

Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors

The goal of the Grandparent Quarterly Newsletter is to help grandparents and kinship caregivers increase overall effectiveness as community organizers and advocates.

AZGA support and advocacy network celebrates its three year anniversary by welcoming more and more grandparent and kinship caregivers members into our state-wide organizing effort!



Did You Know? Our nation's first president, George Washington, was a kinship caregiver. The Father of our Nation had no children of his own. However, George and his wife Martha were caregivers to many orphaned nieces and nephews, and most notably to Martha's grandchildren.

AZGA Leaders across the state, from Tucson to Phoenix, have been working hard to have September proclaimed as Kinship Care Month.

This is a well-deserved opportunity to hold events that acknowledge the tremendous contributions of kinship families and to provide outreach to the kinship community. It is also an opportunity to educate policy makers. There is a great need for more programs and policies that support children being raised in kinship families, especially informal kinship families.

On September 1st, we will host events in both the Phoenix and Tucson areas with elected officials who will declare September as Kinship Month in their cities.



AZGA Leaders

Participating Cities:

AZGA Leaders Work for Proclamations Declaring September as Kinship Care Month

Apache Junction
Casa Grande
Tucson
Surprise
Buckeye
Goodyear
Litchfield Park

5% of Arizona's Children are raised by Grandparents

To find out more about an event near you, please contact: Tucson—Laura Jasso Idjas@msn.com
Phoenix—CentralAZGA@gmail.com

AZ Budget: How Will it Affect You?

On Thursday, September 10, from 10am-12pm, the Central Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors invite you to join them for an educational presentation on how Arizona's Budget Affects Grandfamilies by budget expert Karen McLaughlin with Children's Action Alliance. In addition, we will learn about what we can do to help all Arizona grandfamilies.

Where: AZ State Senate Democratic Caucus Room, 1st Floor, 1700 W. Washington.

Light refreshments will be served. Please let us know you're coming so we can plan accordingly for food and send you directions: CentralAZGA@gmail.com

News from Southern AZ:

Southern Arizona Grandparents held a workshop Elder Fraud on Tues. July 20, 2015 at Las Abuelitas
Community Center given by David Parra of AARP's Fraud Watch. Topic was how to spot and avoid identity theft and fraud to protect yourself and your family.

Fraud Fighter Call Center-offer peer counseling, support and referral services <u>1 877 908 3360</u>

Fraud Watch Network AARP.org/fraudwatchnetwork

Get Involved

Currently there are two *regional*Grandparent Ambassador Groups that work together to form the Arizona
Grandparent Ambassador state-wide steering committee.

For more information please contact:

Central Arizona Co-Chair: Sherry Griffin CentralAZGA@Gmail.com

(602) 456-0762 Phoenix

Southern Arizona Co-Chair: Laura Jasso Idjas@msn.com

(520) 722-5945 Tucson