## Did You Know?

The agency implemented an enhanced relative service array to better support relative and fictive kin caregivers. The service array was developed to help relative and fictive kin caregivers make informed decisions surrounding their role in the care of children involved in the children welfare system. The service array provides legal options for the relative/fictive kin caregivers surrounding custody, financial support, options for foster care approval, and on-going services. To ensure we are doing our part we should always:

- Refer potential caregivers to the Relative/Fictive Kin Service Array Video for further understanding.
- Ensure that all necessary paperwork is completed with caregivers before the initial court date if the caregiver is opting for foster care approval.
  - DPP-178 Acknowledgement Statement Options and Available Services for Relative and Fictive Kin Caregivers
  - DPP-179 Relative and Fictive Kin Caregiver Agreement
  - DPP-1277 Safety Check and Review
  - <u>DPP-1278 Relative Placement Support Benefit Acknowledgment Form</u>
  - Relative and Fictive Kin Caregiver Discipline Policy
- Ensure that the DPP-178, DPP-179, and DPP-1277 are uploaded into TWIST. If the caregiver seeks custody, capture the decision on the DPP-178, upload into TWIST, and refer them to the local family support office to apply for benefits. It's imperative to update the DPP-178 and upload into TWIST if the caregiver receives custody at any point during the case. Workers should also offer relative caregivers the one time Relative Placement Support Benefit Payment Request.

