



**For Immediate Release  
December 30, 2019**

## **RICHLAND LIBRARY ORGANIZES KINSHIP CARE WORKSHOP**

*Free, Nine-Week Program Starts January 9, 2020*

Columbia, SC- With recent reports indicating more than 130,000 children are in kinship care across South Carolina, Richland Library is trying to assist the relatives or non-related adults who are looking after the welfare of these children.

**Thanks to a nearly \$35,000 grant from the South Carolina Department of Social Services, Richland Library is providing a free, nine-week Kinship Care Workshop.** It's taking place **every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Beulah Baptist Church** (9487 Garners Ferry Road, Hopkins), **starting January 9, 2020 and continuing through March 5, 2020.**

During the *Kinship Care Workshop*, participants have the opportunity to share their own experiences while learning how to help children regulate their emotions, feel connected and build strengths. **It includes a hot lunch**, so please [register here](#) or call 803-929-3417 to attend.

Often times, caregivers have a pre-existing relationship with the children. They can be grandparents, aunts, uncles, godparents, neighbors, family friends, educators, mentors or others.

"Assuming the role of caregiver is a big undertaking - emotionally, mentally and financially," says Social Work Manager Lee Patterson. "We want to advocate for these families. Providing a strong support base and much sought-after resources lets them know they're not alone."

**Richland Library plans to offer the Kinship Care Workshop again in spring 2020.** Be sure to visit [richlandlibrary.com](http://richlandlibrary.com) for updates.

For questions, please contact Emily Stoll at 803-587-3637 or email [estoll@richlandlibrary.com](mailto:estoll@richlandlibrary.com).

### **About Richland Library**

Awarded the National Medal in 2017 by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Richland Library is a vibrant, contemporary organization that provides resources and information that advance the Midlands. Offering state-of-the-art technology, a variety of literary and cultural programs and 13 bustling facilities located throughout the county, Richland Library provides a truly customizable, modern library experience for residents and visitors alike.

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