

# ATTENTION GRANDPARENTS OR OTHER RELATIVES PARENTING AGAIN

**FREE**

## ONGOING EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

**3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**



You did not expect to be responsible for children at this time in your life. Come to a **FREE** ongoing group led by trained facilitators for grandparents and other relatives raising minor children.

### Please join us to:

- Share your story and feel understood
- Exchange ideas, concerns and information including legal and community resources
- Discuss the child's growth and development
- Explore how the child is influenced by you and others
- Develop a support system

**For more information**, directions or to register, call Interfaith's Family Caregiver Support Network at **414-220-8600**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays  
5:30-7:30 PM**

**Open to the  
Community!**

**Villard Square  
Grandfamily Housing  
3427 W. Villard Ave.  
Milwaukee**

Limited childcare is provided for children 12 and under. Registration Required

A light supper for adults and children will be provided.



**FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT NETWORK**  
FOR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO HELP OR CARE FOR OLDER ADULTS

# GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

## BRIEF FACT AND RESOURCE SHEET

In 2010 the US Census reported the number of grandparents raising grandchildren was at 2.7 million. These are children who cannot live with their parents due to AIDS, substance abuse, illness or death, abuse or neglect, economic hardship, incarceration, divorce, and domestic violence.

### HERE ARE SOME FACTS ABOUT GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN:

- While 2.7 million grandparents are responsible for the basic needs of one or more grandchildren under 18, a shocking 7 million grandparents have grandchildren living with them with various levels of parental support
- 580,000 grandparents raising grandchildren have incomes below the poverty level and grandparent headed households are financially the poorest of all types of households
- The median income for grandparent headed households is \$33,000. This number increases slightly to \$45,000 in households with various levels of parental involvement
- 75% of grandparent caregivers are married, but for those who are not, grandmothers outnumber grandfathers in single headed grandparent households
- A common assumption is that grandparent headed households are a minority or urban problem, or that the grandparents were bad parents and are getting what they deserve
- **In reality, the statistics show that this issue knows no race or geographic location. Most parents did not intentionally raise kids to be drug addicts, irresponsible parents or end up in jail**

### WHAT SUPPORT DOES MILWAUKEE HAVE?

- **Interfaith's Family Caregiver Support Network (FCSN) 414-220-8600** has a resource library with audio, visual and written caregiver resources. Respite grants to help grandparents take a break may also be available. Community resources and collaborations have been developed and appropriate referrals can be made.
- **The Parent Helpline 414-671-0566**, a program of the **Parenting Network**, is staffed 24/7 by experienced phone counselors. They have information on parenting education and support groups, can make referrals to community resources and give tips on parenting. Helpline counselors are able to listen whenever you need someone to talk to and can help assist with problem solving if necessary.
- **Kids Matter 414-344-1220** specializes in working with families raising "relatives" and provides help with legal, financial, and social service information.
- **The Gary Dobbs Family Resource Center** has a grandparent's support group, parenting sessions and a support group for children whose parents are in recovery. The center is located at 2222 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. in Milwaukee and can be reached at **414-265-2222**
- It is critical for grandparents to know that respite and referral information is available. Contact the **La Causa Crises Nursery** at **414-647-5990** to help with young children, and **414-645-3300** for family support. If there is a crisis brewing because of caregiving, both places can help out.

### OTHER RESOURCES:

Jewish Family Services 414-390-5800

Villard Square Grandfamily Housing 414-461-1787

Mental Health America 414-276-3122

Betty Brinn Children's Museum 414-390-5437