



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*

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**September 23, 2008**

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**Note: The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.**



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 23, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Caregiving

**October 1 2008 United Nations International Day of Older Persons**

Caregiving will be the topic of the U.N.'s celebration of the International Day of Older Persons. The AARP Office of International Affairs, the National Alliance for Caregiving and the UN Programme on Ageing will sponsor a half day invitation only seminar on regional perspectives on caregiving. For further information on the U.N. Programme on Ageing go to: [http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/un\\_meetings.html](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/ageing/un_meetings.html)

**Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging – Symposium for Caregivers**

The Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging in conjunction with a group of community, for profit and government groups will sponsor the Caregivers-Help is Here Symposium for Caregivers on November 8, 2008 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. at the Marshall Center, 8800 Courthouse Road Spotsylvania VA 22553. There is a \$15.00 fee but scholarships are available. Topics of discussion will include: Myths of Aging, Spirituality in Caregiving, Nutrition for the Caregiver, Incontinence, and Ingredients for Successful Caregiving. For further information, contact Pat Holland at the Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging at 540-371-3375.

## **New CMS Website**

The Center's for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has launched *Ask Medicare*, a website designed to help family caregivers. The web site will provide links to key partner organizations and present actual caregiver stories. CMS will launch an e-newsletter for caregivers that will deliver information to subscribers' email boxes. For further information, visit: [www.medicare.gov/caregivers](http://www.medicare.gov/caregivers).

## **Food for Thought: Role Reversal – Article on Young Caregivers**

An interesting article appeared recently in the South Florida-Sun Sentinel. The article presents three vignettes of children caring for an older adult. According to a recent study by the National Alliance for Caregiving, Young Caregivers in America, as many as 1.4 million children in the United States provide care for an older adult. To access the article go to: [http://www.sun-sentinel.com/features/lifestyle/sfe-sfp\\_reverse.0.3992441.story](http://www.sun-sentinel.com/features/lifestyle/sfe-sfp_reverse.0.3992441.story)



*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*  
*Department for the Aging*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Barbara Childers

**DATE:** September 23, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Economic Stimulus Payments

Virginians have until October 15th to file for their economic stimulus payment (ESP) from the IRS. In Virginia, there are approximately 120,000 people remaining to file, resulting in almost \$37 million in unclaimed payments. If your AAA is planning any outreach events for the week of October 6th, the IRS will send out representatives to assist in completing applications for the ESP.

Many of the Virginians who have yet to file are believed to reside in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Please encourage your Ombudsman to be discussing the ESP with nursing home staff and administrators when they visit. One thing that should be noted is that Medicaid recipients are eligible to file for this payment without any penalty from DSS. However, they will only have two months after they receive their payment to spend it to ensure they are below the \$2,000 resource limit without being removed from the Medicaid program.

Individuals are eligible if:

- They or their family has at least \$3,000 in qualifying income from, or in combination with, Social Security benefits, Veterans Affairs benefits, Railroad Retirement benefits and earned income. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) does not count as qualifying income for the stimulus payment.

## Economic Stimulus Payments

September 23, 2008

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- They and any family members listed on their tax return have valid Social Security numbers.
- They are not a dependent or eligible to be a dependent on someone else's federal tax return. (The same must be true of any family members claimed on the return.)

How much are the Economic Stimulus Payments?

- Eligible individuals — between \$300 and \$600
- Joint filers — between \$600 and \$1,200
- With eligible children — an additional \$300 for each qualifying child

Individuals can obtain free assistance for filing through the IRS by calling (toll-free) 1-800-829-1040. They can also contact AARP's free tax assistance program by calling 1-888-687-2277 to find their local office. Additionally, they can apply online using the tax stimulus payment tool created by the National Council on Aging and AARP by visiting the following website: <http://www.benefitscheckup.org/> For more information or questions, please contact the Virginia Department for the Aging at 1-800-552-3402



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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Executive Directors  
Area Agencies on Aging

**FROM:** Ellen Nau, Human Services Program Coordinator

**DATE:** September 23, 2008

**SUBJECT:** KinCare

**Statewide Kinship Care Conference**

A video conference planning meeting will be held at 9:30 A.M. on September 30, 2008 for the Statewide Kinship Care Conference to be held at the Point Plaza Suites & Conference Hotel 455 J. Clyde Morris Blvd. Newport News, VA. Participation in planning the conference can be accessed at four video conferencing sites: Virginia Department for the Aging Conference Room, Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc. Area Agency on Aging, the Portsmouth Health Department, Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging and Radford University.

The October 16-18, 2008 conference is presented by A Kincare Connection, the Hampton Roads Regional Taskforce on Kinship Care, Brighton's Solid Rock, Inc. and the Virginia Department of Social Services. **Scholarships are available to cover meeting registration, meals and lodging for kin caregivers!** Questions about conference scholarships should be addressed to the Rev. Clifford Barnett or Suzette Leathers at 757-727-1932.

Information about the conference is attached.

## **Picture Exhibit**

The Statewide Kinship Care Initiative Task Force and Information Network is having an exhibition of pictures of kin care families at the 2009 Virginia Assembly Session. Do you have a photo you would like to share of a family in your area? Photos and a signed release form for public exhibition should be forwarded to project chairman Kathy Dial, Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia. Electronic transfer of pictures and forms should go to Ms. Dial at [kathy.dial@cox.net](mailto:kathy.dial@cox.net) as soon as possible.

## **Kinship Care Resources Website**

Does your agency have information that would be useful to kin caregivers - grandparents and other relatives raising children? Please forward this information to [Ellen.Nau@vda.virginia.gov](mailto:Ellen.Nau@vda.virginia.gov)

## **Grandcare Support Locator**

Does your agency provide supportive services to relative caregivers? Register your program at the AARP GrandCare Support Locator. You can find the locator by going to [www.aarp.org/grandparents](http://www.aarp.org/grandparents) and clicking on "GrandCare Support Locator". (Located under "Tools". Follow the directions to add a new listing.

## **GU is on YouTube**

Generations United the premier organization for intergenerational programs now has a site on YouTube – check it out at [www.youtube.com/GenerationsUnited](http://www.youtube.com/GenerationsUnited).

GU's 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency on the Hill Washington, D.C. July 27-31, 2009. There will be an all-day grandfamilies preconference intensive on Tuesday, July 28.

Generations United is also working with the American Bar Association Center on Children and Law and the National Conference of State Legislatures in developing an online **Grandfamilies State Law and Policy Resource Center**. Funding for the site is provided by the Casey Foundation. To access the site, go to [www.grandfamilies.org](http://www.grandfamilies.org) Send your suggestions concerning the website to [kbryson@gu.org](mailto:kbryson@gu.org)

## **The Grandfamilies National Partnership Working Group**

The Casey Foundation is providing funding to Generations United to convene national grandfamilies groups. 25 national grandfamilies organizations compose a working group that has met four times this year, with an additional meeting planned for

December. Goals identified by this group with an implementation date by 2010 have been identified by the group and will be utilized to update the Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: The *Second Intergenerational Action Agenda* published in January, 2005.

### **Generations United/MetLife Foundation Intergenerational Shared Site Best Practice Awards**

GU is pleased to announce the second Generations United/MetLife Foundation Intergenerational Shared Site Best Practice Awards. These awards champion best practices of intergenerational shared site programs while raising the visibility of these important initiatives and encouraging the development of new models. Up to five shared site programs will be selected as best practice award winners, receive a cash award of \$2,500 and be highlighted in a report released at GU's 15th International Intergenerational Conference in Washington, DC in July 2009. The deadline for nominations is Friday, November 14, 2008. Visit [www.gu.org/ShareBestPractices.asp](http://www.gu.org/ShareBestPractices.asp) for more information and to apply on-line.

### **REMINDER – Funding Alert**

Brookdale Foundation Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) Local, Regional and State Seed Grant Initiatives for 2009 Deadlines:

Local and Regional Proposals: Thursday, December 4, 2008. Copies of the Local and Regional RFP Guidelines and application forms may be downloaded directly from the Foundation's website, [www.brookdalefoundation.org](http://www.brookdalefoundation.org).

### **\*\*\*Breaking News: Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 Passes Senate, Awaits President's Signature\*\*\***

Yesterday, the United States Senate unanimously passed the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 sending the bill to the President for his signature.

The bill is a bi-partisan compromise between the House and Senate that includes many of the provisions of the Kinship Caregiver Support Act. The bill is a significant recognition of the contribution grandparents and other relatives make in raising the nation's children.

The bill will provide supports for grandfamilies by providing:

- \* Authorizes subsidized guardianship to enable children in the care of grandparents and other relatives to exit foster care into permanency
- \* Establishes Kinship navigator programs to help link relative caregivers both inside and outside of the formal child welfare system to a broad range of services and supports that will help them meet the needs of the children in their care
- \* Requires notice be given to adult relatives of a child if he or she is placed in foster care
- \* Allows states in a demonstration program the option to set separate licensing standards for relative foster parents and non-relative foster parents

The bill also supports permanent families by:

- \* Extending direct Title IV-E funding to tribal governments
- \* Reauthorizing the Adoption Incentives Program, a critical tool in helping children become adopted.
- \* Allowing states to receive federal reimbursement for support provided to foster youth up to age 21
- \* Requiring reasonable efforts to keep siblings together

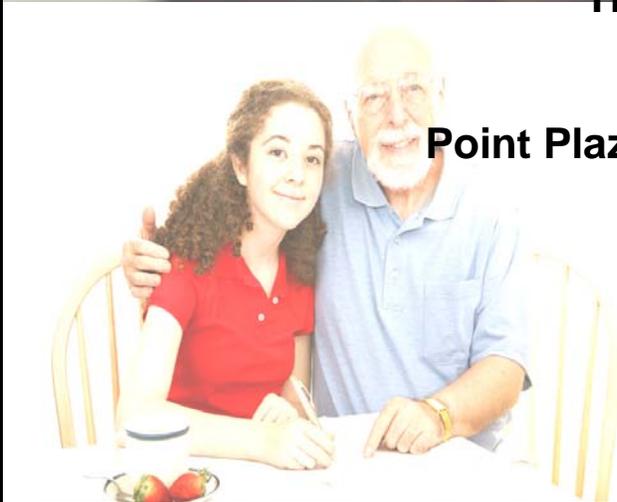
The president still must sign the bill and there will be significant work to implement the bill fully, but it is nonetheless a historic day for grandfamilies.



# Exploring Models for Kinship Families: Whose Best Interest?

1st Statewide Conference on Kinship Care

Thursday, October 16-18, 2008



Point Plaza Suites & Conference Hotel  
455 J. Clyde Morris Blvd.  
Newport News, VA



Presented by:  
**A KinCare Connection**  
*Hampton Roads Regional Taskforce  
on Kinship Care*

**Brighton's Solid Rock, Inc.**

&

**Virginia Department of  
Social Services**

## A KinCare Connection

1300 Centre Avenue  
Portsmouth, Virginia 23704  
Phone: (757) 393-0570  
kincareconnection@verizon.net

### Partnering Agencies & Organizations

Brighton AME Zion Church

Brighton's Solid Rock, Inc.

Catholic Charities  
of Eastern Virginia, Inc.

Chesapeake Department  
of Human Services

EWES Ministries

FACES of Virginia Families

Families First of Virginia, Inc.

First Baptist Church  
South Hill

Isle of Wight Department  
of Social Services

Norfolk Court Services Unit

Norfolk Department  
of Human Services

Norfolk State University

Portsmouth Department of  
Social Services

Senior Services  
of Southeastern Virginia

Virginia Department  
of Social Services

VISSTA



### "Silent Savivors"

*A term coined to define grandparents and other relatives caring for children when neither of the child's parents is present in the household.*

Dear Friend:

It is with pleasure that I invite you to the 1st Statewide Conference on Kinship Care, "Exploring Models for Kinship Families: Whose Best Interest?" The conference will be held at the Point Plaza Suites and Conference Hotel in Newport News, Virginia from Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Across the state, I have heard questions about Kinship care. They include:

*"What is Kinship Care?"*

*"Do we really have Kinship Care in Virginia?"*

*"Why do agencies in different localities in Virginia provide different services to kinship care families?"*

During this conference, we will address these questions and many more. We have invited speakers who are experts in their fields and a number of exciting workshops have been scheduled to enhance your professional knowledge base.

With your budget in mind, we have worked diligently to keep the conference for all three days to \$75. The conference is also Title IV-E approved at 75/25 reimbursement. Information on accommodations, registration, and the conference daily schedule is enclosed.

We look forward to seeing you at our 1st Statewide Kinship Conference.

Sincerely,

Clifford D. Barnett, Sr.,  
Chairman, A KinCare Connection  
Hampton Roads Regional Taskforce of Kinship Care

# Exploring Models for Kinship Families: Whose Best Interest?

## Agenda

### Thursday, October 16th

**8:00a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:45a.m. Welcome & Order of the Day—Dr. Clifford Barnett**

**9:00a.m. Keynote Address—Jaiya John**

**9:45a.m. Break/Book Signing**

**10:00a.m. Morning Session**

- A. Understanding Children's Emotional Needs
- B. All in the Family: The Effects of Foster/Kinship Parenting on the Biological Children
- C. Fostering Kinship Care Leaders
- D. Walking a Mile

**Noon Luncheon Speaker—Jon Parsons, Neighbor to Family**

**1:30p.m. Afternoon Session**

- E. Understanding Children's Emotional Needs
- F. Understanding the Implications of the Kinship Family Structure as it Relates to Family Dynamics
- G. A Kinship Services Program that Works: The Florida Experience
- H. Kinship Care: An In-depth Look at Virginia

**3:30p.m. Roundtable Forum—**

**4:15p.m. Wrap up of Day 1 and Introduction to Day 2**

### Friday, October 17th

**8:00a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:45a.m. Welcome & Order of the Day—Dr. Clifford Barnett**

**Greetings – Anthony Conyers, Jr., VDSS Commissioner**

**9:00a.m. Keynote Address—Dr. Robert B. Hill**

**9:45a.m. Break**

**10:00a.m. Morning Session**

- A. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Using Your Personal Strengths to Create a Positive Environment
- B. The Hampton Initiative
- C. Promoting Children's Personal and Cultural Identity
- D. Defining Self: Your Personal Story

**Noon Luncheon Speaker—Dr. William Scott**

**1:30a.m. Afternoon Session**

- E. Collaboration Equals Stabilization of Families
- F. Cultural Awareness and Cultural Competence for Kinship Providers: Values & Attitudes
- G. Kinship Care: An In-depth Look at Virginia
- H. Men in the Kin Care Role

**3:30p.m. Roundtable Forum—**

**4:15p.m. Wrap up of Day 1 and Introduction to Day 3**

### Saturday, October 18th

**8:00a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9:00a.m. Welcome & Order of the Day—Dr. Clifford Barnett**

**9:15a.m. Keynote Address—Maurice Jones**

**10:30a.m. Break**

**10:45a.m. Morning Session**

- A. Life Books
- B. Managing the Changes in Family Relationships (Kinship)

**Noon Luncheon Speaker—Denise Sterling-Gallop**

**1:30p.m. Recognition, Awards & Closing Remarks**

# Exploring Models for Kinship Families: Whose Best Interest?

Registration Form  
(PLEASE PRINT)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Mid Init \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Locality \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshops (Please note first and second choice—Example A 1st B \_\_\_ C 2nd)**

**Thursday, October 16th**

**Morning Session:** \_\_\_A\_\_\_B\_\_\_C\_\_\_D\_\_\_

**Afternoon Session:** \_\_\_E\_\_\_F\_\_\_G\_\_\_H\_\_\_

**Friday, October 17th**

**Morning Session:** \_\_\_A\_\_\_B\_\_\_C\_\_\_D\_\_\_

**Afternoon Session:** \_\_\_E\_\_\_F\_\_\_G\_\_\_H\_\_\_

**Saturday, October 18th**

**Eligible for 1 Day Registration (Caregivers Only) \*\***

**Morning Session:** \_\_\_A\_\_\_B\_\_\_

**Full Conference Fee: \$75.00**

**\*\*Saturday Only Registration Fee: \$25.00 (Caregivers Only)**

**Enclose check payable to:  
Brighton's Solid Rock, Inc.**

**On-Line Registration – Available ONLY for local and state employees at <https://covkc.virginia.gov>**

**Please be sure to send your payment to the address below. Be certain to include your first and last name on the check to insure that your payment is applied correctly.**

No Cash or Purchase Orders

Mail to address below along with your registration form (forms may be faxed):

Hampton Area Training Center

1320 LaSalle Avenue

Hampton, VA 23669-3801

Questions Regarding Conference Contact: Clifford or Suzette at (757) 393-0570 or

Flora Harris (757) 823-2759 **Registration:** (757) 727-1880 **Fax #** (757) 727-1932

**Hotel Accommodations**

Point Plaza Suites and Conference Hotel

950 J Clyde Morris Boulevard

Newport News, VA 23601

(800) 841-1112

**Conference Room Rates:** \$84 Standard \$109 Suites

Mention "A KinCare Connection" when making your reservations for these special room rates.

Hotel Reservations must be made by September 28, 2008

# 2008 Kinship Care State Conference SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**This is a scholarship application only and does not automatically register you for the Conference.**

**Event Dates:** Thursday, October 16 – Saturday, October 18, 2008  
**Event Center/Location:** Point Plaza Suites and Conference Hotel – Newport News, Virginia

*The goal of this Conference is to increase the knowledge and skills of relatives raising other relatives' minor children through the delivery of workshops and panel discussions.*

**Eligibility Criteria:** Applicants must be a Virginia State Resident and kinship caregiver.

**General Information:**

A limited number of Scholarships will be offered to cover **lodging for a maximum of two nights at event center, conference registration fee (includes conference materials, handouts, and meals—breakfast and lunch Thursday and Friday) and dinner Thursday and Friday evening at event center. Dinner reimbursement is limited to conference attendees at the state per diem rate.**

**Please note:** Scholarship recipients residing within a **50-mile radius** of the event center will only be eligible for the Conference Registration. Lodging and/or dinner meals are not included.

**Application Requirements and Deadline:**

Applications must be fully completed and submitted by **Friday, October 3 at 5:00 pm.** Applications can be emailed or faxed to:

**Brighton's Solid Rock, Inc.**  
1300 Centre Avenue  
Portsmouth, VA 23704  
Fax: (757) 393-0075  
Email: [kincareconnection@verizon.net](mailto:kincareconnection@verizon.net)

**Notification Process:**

All scholarship applicants will be notified by phone, email or regular mail by **Thursday, October 9.** If you have any questions, please contact Clifford Barnett or Suzette Leathers at [kincareconnection@verizon.net](mailto:kincareconnection@verizon.net) or at (757) 393-0570.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Referred By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Driver License Number or Last Four Digits of Social Security Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The best way to reach me is by (please choose one):**

- Email**       **Home Phone**       **Cell Phone**       **US Mail**       **Fax**

*Priority consideration will be given to applicants who live farthest from the conference center. We encourage you to coordinate with other individuals or groups traveling from your area to keep expenses to a minimum. Any information obtained by Brighton's Solid Rock, Inc. shall be treated as confidential. Scholarships are made possible by funding provided by The Virginia Department of Social Services.*

For Office Use Only

Application: \_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_ Denied (Reason \_\_\_\_\_)  
Applicant was notified on \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_