

National Kinship Care Resources

AARP

Grandparent Information Center

601 E Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20049
202-434-2296
202-434-6466 fax
www.aarp.org/contacts/programs/gic.html
gic@aarp.org e-mail

The Grandparent Information Center (GIC) offers a variety of information about being a good grandparent, visitation rights, and raising grandchildren. Grandparents can access tip sheets and a free newsletter on topics including raising grandchildren, starting support groups, and addressing their educational needs. The GIC Web site also offers a number of links to local support groups through the AARP's national database.

The Brookdale Foundation Group

126 East 56th Street
New York, NY 10022
212-308-7355
212-750-0132 fax
www.brookdalefoundation.org

The Brookdale Foundation Group's Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) is designed to encourage and promote the creation or expansion of services for grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of substitute parenting. Its Web site lists a large number of national and local resources for grandparents and children; grandparents raising grandchildren; aging information; general information; legal and financial assistance; welfare reform updates; and recommendations for useful publications, videos and resources. RAPP also provides a limited number of seed grants for state agencies and local support groups serving kinship care families.

Casey National Center for Resource Family Support

1808 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
202-467-4441 or 1-888-295-6727 toll free
202-467-4499 fax
cncinfo@casey.org e-mail
www.casey.org/cnc

The Casey National Center provides information and referrals for foster and kinship care families and the child welfare professionals who work with them. Publications, handbooks, and tool kits are available

on the following topics: federal tax benefits, guides to special education and Social Security benefits, planned and crisis respite care, a Bill or Rights for Children in Foster Care, etc.

Child Welfare League of America

440 First Street, N.W., 3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20001-2085
202-638-2952
202-638-4004 fax
www.cwla.org

The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) is an association of public and nonprofit child welfare agencies. CWLA offers tips on parenting, discipline, and child development. In addition to advocating for kinship care families on the national level, CWLA offers a bi-annual national conference that focuses exclusively on kinship care issues.

Children of Alcoholics Foundation (COAF)

Ties That Bind Project

164 W. 74th Street
New York, NY 10023
212-595-5810, ext. 7760
www.coaf.org/kinship/kinmain.htm

COAF provides tips for relatives who have taken over the care of a child when parents' drug or alcohol use has left them unable to care for their children. Suggestions, tips, and strategies are available in the following areas: talking about alcohol and drugs with children, dealing with the substance abusing parent, coping with children's behavioral problems, dealing with caregiver's own feelings, and facts and myths about substance abuse.

Children's Defense Fund

25 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
202-628-8787
202-662-3550 Fax
www.childrensdefense.org
childwelfare@childrensdefense.org e-mail

The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) provides a voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. Its mission is to Leave No Child Behind and to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start*, and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and



communities. CDF provides information on the latest issues facing grandparents and other relative caregivers. A list of CDF's publications for kinship caregivers and for those professionals who work with them can be found at the end of this guide. All publications are accessible on CDF's Web site.

Generations United

122 C Street, N.W., Suite 820
Washington, DC 20001-2085
202-638-1263
202-638-7555 fax
www.gu.org/projg&o.htm

Generations United (GU) supports a National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children, which seeks to improve the quality of life of these caregivers and the children they are raising. The Web site provides information including overviews of current innovative kinship care programs, updates on federal and state legislation, legal options, housing, public benefits, and links to additional kinship care resources.

Grand Parent Again

www.grandparentagain.com

This Web site was created by a grandparent caregiver to offer an online exchange for other grandparents who have become parents again. The Web site offers a clothing exchange program, a recipe database, online and phone support groups, as well as medical and legal information for grandparents and grandchildren.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resources National Adoption Information Clearinghouse

330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20447
703-352-3488 or 1-888-251-0075
703-385-3206 fax
www.calib.com/naic/pubs/r_grand.cfm

This government Web site offers a list of resources for kinship care families, including a variety of curricula, videos, newsletter series, booklets, and publications. Information also may be requested by phone.

GrandsPlace

154 Cottage Rd
Enfield, CT 06082
860-763-5789
860-763-1568 fax
www.grandsplace.com

GrandsPlace offers a Web site for grandparents and others raising children to allow them to communicate with one another online. The Web site offers words of wisdom, information on grandparents rights and benefits, a state-by-state directory of grandparent support groups, games and craft ideas, and a place to add photographs. Grandparents can sign up for a free, bimonthly e-mail newsletter containing articles relating to kinship care, recipes, and household hints.

National Aging Information Center

U.S. Department on Aging

330 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201
202-619-0724
202-260-1012 fax
www.aoa.dhhs.gov

The center offers a listing of helpful books and resources for grandparents and other older individuals raising grandchildren. The Web site also provides contact information for each state's Department on Aging, so kinship caregivers can find support programs and services near them. Information also may be requested by phone.

The Urban Institute

2100 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037
202-833-7200
202-452-1840 fax
www.urban.org

The Urban Institute provides numerous reports about the challenges that kinship caregivers face, such as welfare reform and other information pertaining to grandparents and relative caregivers inside and outside of the child welfare system.

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CDF encourages you to copy and share this information with others.

Mother to Son

Langston Hughes

Well, son, I'll tell you:
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor
Bare.
But all the time
I've been a-climbin' on,
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,
And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light.
So boy, don't you turn back.
Don't you set down on the steps
'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.
Don't you fall now –
For I've still goin', honey,
I've still climbin',
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

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About Children's Defense Fund

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CDF provides a strong, effective voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, into trouble, drop out of school, or suffer family breakdown.

CDF began in 1973 and is a private, nonprofit organization supported by foundation and corporate grants and individual donations. We have never taken government funds.



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www.childrensdefense.org