Grandfamilies of Philadelphia

Over 2.5 million children in the United States live in "grandfamilies"—homes where grandparents and other caregivers provide primary care. In Philadelphia, more than 17,000 children are estimated to live with relatives due to the inability of their parents to raise them. In Pennsylvania, it is estimated that for every one child raised by kin in foster care, ten are raised by kin outside of the foster care system.

In 2022, the William Penn Foundation provided three-year grants to eight organizations to improve and expand services for grandfamilies in Philadelphia. This funding supports a range of services, including case management, resources and referrals, peer support groups, outreach and education, and emergency funding for basic needs. The grantees include small grassroots organizations and large multi-service agencies.

As part of this initiative, Generations United received a grant to convene a learning community and provide technical assistance among the grantees and other Philadelphia kinship support organizations. Additionally, Child Trends received funding to develop an evaluation plan to assess the impact of the initiative.

Grantees include:

- **Coalition of African Communities (Africom)** has offered community services for over 20 years to help African immigrants feel at home in Philadelphia. Africom conducts outreach to grandfamilies, connecting them with resources, referrals for services, workshops, and operates an emergency fund for urgent one-time expenses.
    - **Address:** 6328 Paschall Ave, #A, Philadelphia, PA 19142
    - **Phone:** (267) 787-1302
    - **Website:** africom-philly.org

- **Grand Central** was founded over twenty years ago to improve the lives of grand/kinship caregivers by ensuring that resources, services, and systems are responsive to their unique needs. Grand Central provides access to resources, workshops, peer support groups, and an emergency fund for urgent expenses.
    - **Address:** 1211 Chestnut Street, Suite 200, Philadelphia, PA 19107
    - **Phone:** 215-557-1554
    - **Website:** grandcentralinc.org

- **Masjid Al-Wasatiyah Wal-Itidaal** provides religious, educational, and health services to Muslim families in Southwest Philadelphia. The mosque offers respite childcare, support groups, and connects grandfamilies with necessary resources.
    - **Address:** 5727 Hoffman Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19143
    - **Phone:** 215-747-1700
    - **Website:** alwasatiyatu.org

- **Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA)** offers supportive services to grandfamily households through case management, peer support groups, and workshops tailored to their needs.
    - **Address:** 2013 Ridge Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19121
    - **Phone:** 215-684-8597
    - **Website:** https://www.pha.phila.gov/

- **Pradera Corporation**, a subsidiary of Asociación Puertorriqueños en Marcha, supports vulnerable children through adoption and foster care. Pradera offers caregiver workshops, family activities, and case management for grandfamilies.
    - **Address:** 2637 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19133
    - **Phone:** (267) 507-1326
    - **Website:** apmphila.org

- **SeniorLAW Center** is an independent nonprofit legal services organization that seeks justice for older Pennsylvanians through education and advocacy. SeniorLAW Center provides direct legal services to kinship caregivers over the age of 60 and engages pro bono attorneys to expand its reach. It also conducts educational workshops and legal clinics for Philadelphia grandfamilies.
    - **Address:** 1650 Arch Street, Suite 1820, Philadelphia, PA 19103
    - **Phone:** (215) 988-1244
    - **Website:** seniorlawcenter.org

- **Connectedly (formerly the Supportive Older Women's Network)** has enhanced the quality of life for older adults and their families for 30 years. Through its Grandfamily Resource Center, Connectedly provides case management, facilitates support groups and workshops, and organizes family events.
    - **Address:** 4100 Main Street, Suite 403, Philadelphia, PA 19127
    - **Phone:** (215) 487-3000
    - **Website:** connectedly.org

- **Turning Points for Children** is a multi-service agency that supports at-risk families in Philadelphia through programs that include staff training, support groups, respite childcare, emergency funds, and trauma-informed behavioral and mental health services for grandfamilies.
    - **Address:** 4601 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19139
    - **Phone:** (215) 875-8200
    - **Website:** turningpointsforchildren.phmc.org

About the William Penn Foundation

The William Penn Foundation, founded in 1945 by Otto and Phoebe Haas, is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Greater Philadelphia region through efforts that increase educational opportunities for children from low-income families, ensure a sustainable environment, provide inclusive and equitable public spaces, support arts and culture, and advance philanthropy in the Philadelphia region. Learn more at williampennfoundation.org.

About Generations United

Founded in 1986, Generations United's mission is to improve the lives of children, youth, and older adults through intergenerational collaboration, public policies, and programs for the enduring benefit of all. Generations United's National Center on Grandfamilies is a leading voice for families headed by grandparents, other relatives, and close family friends. The Center's work is guided by GRAND Voices, a national network of grandfamily caregiver advocates. Through the Center, Generations United leads an advisory group of caregivers and organizations that set the national agenda to advance public interest in support of these families. The Center raises awareness about the strengths and needs of kinship/grandfamilies through media outreach, weekly communications, and awareness-raising events. It offers an annual State of Grandfamilies & Kinship Care report and a broad range of guides, fact sheets, and tools for kinship/grandfamilies, covering issues from educational and health care access to financial and legal supports, available at gu.org and grandfamilies.org. Contact: Jamarl D. Clark, Assistant Director, National Center on Grandfamilies, jclark@gu.org