Grandparenting and Kinship Care
Talking Points

- Funding
- Eligibility
- Reasons for Kinship Care
- Challenges of Kinship Care
- Issues & Concerns
- Training Topics
- Resources
- American Indian Values & Culture
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
- Tribal funding
- 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

- Death
- Illness
- Divorce
- Economically Disadvantaged
- Substance and Alcohol Abuse
- Incarceration
- Parent Military Duty
Challenges of Kinship Care

- Financial Assistance
- Housing and Transportation
- Education and Special Needs
- Legal Relationships and Services
- Work Related Issues
- Respite & Child Care
- Family Relationships
Determining the Issues

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

- Placement, custody, advocacy, resources
- Legal (custody, guardianship, adoption)
- Financial – food, clothing, furniture, day care, transitioning, maintenance
- Time off from work
- Parenting classes for Grandparents
- Behavioral challenges raising children
- Establish an Advisory Council
Grandparent/Relative Caregivers’ Training

- Self-Care
- Legal
- Financial
- Nutrition
- Parenting
- Children with Special Needs
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers – evidence-based curriculum
Family & Community Resources

- Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Area Agency on Aging, Region 8
- Tribal Social Services
- Tribal Family Caregiver Support Programs
- Legal Services
- University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Programs
- Grandparent Kinship Programs & Coalitions
- Foster & Adoptive Parent Associations
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
Group Activity

1. Funding – What do you have? What do you need?
2. Assessment of Needs – What methods will work best in your community?
3. Ideas for:
   - Support Groups
   - Training
   - Activities
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