

# Consequences of Policy Change Ohio Grandparent Affidavit



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# Kinship Care

- Ohio's Definition

Kinship care refers to temporary or permanent arrangement in which a relative or any non relative adult who has a long standing relationship or bond with the child and or family, has taken over the full time care of a child whose parents are unwilling or unable.

# What is Kinship Care?

- ❖ Relatives and non relatives raising children other than their own
- ❖ Grandparents are largest group
- ❖ 4.5 million children in grandparent headed households
- ❖ 86,000 children in Ohio are in grandparent headed households
- ❖ 150,000 children in formal foster care
- ❖ 14x more children in informal kin care

# Factors leading to Grandparent Affidavit

- 20% or fewer, grandparents in Ohio had legal custody
- GP caregivers could not enroll children in school
- GP caregivers were unable to access healthcare
- Alternative to Child Protective Services

# HB 130

Establishes two legal mechanism to assist caregivers with access to educational and medical services for children in their home.

1. Power of Attorney
2. Caretaker Authorization Affidavit

# Power of Attorney

- Power of Attorney

Provides legal documentation of the grandparent caregiver, in consensual arrangement, when the custodial parent (s) are temporarily unable to care for their child.

# Circumstances to obtain POA

1. Seriously ill
2. Incarcerated or about to be incarcerated
3. Unable to provide financial support
4. Homeless
5. In or about to enter residential treatment program

# Caretaker Authorization Affidavit

- Provides legal documentation for grandparent caregivers, when location of the birth parents is unknown.

# Circumstances to obtain CAA

- Maybe used only after reasonable attempts to locate and or contact custodial parent

# POA/ CAA allows grandparents temporarily :

- authorize the grandchild's enrollment in school
- be involved in the child's educational planning
- Seek medical, dental, and psychological treatment

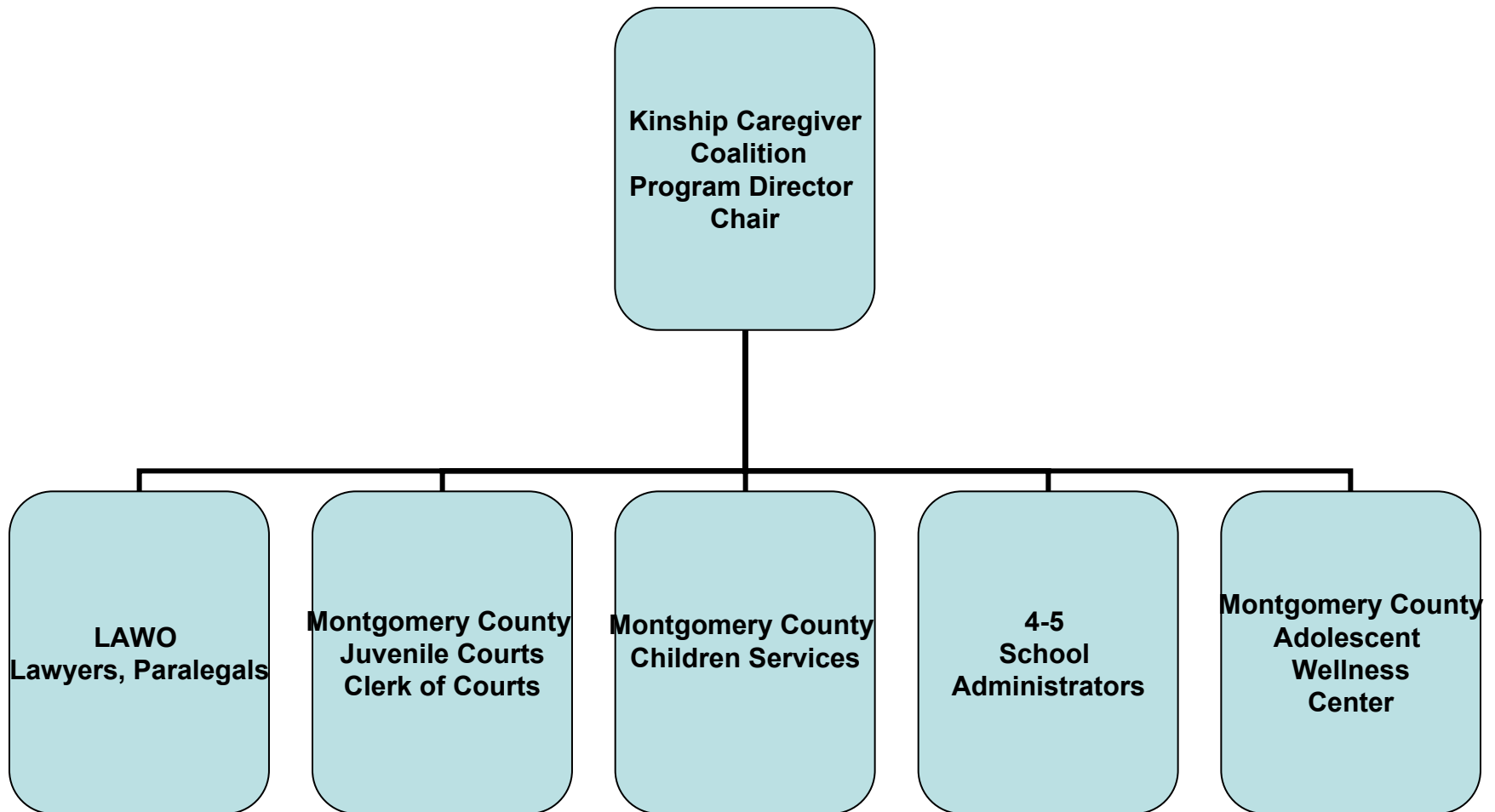
# Safety Provisions POA/CAA

- Must be filed with Juvenile Court
- Schools verify POA/CAA
- Grandparent clearance from Child Protective Services
- Prohibit POA/CAA for purposes of academic or athletic
- Child support
- Prohibit multiple POA/CAA's

## Montgomery County - # of Affidavits Filed

<b>2004 - 2005</b>	<b>POA</b>	<b>CAA</b>
July	1	0
August	9	9
<b>September</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>
October	13	3
November	4	2
December	8	4
<b>January</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>
February	4	6
March	8	4
April	5	8
May	4	6
June	6	0
July	3	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>61</b>

# Montgomery County HB 130 Task Force Members



# HB 130 Task Force

- Met the first time in August 2004
- Meets 6x's a year
- Developed protocol for county
- Developed affidavits to meet court standards
- Educated community
  - 10 presentations
  - Links Newsletters
  - Statewide newsletter
  - Kinship Navigators educated clients

# Cont.

- Track # of affidavits filed
- Track problems with affidavits filed

# Problems

- Improper filing of affidavits
- Abused for school preference
- Only can be used by grandparents
- No extensions after one year
- Jail discontinued notary services for inmates

# Statewide Evaluation of HB 130

## Purpose

to expand the use of the bill to other kinship caregivers. Currently the bill is limited to just grandparents in Ohio.

## Future

Consider expansion of HB 130 to include other relatives after evaluation results

# Contact Information

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