

## **Helpful Resources for Grandparents and Relatives Raising Children**

By Pam Brandon, Caregiver Educator on behalf of Area Agency on Aging of Dallas County

Our program seeks to educate, support and empower families by providing information to better help you with the challenges you face in raising your grandchildren or other relatives.

Here is some information that may be helpful in obtaining additional resources:

### **CMCS launches Medicaid and CHIP Website**

The Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) is pleased to announce the initial launch of the first federal government website devoted to the policies and the people of Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Medicaid.gov brings to the forefront the items that states, the health policy community and other stakeholders have said they care about most, including: federal policy guidance; information on pending and approved waivers; highlights of the Affordable Care Act Implementation efforts; State specific program information and data; and improved search capabilities. Also available is a section for consumers to help them get information about the Medicaid or CHIP program in their state. To access the website, go to [www.medicaid.gov](http://www.medicaid.gov).

### **The Brookdale Foundation RAPP (Relatives as Parents Program)**



#### ***About RAPP***

In October 1991, the Foundation funded the University of California-Berkeley to survey the nature and extent of services for grandparent caregivers in the United States. In 1993, we provided support for the establishment of the AARP Grandparent Information Center, which provides resources and information on issues confronted by grandparents who are raising their grandchildren and the professionals who assist them.

The Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) was initiated in 1996. It is designed to encourage and promote the creation or expansion of services for grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting due to the absence of the parents.

Currently RAPP provides extensive services, primarily to relative caregivers caring for children outside the foster care system, in 44 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. As part of our sponsorship of RAPP, we conduct our National Orientation and Training Conference and provide technical assistance through site bulletins, a listserv, our annual newsletter, conference calls and webchats to facilitate opportunities for networking and information exchange.

For More Information contact:

[www.brookdalefoundation.org](http://www.brookdalefoundation.org)

**The Brookdale Foundation Group**

**950 Third Ave.**

**19th Floor**

**New York, NY 10022**

**Phone:**

**212-308-7355**

**Fax:**

**212-750-0132**

**Generation United Grandfamilies Program**

Generations United's National Center on Grandfamilies works to enact policies and promote programs to help grandfamilies address these challenges. Despite facing many barriers, research shows that the children in grandfamilies thrive. Caregivers also experience benefits like an increased sense of purpose in life.

Information, fact sheets, statistics and more are available on housing, education, health, legal, financial and free publications are available.

For more information contact:

Generations United

[www.gu.org](http://www.gu.org)

1331 H. Street N.W. Suite 900

Washington D.C. 20005

202-289-3979