

Grandparenting and Kinship Care



ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM

Talking Points

- Funding
- Eligibility
- Reasons for Kinship Care
- Challenges of Kinship Care
- Issues & Concerns of the Caregivers
- State & Tribal Services & Resources
- Family & Community Resources
- American Indian Values & Culture Roles

Funding

- ▶ Title VI, Part C, Native American Caregiver Support Program
- ▶ Title III, Part E, National Family Caregiver Support Program
- ▶ Partnering with other agencies in or outside communities
- ▶ Other resources

Definition

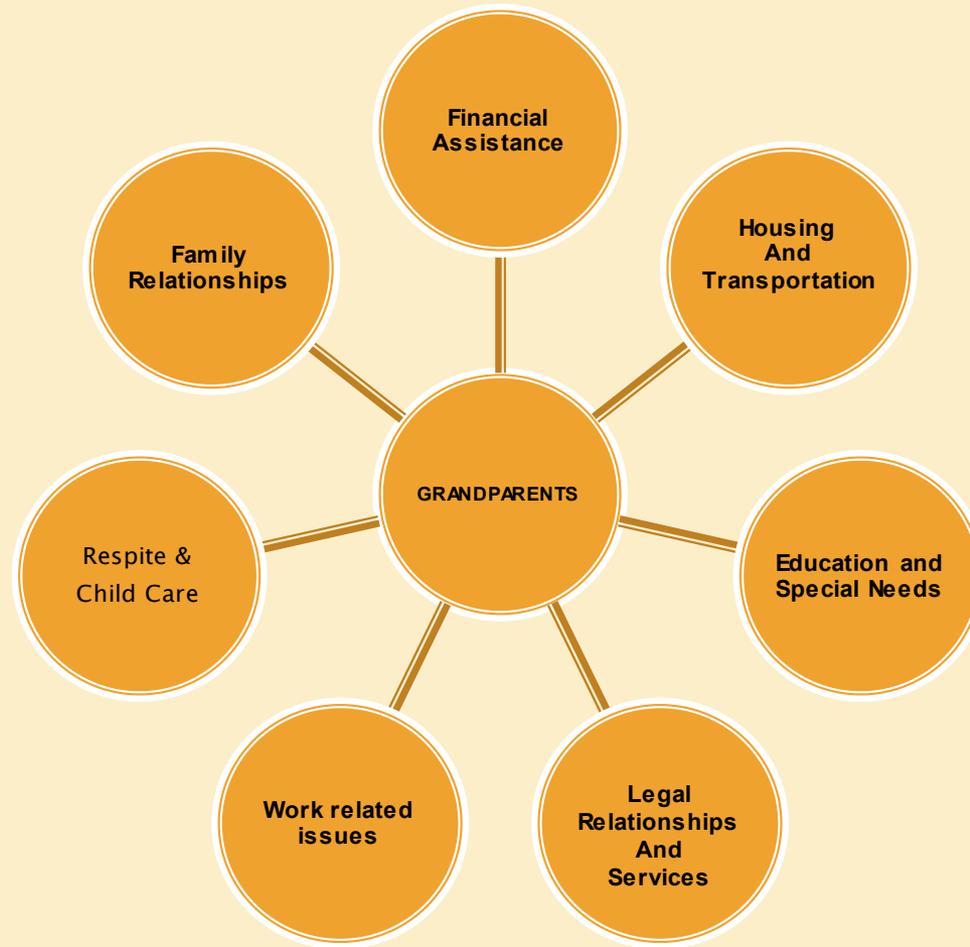
▶ Grandparent Raising Grandchildren or Relative Caregiver

- A Grandparent or Step-Grandparent
- Relative of a child by blood or marriage
- 55 years of age or older and
 - ▶ – Lives with the child
 - ▶ – Is the primary caregiver
 - ▶ – Has legal or informal relationship

Reasons for Kinship Care



Challenges of Kinship Care



Determining the Issues

- Title VI Assessment
 - Surveys & Evaluations (Conferences, Trainings, Elder's Meetings or Gatherings, Support Groups)
 - Community Grandparent/Relative Caregiver Forums
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Grandparent/Relative Caregivers'

Important Issues

- Placement, custody, advocacy, resources
- Legal (custody, guardianship, adoption)
- Power of Attorney
- Medical and educational consent
- Financial assistance—food, clothing, furniture, day care (transitioning/maintenance)
- Time off from work
- Parenting classes for Grandparents
- Establish an Advisory Council

Family & Community Resources

- Indian Child & Family Program
- Grandparent Kinship Programs, Coalitions
- Foster & Adoptive Parent Associations
- Tribal Social Services
- Tribal Family Caregiver Support Programs
- Legal Services

Respite Care

- Pay caregivers to provide care on a temporary, intermittent basis so the primary unpaid, informal caregiver gets a break
- Get-a-way activities for Grandparents, Relative caregivers and grandchildren

Supplemental Services

- Intergenerational activities
- Summer camps/activities for grandchildren
- Back-to-school supplies
- Other ideas

Traditional Values & Culture

- Language
 - Tribal teachings
 - Family bonding
 - Sense of belonging
 - Spiritual growth
 - Role as tribal community member
 - Tribal ceremonies
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Financial Help

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) – Cash assistance for low income families.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) – Benefits for mentally or physically disabled children.
- Medicaid

Contact Information

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