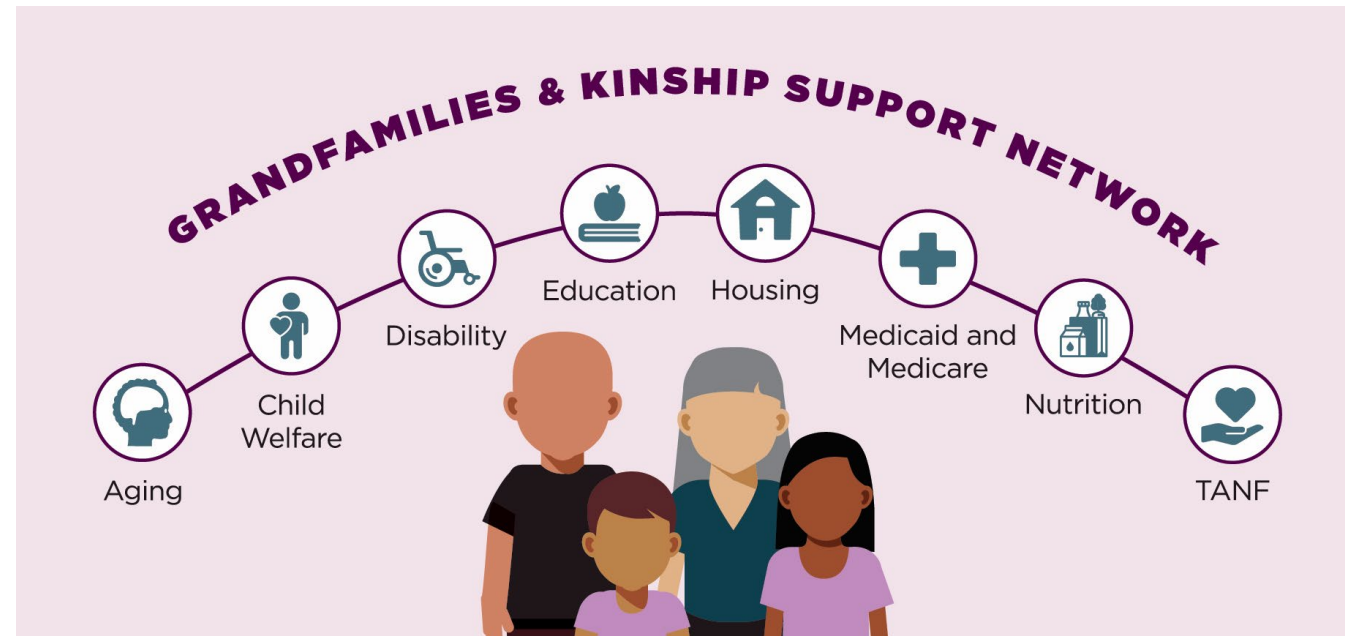


Aging Network and Child Welfare Collaborations to Support Kinship/Grandfamilies

March 18, 2025

- Welcome, we will begin at the top of the hour
- Please type in the **chat** box - your name, state, tribe (if applicable), and role
- Type questions in the **chat** box at any point during our time together
- **We will provide a separate meeting link for a 30-minute Q&A with panelists starting in one hour, at 3 ET**
- All participants will receive a link to the slides and recording by the end of the week

- Since 2021, Generations United, in cooperation with the US Administration for Community Living, has operated the first-ever federally funded technical assistance center on kinship/grandfamilies
- Purpose is to provide technical assistance to the array of state, territorial, and tribal government agencies and organizations so they can better serve the families by working across systems and maximizing resources



How We Help



Learning Collaboratives and Information Dissemination

The Network hosts webinars and facilitates learning collaboratives.



Individual Assistance

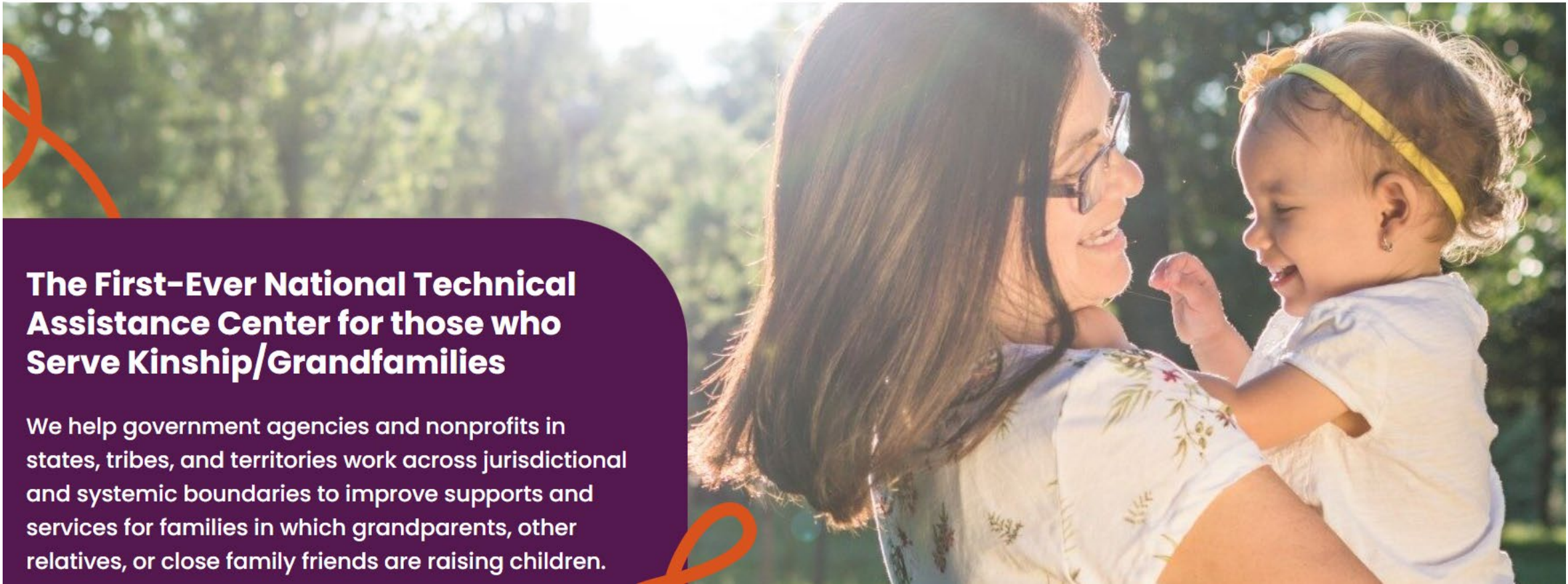
We respond to individual requests for help from government agencies, kinship navigators, and community-based nonprofits.



A Centralized Hub

The Network is elevating exemplary kinship/grandfamily practices and programs from around the country on its accessible website, www.GKSNetwork.org.





The First-Ever National Technical Assistance Center for those who Serve Kinship/Grandfamilies

We help government agencies and nonprofits in states, tribes, and territories work across jurisdictional and systemic boundaries to improve supports and services for families in which grandparents, other relatives, or close family friends are raising children.

Welcome our Presenters



Kylee Kern
Grandfamilies & Kinship
Support Network



Sara McDonald
Lackawanna County, PA
Area Agency on Aging



Leland Kiang
USAging
Network Partner



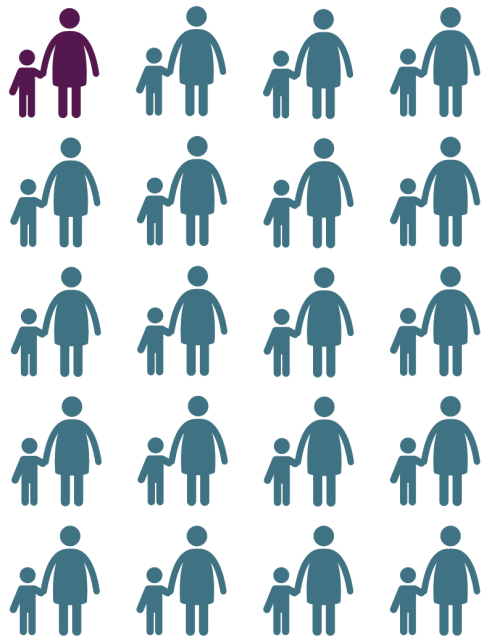
Brooke Mainville
Region 9 (MI)
Area Agency on Aging

Kinship Families, Strengths & Challenges

- **Over 2 million grandparents are responsible for their grandchildren:**
- **60% are aged 60 and over** – up from 47% in 2012
- **5 years or more** - most common length of caregiving time
- More likely to live in the **South and Midwest**
- Nationally, 18.3 percent live in **poverty** - in the South, more common to live below the poverty line
- About 63 percent are **women**

See: www.gksnetwork.org/kinship-data/

For every **1 child** being raised by kin in foster care, there are **19 children** being raised by kin outside of foster care



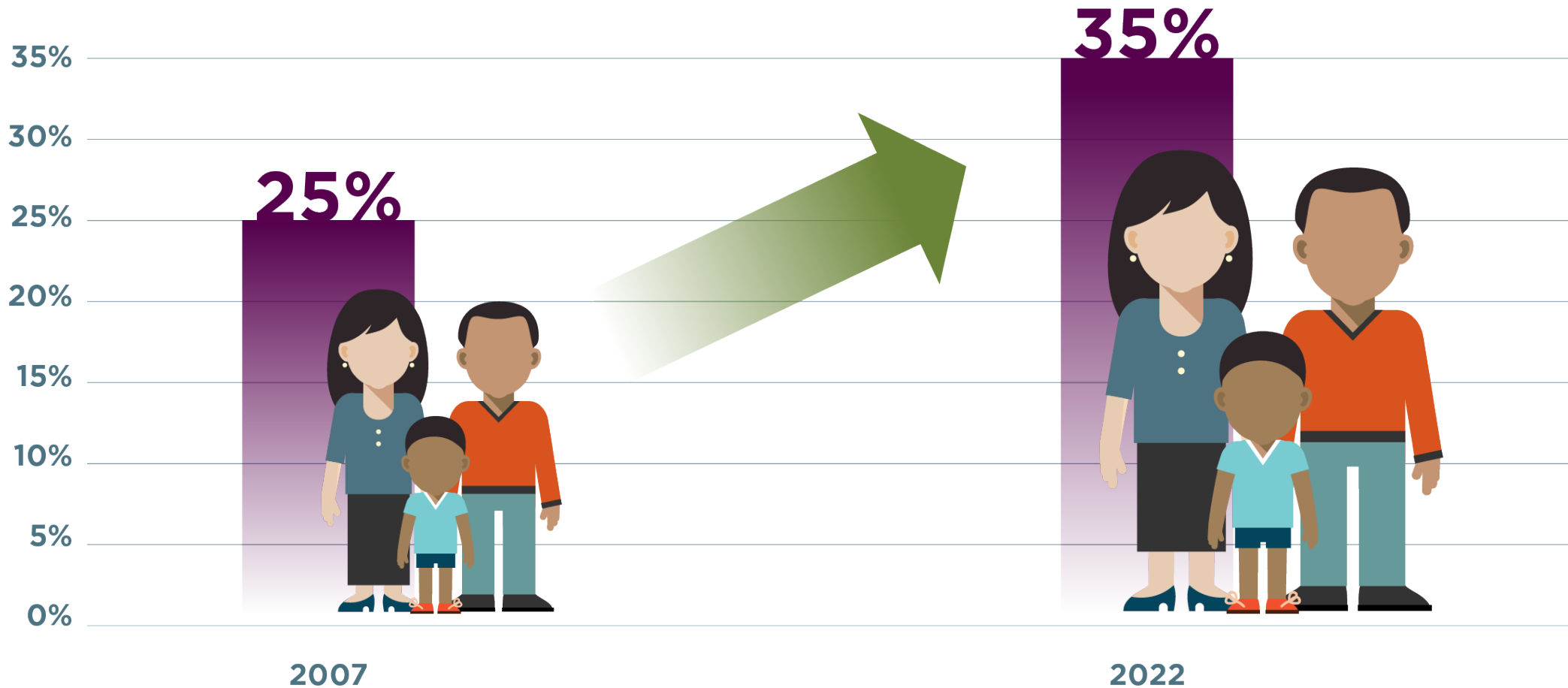
about **2.4 million** children are being raised by a relative or close family friend, with no parent living in the household

123,294

children in foster care are being raised by relatives

Children in Kinship/Grandfamilies

Percentage of Children in Foster Care Being Raised by Relatives



This data does not distinguish between children in licensed/approved foster homes and those who are in unlicensed homes. The majority of these children are in unlicensed/unsupported homes.

Kinship Strengths: Children Thrive



Unique Challenges

- Raising children at time wasn't planned or expected
- Often get children at a moment's notice – in a traumatic situation
- Do not have an automatic legal relationship to the children like parents have – impacts all aspects of access to services, supports, and alternative care planning for the children



**GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP
SUPPORT NETWORK**
A National Technical Assistance Center

Child Welfare Overview



What is Child Welfare?

- A complex system of agencies designed to promote the well-being of children
- Began with the enactment of the Social Security Act
- State or county administered, but supported by the federal government through funding and laws

Child Welfare Involvement

1. Investigate reports
2. Prevention and supportive services to families
3. Provide temporary out of home care
4. Support reunification with parents, if able; if not, arrange for adoption or guardianship

- **Formal care**
 - *Inside* child welfare
- **Informal care**
 - *outside* child welfare



- **Involved in child welfare and not involved in child welfare**

Kinship Care and Child Welfare

- **Prioritize Placement with Kin**
- **Kin Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP)**
- **Kin-Specific Licensing**





[< Resource Library](#)

[GLOSSARY](#)

Glossary

The Aging Network: A Complement to Child Welfare for Supporting Kinship/Grandfamilies

March 18, 2025

Leland Kiang, Program
Manager, Grandfamilies &
Kinship Support Network,
USAgging, Washington, DC



Aging Network

A Complement to Child Welfare in Supporting Kinship/Grandfamilies



Aging Network

(Formal)



Federal

U.S. Administration on Aging



State

State Units on Aging



Local and Tribal

Area Agencies on Aging,
Title VI Native American Aging
Programs and Aging

Aging Network

(Informal)

Community-Based Organizations



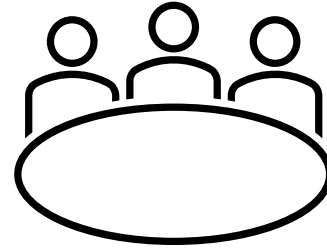
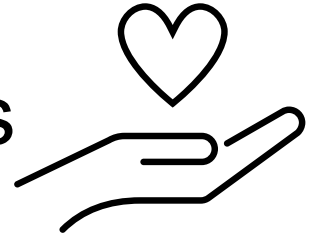
Aging Network

Structures and
Organizations



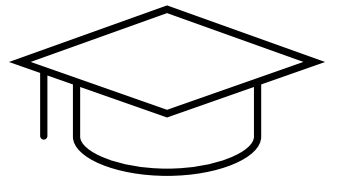
Government

Nonprofits



Councils/Consortiums

Universities and other



Aging Network

Services



Aging Network

**Family Caregiver
Services**

- **National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP)**
- **Native American Caregiver Support Program (NACSP)**

NFCSP & NACSP Required Services

- Information on available services
- Assistance accessing services
- Respite
- Counseling, support groups or training
- Supplemental services

NFCSP & NACSP Services

...must be offered to caregivers of older adults.



...may be offered to kin caregivers ages 55+

2023 CHARTBOOK

More Older Adults, More Complex Needs:
Trends and New Directions from the
National Survey of Area Agencies on Aging

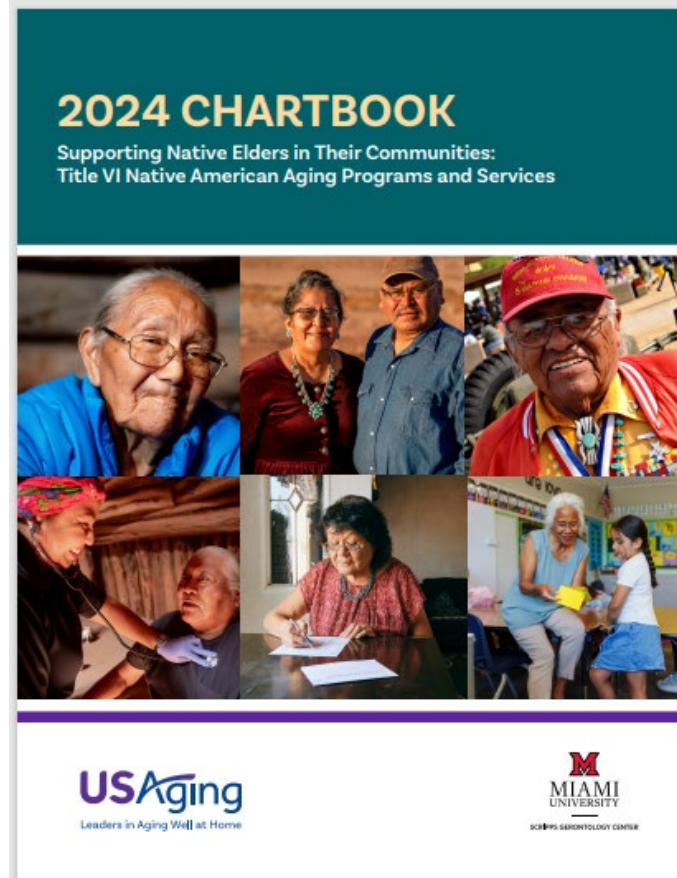


USAging
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

M
MIAMI UNIVERSITY
Schorr Gerontology Center



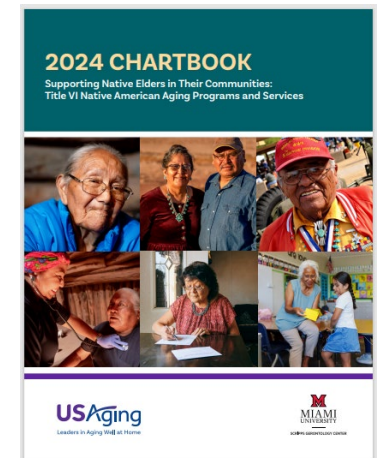
53 percent of AAAs provide services specifically for kin caregivers





53 percent of AAAs provide services specifically for kin caregivers

84 percent of Title VI programs provide services specifically for kin caregivers



Find Your AAA or Title VI Program



1-800-677-1116
or
www.eldercare.acl.gov

How does the Aging Network complement Child Welfare?



**generations
united**
Because we're stronger together®

**GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP
SUPPORT NETWORK**
A National Technical Assistance Center

USAging
Leaders in Aging Well at Home



Child Welfare



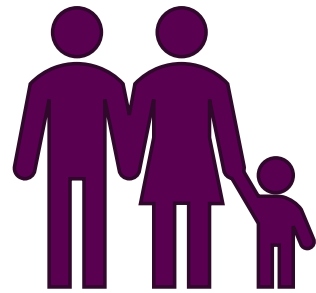


Age 55+

Kin Caregiver Services



Kin Caregiver Services

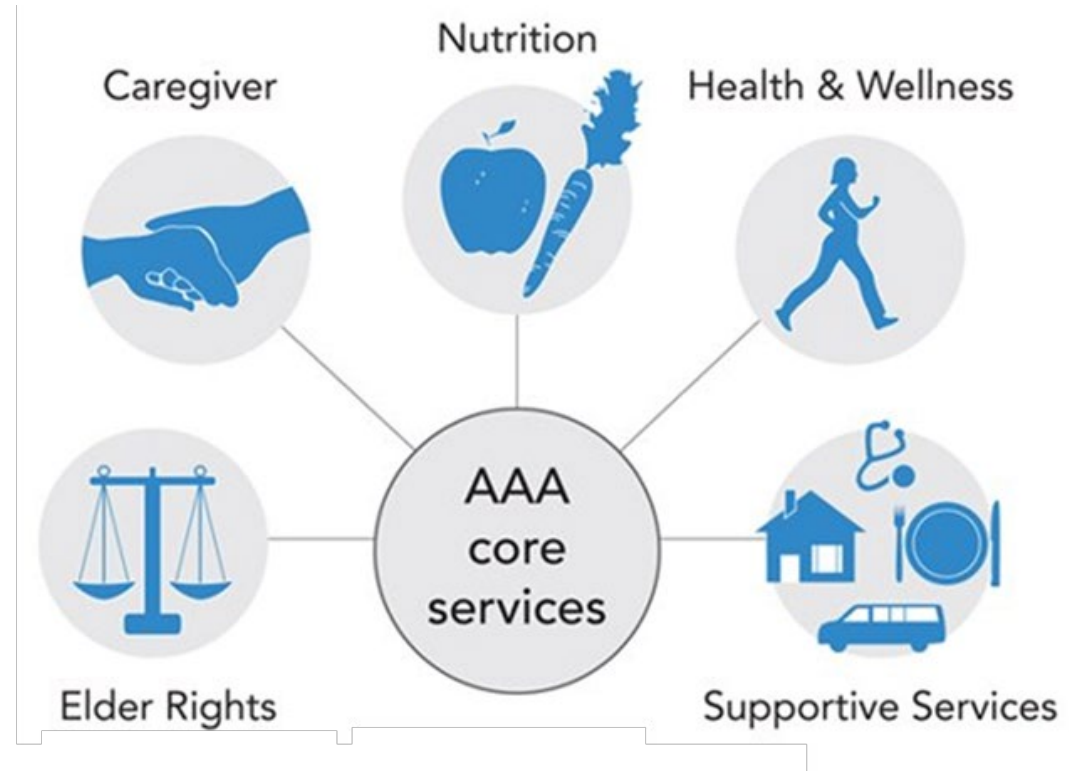


Age 55+





Age 60+



**generations
united**
Because we're stronger together®

**GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP
SUPPORT NETWORK**
A National Technical Assistance Center

USAging
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

Title VI Programs Set Their Own Eligibility Age for Most Services



Eligibility Age
Set by Tribe



NACSP Sets Kin Caregiver Service Eligibility Age

Kin Caregiver Services



Age 55+



NFCSP & NACSP Required Services

- Information on available services
- Assistance accessing services
- Respite
- Counseling, support groups or training
- Supplemental services

Other Kinship and Grandfamily Services

In-Kind Assistance



Clothing



School
Supplies



Home Furnishings

Other Kinship and Grandfamily Services



Children's mental health services

Case management



See: <https://www.usaging.org//Files/24-TitleVI-Chartbook-508-fnl.pdf>

Other Kinship and Grandfamily Services



Cultural and
Extracurricular
Activities



Income
Assistance



Holiday meals

Other Aging Network Services



Chore services



Home repair



Other Aging Network Services



Home delivered meals



Congregate meals



Other Aging Network Services



Transportation



Telephone Reassurance



Health and Wellness



Learn more

GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK
A National Technical Assistance Center

USAging Leaders in Aging Well at Home

Kinship/Grandfamilies

The Role of Area Agencies on Aging and Title VI Native American Aging Programs

Introduction

The growing numbers of grandparents, other relatives, or close family friends who are raising children, known as kinship or grandfamilies, have unique needs that affect their daily lives, including aging and caregiver supports, child welfare, and legal services.

Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Title VI Native American Aging Programs (Title VI programs) serve as nationwide lifelines for older adults age 60 and older, family caregivers and, increasingly, people younger than age 60 who have disabilities. Both AAAs and Title VI programs provide a range of supportive services for older adults, including nutrition programs, family caregiver services, in-home personal care assistance, and transportation. AAAs also provide services promoting health, managing disease, and combating elder abuse.



USAging, as a part of its partnership with the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network, a National Technical Assistance Center (led by Generations United and funded through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Administration for Community Living), conducted a poll of AAAs and Title VI programs in early 2022 to learn more about their efforts to support kinship/grandfamilies. This report summarizes the efforts, funding sources and budgets, and technical assistance needs of respondents. This report uses the term kinship/grandfamily to refer to all families in which grandparents, other relatives, or close family friends raise children whose parents are not available. This report also refers to the grandparents, other relatives, and close family friends raising child relatives as kin/grandfamily caregivers.

Overview of Kinship/Grandfamilies

Kinship/grandfamilies form when relatives take primary responsibility for raising children whose birth parents are unavailable for a variety of reasons that include military deployment, substance abuse, incarceration, or death.

Nationwide, around 2.5 million children whose parents cannot care for them are being raised by grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other relatives.¹ According to its 2021 Initial Report to Congress by the Advisory Council to Support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, these numbers are on the rise.

GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK
A National Technical Assistance Center

USAging Leaders in Aging Well at Home

FACT SHEET


Kinship/Grandfamilies: The Role of Area Agencies on Aging and Title VI Native American Programs

Nationwide, more than 2.5 million children live in grandfamilies or kinship families, meaning that their grandparents, other relatives, or close family friends are raising them because their parents cannot.² The terms kinship families, grandfamilies, and kinship/grandfamilies can be used interchangeably to refer to these families. Both kin caregivers and the children in these families have unique strengths and needs that require support to help them thrive.

Leveraging funds from the federal Older Americans Act and other sources, many Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and Title VI Native American Aging Programs (Title VI programs) provide a variety of supportive services for kinship/grandfamilies.

This fact sheet provides a high-level overview of results from a recent USAging topical poll of AAAs and Title VI programs regarding their engagement with kinship/grandfamilies.¹ According to the poll, two-thirds of AAAs and Title VI program respondents offer services tailored specifically to kinship/grandfamilies. Additionally, eight percent of respondents indicated that they assist kin/grandfamily caregivers with broader caregiver services but do not offer services designed specifically for kinship/grandfamilies.

Most AAAs and Title VI Programs Offer Kinship/Grandfamily Services



Service Offered	Percentage
Do not offer kinship/grandfamily services	33%
Offer kinship/grandfamily services	67%

¹ Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network, A National Technical Assistance Center, Kinship/Grandfamilies Data. <https://gksnetwork.org/kinship-data/>

² Data in this brief was gathered through a 2022 survey of Area Agencies on Aging and Title VI Native American Aging Programs conducted by USAging in a partner in the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network, a National Technical Assistance Center, led by Generations United and funded by the U.S. Administration for Community Living. The online survey was disseminated via email in April 2022 to 610 AAAs and to 238 Title VI programs. The survey closed in June 2022 after receiving 213 responses, representing a response rate of 25 percent.



Learn more

GRANDFAMILIES & KINSHIP SUPPORT NETWORK
A National Technical Assistance Center

USAging
Leaders in Aging Well at Home

Aging Network Services and Supports for Kin/Grandfamily Caregivers



This fact sheet is for professionals working within the array of government systems and nonprofit organizations that support (or want to support) kinship/grandfamilies. It highlights services that the Aging Network currently offers, which would benefit the families you serve, and offers tips for partnering with the Aging Network.

Introduction to Kinship Families & Grandfamilies

Kinship families, also known as grandfamilies, are families in which grandparents, other relatives, or close family friends are raising children whose parents are unable to do so.

While many kin/grandfamily caregivers experience great satisfaction and pride in taking on the important role, they do can also be stressful and bring about challenges. About 50 percent of grandparent caregivers are age 50 or older and about 40 percent are no longer in the work force. * These older and older caregivers likely experience financial strain, challenges in making their former child friends, and feelings of social isolation from their peers who are no longer raising children.

About the Aging Network

The Aging Network is composed of federal, state, and local agencies and organizations that were established as part of the Older Americans Act. In the nationwide, the Aging Network is comprised of 19 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs, pronounced "eye-ay") and more than 270 Title IV state American Aging Programs (Title IV programs), as well as more than 25,000 local provider organizations. Make and Title of programs serve every community across the nation, providing a range of services to support older

*U.S. Census Bureau, "Table B1000 - Grandparents Who Raise Grandchildren: Family in Two-Generation Households," released December 2010.
<https://www.census.gov/hhes/olderamericans/tables/b1000.html>



Thank you!



Leland Kiang
USAging, Program Manager
lkiang@usaging.org

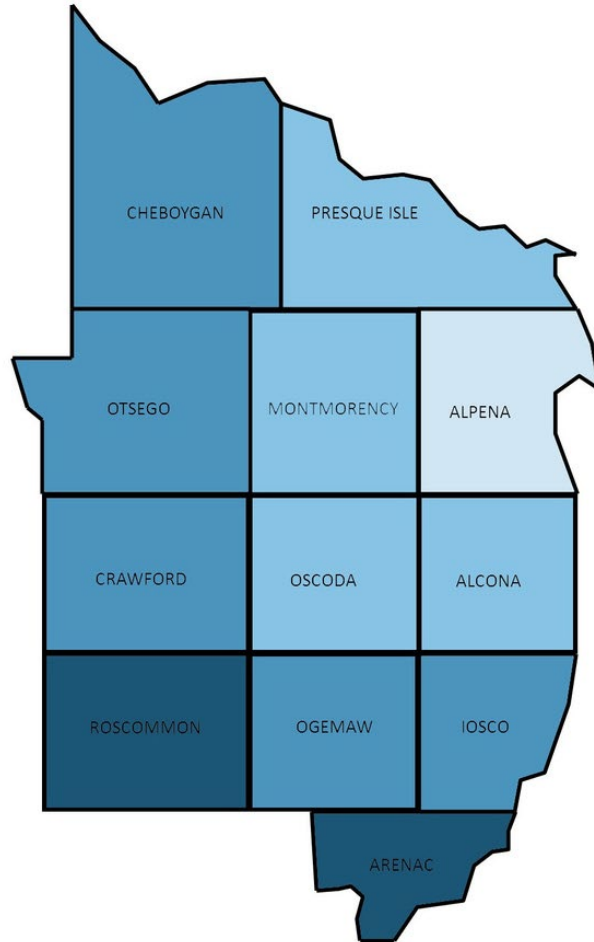


NEMCSA Region 9 Area Agency on Aging

Kinship Care Program



NORTHEAST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY REGION 9 AREA AGENCY ON AGING



Mission: To promote lifelong independence and dignity for all individuals and to assist the aged and disabled in meeting that goal.

Service Area: Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, and Roscommon



BACKGROUND/FUNDING SOURCE

- The National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) was established in 2000 under the Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III E
 - It provides grants to states based on their share of the population aged 60 and over.
 - Services that assist family and informal caregivers.
- 2020 Congress Reauthorized the Older American Act
 - Specific populations of family caregivers are eligible to receive services.
 - Grandparents and other relatives (not parents) 55 years of age and older providing care to children under the age of 18.



On July 14, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed a ground-breaking piece of legislation: the Older Americans Act.

THE KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM

- The Kinship Care Program is for relative care providers caring for related children. The kinship caregiver must be 55 or older and caring for a related child under the age of 18. The program may assist kinship caregivers with expenses such as recreational activities, school supplies, clothing, furniture, and more.
- Funding is limited.
- Guidelines apply.

Program
Flyer 

For Fiscal Year 2024, \$18,410.00 dollars were awarded to 36 families.



KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM

A program to assist adults age 55 and up, raising relative children.

Guidelines:

- ✓ Two requests per year may be made per child.
- ✓ There is a limit of \$300 per request.
- ✓ Requests for Clothing, Tutoring, Music Lessons, Sports, School Outings, Camps and more.

For more information contact:
Your local County Council/Commission on Aging

This program is funded in part by the U.S. Administration on Aging through Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Support (ACLS Bureau) and MDH&SM Region 4 Area Agency on Aging.

KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM PURCHASE IDEAS



Clothing



Sports Equipment



Bedding



School Supplies



Summer Camps



Music Lessons



Household Repairs



Car Repairs



Furniture



**Adoption
Guardianship
Court Fees**



**Personal
Hygiene
Products**



**Karate, Gymnastics,
Baseball, Soccer,
Basketball, Track,
Bowling, & Swimming**

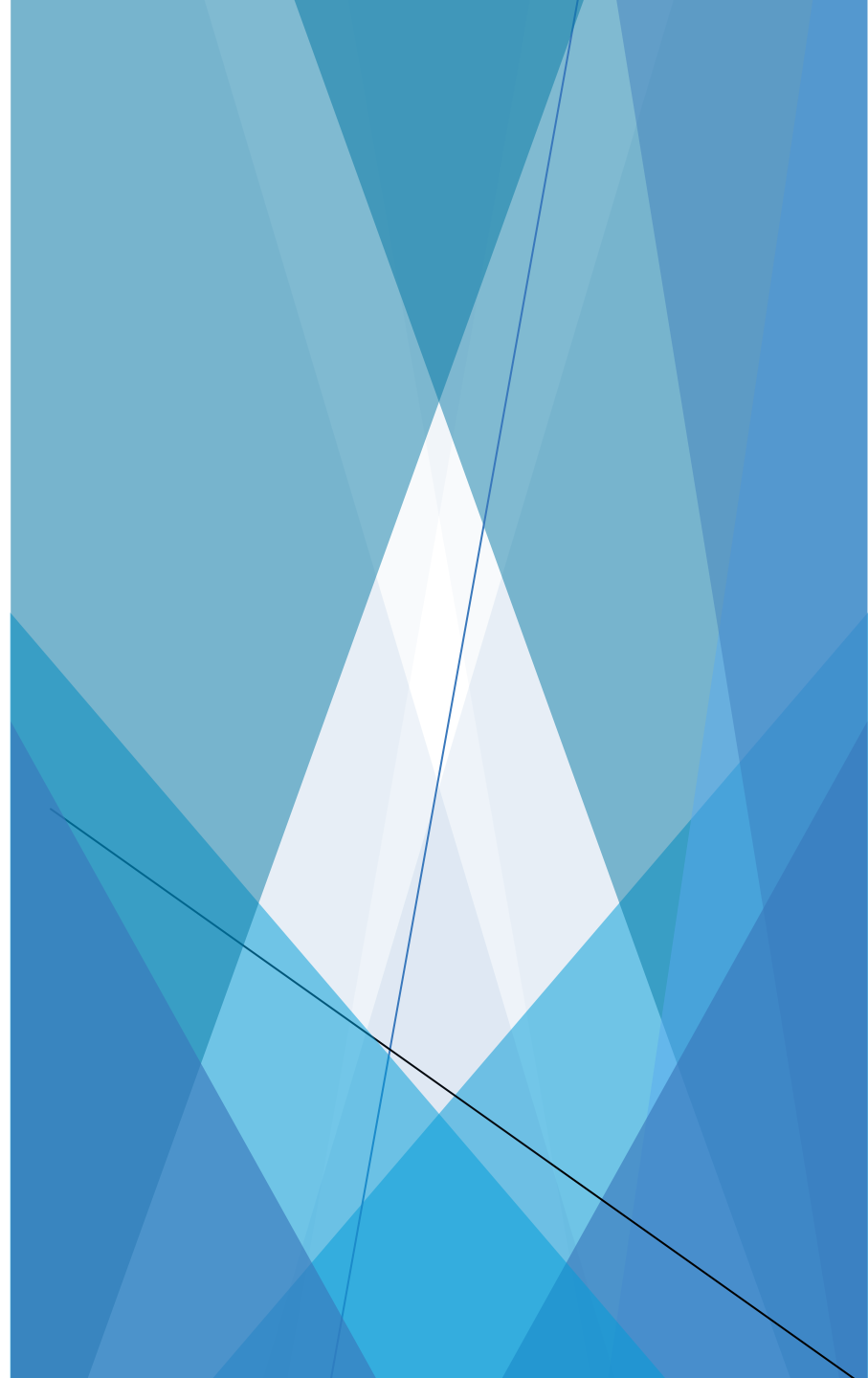
County	2021: Total Requests	2021: Total Youth	2021: Funds Spent	2022: Total Requests	2022: Total Youth	2022: Funds Spent	2023: Total Requests	2023: Total Youth	2023: Funds Spent	2024: Total Requests	2024: Total Youth	2024: Funds Spent
Alcona	5	13	\$3,000	5	11	\$2,050	10	15	\$4680.00	17	27	7,300.00
Alpena	15	28	\$5,190	19	34	\$5,968	19	28	\$5,400.00	14	29	4,900.00
Arenac	0	0	0	1	1	\$300	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cheboygan	1	1	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crawford	2	3	\$450	8	13	\$3,150	8	12	\$3,700.00	7	13	3,000.00
Iosco	3	4	\$743	2	6	\$1,800	2	6	\$1,800.00	0	0	0
Montmorency	2	3	\$590	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ogemaw	1	1	\$300	1	1	\$222	1	3	\$900.00	0	0	0
Oscoda	3	6	\$1,250	1	1	\$150	2	2	\$300.00	1	1	150.00
Otsego	2	2	\$286	0	0	0	1	3	\$900.00	4	10	1,650.00
Presque Isle	6	10	\$1,800	3	5	\$750	2	4	\$600.00	1	2	150
Roscommon	5	8	\$1,800	4	6	\$1,500	8	19	\$4,327.00	7	13	1,260.00
	45	79	\$15,709	44	78	\$15,890	53	92	\$22,607.00	51	95	\$18,410.00

Over the past
seven years
(2018-2024)
Region 9
AAA has
provided
\$117,870 to
247 Kinship
Caregivers.



THE KINSHIP CARE PROGRAM GUIDELINES

“The kids now have clothes and winter gear to be able to play outside and keep warm and dry.”



KINSHIP CARE APPLICATION GUIDELINES

1. Verification of proof of age (driver's license or birth certificate). This does not have to be copied and is only requested when the age of the applicant is in question. Kinship Caregiver must be 55 years of age or older. Child(ren) must be 18 years of age or younger, or is 18 and still in high school.
2. Reimbursement for fund requests is preferred. Receipts must be presented for reimbursement. If the payment of goods/services by the applicant is impossible, layaway receipts or billing for services may be submitted and a check can be written to the business for the balance of layaway or payment of services.
3. Receipts for funds allotted must be obtained by referral source for auditing purposes.
4. There will be a \$300.00 per child limit on funds requested. Additional funds may be granted if the need is evident, and funds are available.
 - a. Clothing requests limited to \$150.00 per child, per request.
 - b. School Supplies request limited to \$100.00 per child, per request.
 - c. Personal hygiene products limited to \$100.00 per child, per request.
 - d. Gift card requests will not be funded.

KINSHIP CARE APPLICATION GUIDELINES

5. Requests from a kinship family may be made no more than twice in a fiscal year (i.e. school clothes in the fall and a camp in the spring) unless the need is deemed necessary or emergent.
6. Requests from a kinship family in situations where the parent(s) is living in the same household will be considered only in extreme cases and with less priority than is afforded to non-parent(s) dwelling households.
7. Asset building and risk reduction opportunities (e.g. camps, tutoring, music lessons, sports, counseling, school, school, scouting, and church trips) will take precedence. Funded activities should enhance the family environment and/or individual self-esteem or be related to the reduction of negative behaviors or poor performance in school/social settings.
8. Scholarship opportunities through the preferred camp must be investigated by the applicant prior to funding requests to the Kinship Care Program.
9. Due to issues of liability and accountability activities outside the state of Michigan will be denied unless chaperoned by school, scouting, or church authorized personnel.

Kinship Care Application Guidelines

10. School-related sports or music camps, scouting, and faith-based camps, as well as educational trips, will be considered for funding. Senior trips are not a priority for funding consideration, nor is “gas money”; however, both are open for consideration.

11. Emergent needs relating to the well-being of kinship families are exempt from twice-yearly requests.

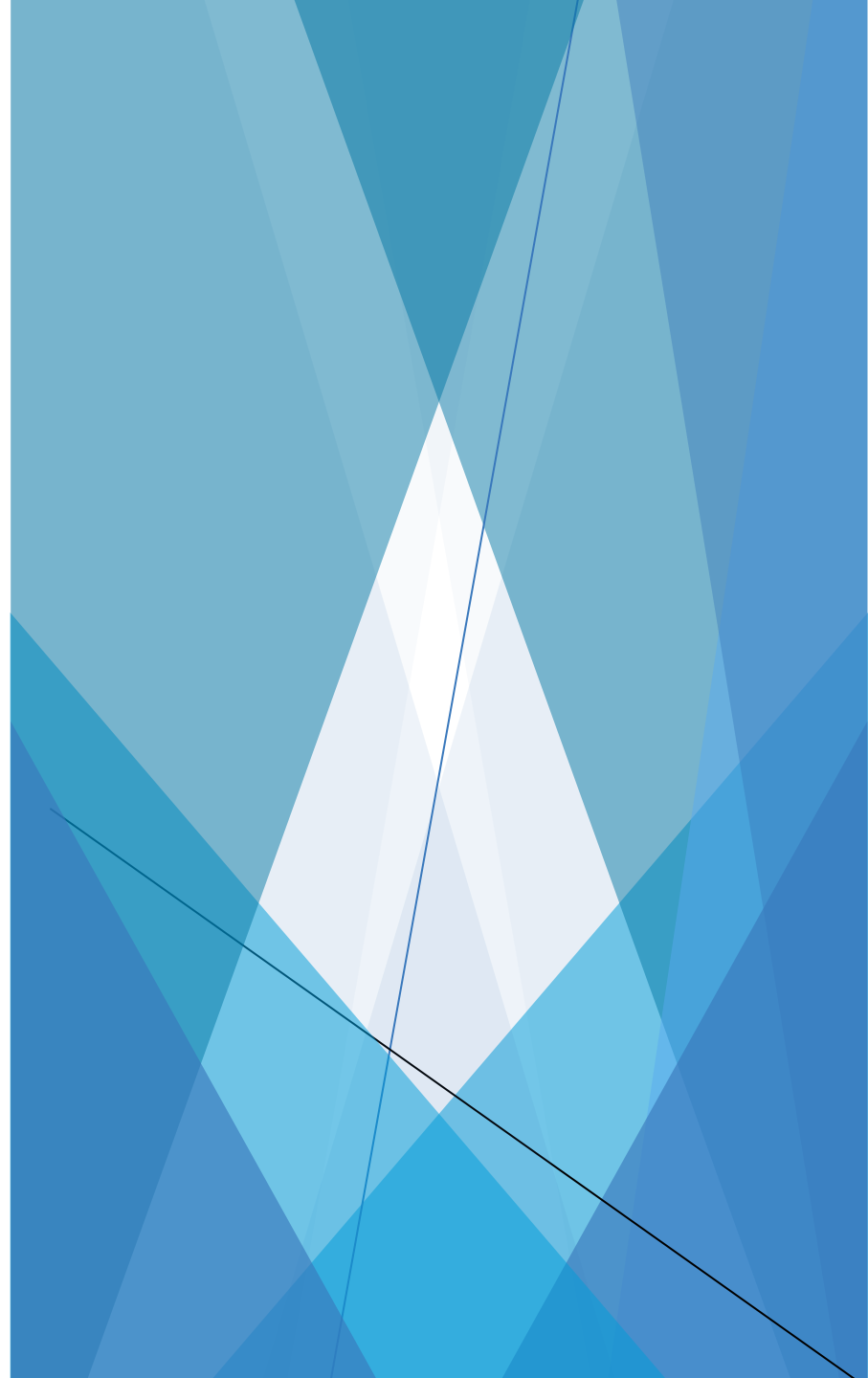
12. Orthodontia work may be considered with regard to the general Kinship Care guidelines (\$300.00 limit, two requests per fiscal year). This would be considered an emergent need.

13. Application requests will be assessed and granted at the discretion of the Area Agency on Aging and all requests must meet the ACLS Bureau Operating Standards and the Federal Older Americans Act guidelines.



LOCAL RESOURCES

“The Kinship Care Program helped repair my van so we are not walking. I say THANK YOU! For all that the program has done for my family, and countless others!”





KINSHIP CARE GUIDEBOOK

The materials provided in this handbook are designed to offer kinship care providers with resources and information. We hope you find this handbook a helpful resource.

HANDBOOK FOR GRANDPARENTS:

RAISING GRANDCHILDREN IN NORTHEAST MICHIGAN

DEVELOPED BY:

Region 9 Area Agency on Aging

- Document Checklist
- District Health Departments
- Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
- Probate/Family Court
- Proper Child Safety Seat Use Chart
- Child Safety Seat Inspection Stations
- Senior Center Funding
- Self-Care Ideas
- Nutrition
- Legal
- Other Services
- Services Continued
- Kinship Care Program
- Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA) Resources
- My Notes Page

LOCAL RESOURCES



- NEMCSA Programs
 - Head Start
 - Housing
 - School Success
 - Weatherization
 - Caregiver Resources
- Department of Health and Human Services
 - Emergency State Relief
 - Women, Infants Catholic Human Services
- Area Church Groups
- Legal Services Northern Michigan (LSNM)
- Salvation Army
- St. Vincent DePaul
- County Housing Assistance
- Scholarship assistance from school, club, sport organization or church
- F.I.S.H. (Iosco Co.)
- MSU Kinship Resource Center
- Medicare
- Baby Pantries
- Foster Closets
- Michigan State Emergency Relief Program (SER)
- Christmas Gift Sign-ups
- 211.org

OTHER KINSHIP EVENTS

- Kinship Bowling Party
- Kinnection Support Group
- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Family Game Night

Event
Flyer



AREA AGENCY ON AGING
ROSCOMMON COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Kinship Bowling Event 2022

This is a free event for Kinship Caregivers (Relatives Raising, Relatives Children) and their youth. You must be over the age of 55+ with the youth living with you.

Friday, August 5, 2022
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Raffle Include:

- ✓ Bike
- ✓ Community Passes
- ✓ Backpacks
- ✓ and much more!

Food:

- ✓ Pizza, Cookies and Soda

Location:

Fred's of Roscommon
430 North 5th Street
Roscommon, MI 48653

To register contact Brooke at 989.358.4616 or mainvilleb@nemcsa.org.





REGION 9

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

A DIVISION OF NEMCSA

Brooke Mainville
Special Projects Coordinator
NEMCSA Region 9 Area Agency on Aging



mainvilleb@nemcsa.org



989.358.4616



www.nemcsa.org

Benefits of Partnering with your local Child Welfare Agencies

Sara McDonald, Director
Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging



Lackawanna
County
Department of Human Services
AREA AGENCY ON AGING

HISTORY OF GRANDPARENT CAREGIVER SUPPORT (CSP) PROGRAM

- From the time the GSCP Program was implemented in Pennsylvania through 2017, our agency maybe served three grandparents
- The program was available, but not well marketed or utilized
- Funding allocations each year were not spent, resulting in returning money annually to the state agency and losing funding each year moving forward-lack of need was demonstrated
- Only one employee in our agency really understood the CSP Program

HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM!

REBUILDING, REORGANIZING, COLLABORATING

- In 2017, a new Director of Aging was appointed to our agency
- The Director of Aging had previously worked in the Office of Youth and Family Services
- More resources (staff) were dedicated to build our CSP Program
- Funding for the CSP Program was openly discussed and as a team, innovative ideas were encouraged
- Collaborating with the Office of Youth and Family Services, who we viewed as the experts in services that assist with parenting and children, became necessary

PREPARE THE ORGANIZATION FOR CHANGE

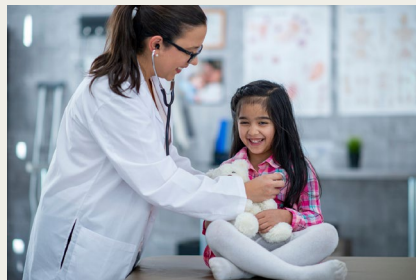
- For an organization to successfully pursue and implement change, it must be prepared both logistically and culturally
- Culture change needs to come from the top down
- The Directors of Aging and Youth and Family Services met and identified point people from both agencies to lead this collaboration and committed staff time to meet regularly

CRAFT VISION AND PLAN FOR CHANGE

- The Grandparent Caregiver Support Program became a topic at every meeting and outreach event
- Bi-weekly meetings focused on recruitment and outreach strategies
 - Information distribution
 - Fundraising to host events for grandparents
 - Recruitment of grandparents
 - Shared referral forms
 - Educating staff
 - Working together to create an element of support, like the support of the Office of Youth and Family Services' Foster Parent Association

IMPLEMENT THE CHANGES

- Flyers were developed with information on the Grandparent CSP Program
 - Aging distributed at Senior Centers, Libraries, Health Fairs, and during routine visits where we saw grandchildren residing in the homes
 - Youth and Family Services distributed at pediatrician offices, OYFS offices, and schools



IMPLEMENT THE CHANGES (CONTINUED)

- Initially, every new referral/case establish was celebrated. With permission from the grandparents, we highlighted success in (crediting the Office of Youth and Family Services each time)
 - In newspapers
 - In newsletters
 - With local media outlets
 - On social media



IMPLEMENT THE CHANGES (CONTINUED)

- Both agencies became invested in wanting to do more for the Grandparents raising grandchildren, which resulted in many opportunities to share resources or develop new resources including:
 - Joint fundraising efforts
 - Co-facilitating a monthly Support Group-Parents a Second Time (PAST)
 - Adopt an Angel Program
 - Co-Sponsoring Events benefiting both children and grandparents



EMBEDDING CHANGES WITHIN COMPANY CULTURE AND PRACTICES

- Increased opportunities for case consults with the Office of Youth and Family Services removed the stigma of us versus them
- Our Grandparent CSP numbers started to steadily grow
- The PAST Support Group was our continued shared connection with Youth and Family Services
 - Included participants from Aging's GCSP Program
 - Included Grandparents ineligible for the GCSP Program referred by Aging & OYFS
 - Provided meals, activities, and expert led discussions on a variety of topics
 - Co-facilitated by an Aging and OYFS employee

REVIEW PROGRESS AND ANALYZE RESULTS

- Today we have 41 active cases in our Grandparent Caregiver Support Program
- Continued Collaboration with OYFS
- Enhanced version of PAST Support Group
- GCSP Program is always invited to participate in programs available to children in OYFS:
 - Adopt an Angel
 - Bookbag Giveaways
 - Children's Programs and Activities
 - Medical events focused on children
 - Food Giveaways
 - Provided Aging the tools to support Grandparents during difficult times
 - COVID
 - Staffing Crisis

REVIEW PROGRESS AND ANALYZE RESULTS

Parents a Second Time (PAST)

Are you a grandparent raising
your grandchildren?

Are you looking for support?



GROUP MEETS THE 2ND
MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
5:30 - 7 PM

OUTREACH - CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY RESOURCES
431 NORTH SEVENTH AVE
SCRANTON

FACILITATED BY CERTIFIED
FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
SPECIALISTS



- Free child care and dinner!
- Answers to your questions about child development.
- Access to supportive services and community referrals.
- Fun and friendship!

**YOU WANT YOUR GRANDCHILDREN TO
REACH FOR THE STARS...
- SO DO WE!**

Call 570-963-6740 to register.

**A partnership between Outreach, Lackawanna County Area
Agency on Aging, and Office of Youth and Family Services**



**Lackawanna
County**
Department of Human Services
AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Thank you!

Sara McDonald, Director
Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging



Lackawanna
County
Department of Human Services
AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Exemplary Kinship Practice Designation

Does your agency or community-based organization have a practice that supports kinship families?

Would you like your work to be nationally recognized as "Exemplary" and elevated and shared with others who can use it to help kinship families in their communities?

Apply by April 22 if you have a kin-specific practice that helps kinship families or if you have a more general practice that's implemented in a way that helps the families:

<https://www.gksnetwork.org/call-for-exemplary-kinship-grandfamilies-practices/>



Join Us for our Next Webinar!



Tuesday, April 22, 2025
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET

Register Here



Stay Connected & Access Support

Request assistance

For the latest updates, follow the Network on [LinkedIn!](#)





The Network is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$9,950,000 with 95 percentage funded by ACL/HHS and \$523,684 and 5 percentage funded by non-government sources. The contents are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.