

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Are you a grandparent raising grandchildren?

or

Are you an aunt, uncle, or other relative left in charge of
a minor child by his or her parent?

In Illinois, over 100,000 children are being raised in grandparent-headed homes. One-fifth of those individuals live in Suburban Cook County. The majority of grandparents are single women. Most have cared for children 5 years or longer and are raising 1-2 children.

Many grandparents or relative caregivers are overwhelmed with the situations they face. You are not alone. It's important to ask for help.

Recognizing the increasing need for services to grandparents who are raising grandchildren, assistance to grandparents who are raising grandchildren is available.

Catholic Charities Northwest Senior Services assists in coordinating supportive services to grandparents or other non-parent relatives who are the primary caregivers of a relative (by blood, marriage) who is not more than 18.

Catholic Charities' Activities:

Reaching out through schools, faith-based organizations, and other organizations about what assistance is available.

Educational sessions to individuals or groups that address issues affecting grandparents and other non-parent relatives.

Case management to inform and connect grandparents and other relatives raising grandchildren with available resources. In-home assessments are available.

Benefits and/or services:

Title III-E services available through the Legal Assistance Foundation

Child Only Grant

Illinois Free Lunch Program

Social Security – Disability and/or survivor benefits

Support Groups (as available)

KidCare insurance

Food Stamps/Public Assistance

School Fee Waivers

Gap Filler Service

Child Daycare

For more information please contact Sheryl Madden-Pitter, MSW at Catholic Charities NW Senior Services at 847-253-5500 ext 384.

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