Resources for Grandfamilies

Resource Documents

Caregiver Toolkits

- <u>A Guide to Kinship Caregiving Options</u>
- What Relative Caregivers Need to Know about Abuse and Neglect
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: A Health Guide
- Moving Your Grandchild into Your Home
- Helping Grandchildren Stay in Contact with Parents
- Caring for Infants and Toddlers
- The Teenage Years
- Raising Children with Disabilities
- Youth Mental Health
- Helping Your Preschooler Be Ready for School
- Helping Your Grandchildren Succeed in School
- Fun Learning Activities for You and Your Grandchildren
- Disciplining Your Grandchild
- Helping Your Grandchild Deal with the Death of a Parent
- Legal Issues in Caring for Your Grandchildren
- <u>Accessing Resources in Your Community</u>
- <u>Child Care Concerns</u>
- How to Access State Adoption Assistance Programs
- How to Access the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program
- Caregiver Self-Care (part 1)
- Caregiver Self-Care (part 2)



Grandfamily State Fact Sheets

• Includes information such as statistics on grandfamilies and kinship caregivers in each state, relevant state laws, and local resources including public benefit programs, educational resources, legal resources.

Special Challenges of Kinship Adoption

• This podcast addresses special issues with kinship adoption such as family involvement, creating boundaries, and navigating openness. The speakers discuss issues specific to domestic adoption such as foster care involvement and adoption subsidies. The speakers also address issues specific to international kinship adoption such as the international kinship adoption process and how to find an adoption agency.

The Hidden Hurdles and Benefits of Kinship Care and Adoption

 In this article, the writers explore the history and process of domestic and international kinship adoption, as well as the challenges and benefits of kinship adoption that professionals need to understand to help families thrive.

Trainings

<u>Webinar Recording - Adoption vs Guardianship for Children in Kinship Foster Care: Making Informed</u> <u>Decisions</u>

• When children in kinship foster care are ready to exit the system to permanent families with relatives, the families need to decide whether to adopt or secure guardianship of the child. The laws that determine how adoption and guardianship are granted and what each option entails are developed at the state and tribal levels. As a result, the intricacies of obtaining these relationships and the benefits of each differ across the country.

Webinar Recording: Supporting Grandfamilies' Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being

• This webinar discusses the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on grandfamilies' mental health and social isolation. The webinar includes a grandfamilies panel and a presentation from Dr. Deborah Langosch, a clinical social worker, trainer, psychotherapist, and consultant.



Webinar Recording: Help for Grandfamilies Impacted by Opioids and Other Substance Use

• This webinar discusses the impact of opioids and other substance use on grandfamilies and shared tools to help these families. Members of grandfamilies shared their challenges and strengths. Speakers also explored the latest statistics, resources for grandfamilies and those who directly serve them, and policy and program solutions.

Webinar Series on Grandfamilies

- Part 1: Facing a Pandemic: Grandfamilies Living Together During COVID-19 and Thriving Beyond
- Part 2: <u>African American Grandfamilies: Helping Children Thrive Through Connection to Family and</u> <u>Culture</u>
- Part 3: <u>American Indian and Alaska Native Grandfamilies: Helping Children Thrive Through Connection</u> <u>to Family and Cultural Identity</u>

Webinar Series: Coping with the Unique Challenges of Kinship Care

• This webinar addresses how kinship care affects family dynamics, how these changes can result in challenges that may affect a caregiver's ability to provide safety and permanency for youth, and strategies to cope with these challenges.

Services and Supports

National Family Caregiver Support Program

• The National Family Caregiver Support Program provides five categories of supportive services to grandparents and other relatives aged 55 and older who are raising children.

GRAND Voices Network

 Generations United's GRAND Voices Network is comprised of grandparents and other relative caregivers across the country. GRAND members serve as strategic partners to inform policies and practices affecting grandfamilies and help reveal family strengths, needs and service gaps. GRAND Voices has over 70 members in 46 states, the District of Columbia and 12 tribes.



Resources for Professionals Supporting Grandfamilies

Resource Documents

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2021 State of Grandfamilies Annual Report

- This annual report highlights how the systems and services that help U.S. families were not designed for grandfamilies, leaving these families with inequitable access to resources to help them thrive. The report includes updated data on grandfamilies and key recommendations to address inequities and provide critical supports to serve grandfamilies.
- Infographic

2020 State of Grandfamilies Annual Report: Facing a Pandemic

- This resource elevates the unique needs of grandfamilies amplified by the pandemic. The report contains solutions to connect grandfamilies to critical supports during this crisis.
- Infographic

2018 State of Grandfamilies Annual Report: Grandfamilies and Immigration

- This resource highlights the additional hurdles faced by grandfamilies who come together as a result of a parent's detention or deportation. Those hurdles include restricted access to support and services to help meet the children's needs, language barriers, and fear of government agencies.
- Infographic



Toolkit: African American Grandfamilies: Helping Children Thrive Through Connection to Family and Culture

• This toolkit explores the unique strengths and challenges of African American grandfamilies, which agencies and organizations need to recognize in order to provide culturally appropriate supportive services.

<u>Toolkit: American Indian & Alaska Native Grandfamilies: Helping Children Thrive Through Connection to</u> <u>Family and Cultural Identity</u>

• This toolkit explores the unique strengths and challenges of American Indian and Alaska Native grandfamilies, which agencies and organizations need to recognize in order to provide culturally appropriate supportive services.

Toolkit: Latino Grandfamilies: Helping Children Thrive Through Connection to Culture and Family

- Toolkit (Spanish)
- This toolkit provides cultural context and concrete recommendations to fill a critical gap to help organizations and individuals across the country enhance their understanding and skills to help children and caregivers in grandfamilies thrive.

Accessing and Interpreting Grandfamilies Data

• This resource provides the source material for the grandfamilies data presented in the Grandfamily State Fact Sheets.

Trainings

Engaging Kinship Caregivers: Managing Risk Factors in Kinship Care

• This five-part video training series is provided to strengthen the skills of child welfare professionals in supporting families to improve outcomes for children. The series includes a discussion guide to help program directors, supervisors and trainers lead group sessions to deepen the learning experience.



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Services and Supports

Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network: A National Technical Assistance Center

- The Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network is a free way for government agencies and nonprofit organizations in states, tribes, and territories to collaborate and work across jurisdictional and systemic boundaries to improve supports and services for grandfamilies and kinship families.
- Sign Up to Access the Network

Child Welfare Peer Kinship Network

• The Child Welfare Peer Kinship Network is a practical resource to help state and local public child welfare agencies explore best practices in kinship care, so children who are involved in the child welfare system can stay connected to kin. The Network has an interactive listserv and conducts resource sharing webinars.

