Missouri Department of
SOCIAL SERVICES
Your Potential. Our Support.

RESET

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CHILDREN'S DIVISION
P.O. BOX 88 • JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65103-0088
WWW.DSS.MO.GOV • 573-522-8024 • 573-526-3971 FAX

Date_____
Dear_____,

We are writing because you have been identified as a relative _____who was born on _____ and is now in the custody of the Missouri Children's Division. The Children's Division is required by law to explore relative placement options for this child and wants to determine if you would be willing to be a resource provider for _____ while he/she is in Children's Division custody. Relatives play an important role in the lives of children. Children who are able to stay connected to their family typically experience increased stability and less trauma than children who are not connected.

For you to become a resource provider for _____, the Children's Division will begin the home assessment process which includes a background check, walk through of the home, and training. During the 90 day assessment process, you will be reimbursed with financial maintenance to help cover the cost of the child's care. If **approved**, you will continue to receive financial maintenance to assist with caring for _____. A yearly clothing allowance will be supplied for _____ while in Children's Division custody.

As a resource provider for the _____, you will be allowed to participate in court hearings and family support team meetings to assist in achieving the case goal. Should permanent care become necessary for _____, there may be opportunities for guardianship or adoption. If a family member obtains guardianship or adoption of the child, the Children's Division will no longer maintain custody.

Please contact the Children's Division if you are interested in caring for _____. If you do not feel you are able to accept placement at this time, we cannot guarantee you will have a chance to accept placement at a later date, however there are other ways for you to stay involved in his/her life. If you are not interested in placement, but know of another family member we may contact, please notify us with their contact information. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact us at the number listed above if you have any questions or want to start the home assessment process. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Children's Division

AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
TDD / TTY: 800-735-2966
RELAY MISSOURI: 711
Missouri Department of Social Services is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program.