heart and home.

GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Contact information

@MyFLFamilies

To learn more, visit:
MyFLFamilies.com/GAP

GAP

A new benefit program for family and like-family members providing long-term care for children in Florida's child welfare system.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

WALK ME THROUGH IT

1 **Placement**
Court-approved care

2 **Licensure**
Foster care parent

3 **Six months**
Foster care payments

4 **Closure**
Permanent Guardianship

TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY-BASED CARE LEAD AGENCY.

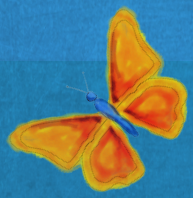
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Court approved the child's placement with the caregiver
- Caregiver is a licensed foster parent
- Caregiver received 6 or more consecutive months of foster care payments
- Court closed case in permanent guardianship custody

BENEFITS AVAILABLE

- Financial support for the child
- Medicaid until the child reaches 18 years of age
- Assistance obtaining legal guardianship of the child
- College tuition exemption voucher
- Community supports for caregivers and child

EXTENSION OF GAP



- In some circumstances, the family may be eligible to receive benefits until the child turns 21 years of age
- Child/young adult participants in qualifying activities