



GRANDPARENTS*
Raising Grandchildren

*Includes other relative caregivers

**Grandfamilies and Other Kinship Families:
Exploring Strategies of Support**
Early Childhood Mental Health Conference
Friday, September 14th, 2018

OBJECTIVES

1. Explore how kinship family feedback can guide comprehensive support efforts to support grandparents raising their grandchildren, other kinship caregivers, and the children in their care.
2. Examine specific kinship support strategies including enhanced outreach, family enrichment opportunities, peer networks, and emergency crisis funds.
3. Identify opportunities and potential partnerships in your local communities to support and provide services to kinship families.



KINSHIP FAMILIES



■ United States

- Approximately 2.6 million children (3.5% of U.S. children)
- Proportion has doubled since the 1970s

■ San Diego County

- Over 21,000 grandparents = living with / responsible for
- Approximately 5,000 grandparents = fully responsible for

KINSHIP FAMILIES



Often, the situations that led to grandparents taking primary responsibility are not happy ones

- Poverty
- Abuse
- Parental incarceration
- Drug addiction
- Illness and death



KINSHIP FAMILIES



WHO ARE THESE RELATIVES?

Many are:

- Older Adults over the age of 60
- On a Limited income
- Disabled
- African American or Hispanic



KINSHIP FAMILIES



POTENTIAL CHALLENGES FOR KINSHIP FAMILIES

- Financial stress
- Legal/Systems issues
- Insufficient or unaffordable respite
- Role changes
- Previous lives turned upside down
- Physical and mental health issues



KINSHIP FAMILIES



BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH FAMILY-BASED CARE

- More frequent contact with parents
- Fewer negative emotions associated with removal from their homes
- Not moved as frequently
- Surrounded by people who love them



KINSHIP FAMILIES



KINSHIP SUPPORT SERVICES IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Identifying needs, resources, and solutions for
grandparents raising grandchildren
and other kinship caregivers





KINSHIP FAMILIES  

PARTNERS


- 2-1-1 San Diego
- Assertive Family Solutions
- Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council (CAPCC)
- Grandparent's Connection
- Health & Human Services Agency
- Housing & Community Development
- Rose House Kinship Center
- San Diego County Office of Education
- SAY San Diego
- YMCA Kinship Program

And many more community organizations!

KINSHIP FAMILIES  

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Partnership with 211
www.211sandiego.org/grandparents
- Resource Handbook



The image shows the cover of a handbook titled "Handbook for Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children". The cover features the title in a serif font, with "Handbook for Grandparents and Other Relatives" on the top line and "Raising Children" on the bottom line. Below the title is a stylized illustration of three figures: a larger figure on the left and two smaller figures on the right, all in a simple, black-and-white style. The entire cover is framed by a thin blue border.

KINSHIP FAMILIES



OTHER STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Outreach
- Service Provider Training
- Symposiums
- Respite Opportunities
- Family Enrichment Activities

JOIN US FOR THIS FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

9th Annual North County
GRANDPARENTS
Raising Grandchildren
Relative Caregiver Symposium

Our Adventure:
Finding Beauty on the Road Less Traveled

WHEN
Saturday, August 25, 2018, 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM
Program Begins at 9:30 AM

WHERE
North Island Live Well Center
649 W. Mission Avenue, Escondido, CA 92025

FOCUS AREAS
Guardianship & Adoption
Cyber Safety Tips for Caregivers
Family Fun Activities in North County

EVENT FEATURES
Free Health Screenings
Free Shingles Vaccines (as available) - Adults 60+
Community Resource Fair & Opportunity Drawings
Unused/Expired Prescription Drug Drop-off

Call 2-1-1 or visit www.211sandiego.org/grandparents to register!
Lunch and childcare provided with pre-registration. Spanish interpretation available.
Space is limited. Online registration ends Friday, August 17, 2018.

GRAMPING AND GRAMPERING!



KINSHIP FAMILIES



YMCA KINSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM

Funded by the Child Welfare Services and Aging & Independence Services departments of the County Health and Human Services Agency; Serve kinship caregivers throughout San Diego County

Services include:

- Navigation and Case Management
- Support Groups
- Respite Care
- Emergency Funding
- Family Activities



KINSHIP FAMILIES



NAVIGATION AND CASE MANAGEMENT

7 Full-time Kinship Navigators and 3-6 part-time MSW Interns

Home visiting and telephone support

Assessment of needs and Case Plan development

Information and referral

- Guardianship and adoption
- Public benefits
- Childcare resources
- Mental health services
- School resources



KINSHIP FAMILIES



SUPPORT GROUPS

Weekly groups facilitated by a Kinship Navigator

Provide peer support, mentoring, education, and resources

Formal training (via partnership with Grossmont College Foster Adoptive & Kinship Care Education Program)

Childcare

Light meal



KINSHIP FAMILIES



RESPIRE CARE

Temporary break or rest for kinship caregivers (age 55 and over) via payment for:

- Childcare
- AM/PM care
- Day camps
- Overnight camps
- Special needs camps



KINSHIP FAMILIES



EMERGENCY FUNDS

One-time funding to purchase items or services that remove barriers to making or maintaining stable kinship placements.

Emergency funds are often used for:

- Cribs/Beds
- Dressers
- Pool Fences
- Security Deposits
- Rental Payments
- Childcare
- Utility Bills
- Baby supplies/clothing



KINSHIP FAMILIES



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Fun, free events for kinship caregivers and children

Caregivers can bond with their own children and network with other caregivers in their community

One per quarter in a different region of the county

Examples include:

- Horse of the Sun Ranch
- Mission Trails Regional Park
- Mission Bay Park BBQ
- Chula Vista Nature Center



KINSHIP FAMILIES



ACCESSING KINSHIP SUPPORT SERVICES

You can help clients access Kinship Support Services
by:

Completing and submitting a referral form

Giving out our flyer



KINSHIP FAMILIES



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- California

Kinship Support Services Program

<http://www.edgewood.org/kssp/>

1-800-KIN-0047

- National

- Generations United

www.gu.org

- Grandfamilies.org

www.grandfamilies.org (see State Fact Sheets under Resources)

KINSHIP FAMILIES  

A QUESTION FOR YOU

**WHAT ARE OPPORTUNITIES IN YOUR OWN LOCAL
COMMUNITIES TO SUPPORT KINSHIP FAMILIES?**

QUESTIONS FOR US?

KINSHIP FAMILIES  

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