



Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors & Kinship Caregivers

April 20, 2020

Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors (AZGA) is a growing advocacy, education, and support network for kinship families in Arizona. Kinship keeps kids in the family. We are the reason our relative children are not in foster care, group homes, or other non-familial settings. AZGA was started in 2010 by an informal group of grandparents who found themselves raising their grandchildren. Some of them were struggling financially, some needed help with medical, legal or other resources, and they all needed other grandparents to share their stories, to cry, vent and –most importantly—to laugh and feel good about our grandchildren. We’ve grown to hundreds of grandparents and allies with a strong collective voice. 2020 is an exciting year for the Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors because it represents our 10-year anniversary.

We realize these are unsettling times for everyone, and especially for kinship families statewide. We’re doing our part to help kinship families statewide access resources and financial help to keep their families strong throughout this crisis. Additionally, we are helping connect kinship families to supportive services statewide.

Our first Summit was held in January 2012, and each year since we’ve been hosting the Summit to bring kinship families together from around the state. It is through this Summit that we develop our policy priorities for the next legislative year. I’m attaching a 10-year summary presentation for you to see how our group has grown from an informal group of grandmas to a statewide kinship powerhouse with influence and accolades from Democrats and Republicans at the state legislature, Governor’s office, Congressional offices, and local government offices statewide. Kinship is highly regarded at the state capitol thanks to the work of the Arizona Grandparent Ambassador leaders and members. This is only possible because of the support our sponsors have given us over the years, and we are sincerely grateful.

This year’s Summit planning is currently underway, with our grandmas and kinship providers meeting via video conference every two weeks to discuss. We sent a survey out to our membership to find out what they need for the Summit, and their answers have driven our Summit agenda, and their answers did not surprise us. This year we will focus the morning on providing training on trauma-informed care. The afternoon will focus on our policy priorities; additionally, we will host a legislative panel to include DES and DCS representatives to answer questions for our families. It is sure to be a full day of timely and useful information for our families.

We are planning to host 150 participants and 100 children as has been our regular attendance in years past. Previously the teenagers received a day pass to enjoy the amenities at the Kroc Center like the rock wall, basketball courts, and swimming pool. However, because of the feedback from our kinship families, we have asked the Kroc Center to work with us to develop a structured program for teenagers. The number of teenagers attending the Summit continue to grow each year as our original families are “growing up.”

At the Summit we network, choose policy priorities, and mobilize for advocacy. We interact with elected leaders and community groups to help us do an even better job of raising the next generation for Arizona. It is only through community support and organizational sponsorships that we can cover the costs for this summit. Our grandfamilies have told us how important childcare is for their ability to participate in the Summit, so we are determined to raise enough funds to ensure every family can attend at the same rate as previous years – we only charge them \$10 per family for the entire day, including lunch, breakfast, childcare, and the program. Our goal is to raise \$10,000, and we need your help.

As grandparents and relatives we seek to keep our families together, in doing so we hope to assure that the children we are raising enjoy a healthy, basic quality of life.

info@azga.org



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Please let us know if you are able to continue your support for the Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors by becoming a sponsor of the AZGA Kinship Summit 2020. Sponsorship options are listed on the next page.

Thank you for your support for keeping Arizona's families together and strong. Your contribution is tax-deductible through the Children's Action Alliance, a 501 C (3) non-profit corporation. The enclosed page provides options for sponsorship contributions.

Respectfully,

The Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors Leadership Team and Steering Committee



Victoria and Gentry Gray, Grandparent Ambassador Steering Committee Members, host a resource table for kinship families.

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SUMMIT SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please return this form by June 30, 2020 so we may properly recognize your sponsorship as we advertise our event throughout the community.

Please accept my tax-deductible sponsorship at the following level:

_____ \$50 – Individual Sponsor

Show your support by sponsoring a 2020 Summit Participant
Your name featured in our program

_____ \$250 – Organization Sponsor

¼ page advertisement in our program (3.5”W x 4.75”H)*
Your flyers distributed in participant folders

_____ \$500 – Program Sponsor

1/2 page advertisement in our program (3.5”W x 10”H)*
Your flyers distributed in participant folders

_____ \$1,000+ – Sustaining Sponsor

Full page advertisement in our program (7.5”W x 10”H)*
Receive verbal recognition in Summit Program
Your flyers distributed in participant folders

*All advertisements must be delivered electronically to info@azga.org no later than August 1, 2020. Picture formats preferred. No PDFs please.

Make checks payable to:

Children’s Action Alliance, Attention:
Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors 2020 Summit
3030 N 3rd Street Suite 650
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Credit card? Please call Children’s Action Alliance to pay over the phone: 602-266-0707 (ext “0”)

Yes, your financial support is tax deductible and you will receive a receipt from the Children’s Action Alliance, a 501c(3) non-profit corporation.

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