

TAKING CARE OF A GRANDCHILD OR MINOR CHILD?

There IS help available!

Caring for a child under the age of 18 for individuals over 55 brings a unique set of needs. Whether it is finding childcare, buying clothing, diapers, or having the resources to enroll a child in extracurricular activities, the Grandparent/Older Adult Relative Program may be able to help.



We all know of someone who has been affected by situations that are out of their control. For example, Kimberly is 65 years old and she and her husband, Ronald, have just retired, planning to travel and enjoy their “golden years”. Their daughter, Terri, had been in a bad car accident when her daughter was 4 months old. She became addicted to medication that her doctor prescribed to her. When her daughter was 2, Terri overdosed leaving no one to care for her child. Kimberly and Ronald are now second time around parents. They have struggled to afford the care their grand-daughter needs. With this program, they are able to be reimbursed for the diapers and the respite care they need. This in turn enables them to worry less and enjoy time spent with their grandchild.



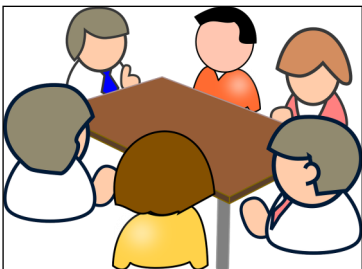
Can you believe these statistics? According to Grand Facts State Fact Sheets @ www.grandfamilies.org:

In Pennsylvania:

- 238,598 children under 18 live in homes where householders are grandparents or other relatives.
- 32.5% do not have a parent present
- 20.2% live in poverty

And the numbers are only getting higher. The opioid epidemic and other unforeseen circumstances have contributed to this new reality.

Aging Services, Inc. provides financial assistance in the form of reimbursement to many grandparents and great grandparents in Indiana County. The Grandparent/Older Adult Relative Program has knowledgeable Care Managers to assess the Caregiver’s needs and determine the assistance that may be available for them.



A Caregiver Support Group meets at Aging Services, Inc., 1055 Oak Street, Indiana, PA the last Wednesday of every month from 2:00 – 3:00 PM. The support group provides opportunities for caregivers to share ideas with others in similar situations.

If you are interested or know of an individual that could benefit from the Grandparent/Older Adult Relative Program, please contact us at 724-349-4500 or 1-800-442-8016 and ask to speak with someone about the Caregiver Support Program.

This is something caregivers have to understand:

You have to ask for help. You have to realize that you deserve to ask for help. Because you need to keep on working on your own life.

~Gail Sheehy, American Author