

NJ Kinship Connections

A Publication of the NJ Kinship Legal Guardianship Resource Clearing House



A PROGRAM OF CHILDREN'S AID AND FAMILY SERVICES

Fall/ Winter 2013

Free Services for KLG Families Formed Through DCP&P

Raising a relative or friend's child can be a challenge. You may be experiencing more stress about this change in your life. The child may have feelings of abandonment, loss, and grief. As a result, they may:

- experience problems at school
- act out at home
- not listen or follow rules
- abuse alcohol or drugs

Kinship Legal Guardianship (KLG) counseling programs offer individual and family counseling and support services, including weekly in-home visits, help locating additional community resources and collaborating with your child's

school, parent support groups, and providing respite funds for certain activities for your child.

Services are free for KLG families formed through the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P), formerly known as DYFS. Please consult the following list to locate a provider in your county and call to see how they may be able to help you and your family.

Hudson County: Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, 201-246-7378

Union County: Family and Children's Services, 908-352-7474

Bergen, Passaic and Essex Counties (excluding Newark): Children's Aid and Family Services, 973-763-2041

City of Newark: Family Service Bureau of Newark, 973-412-2056

Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties: Robins Nest, 856-881-8689

You may also call our KinKconnect Warm Line at 877-KLG-LINE (877-554-5463) for other support services or log onto www.kinkconnect.org and view our resource page.

Points of Interest:

- ◆ NEWJERSEY RESOURCES
- ◆ FREE KLG COUNSELING FOR DCP&P FAMILIES
- ◆ GRANDVOICE
- ◆ KINKONNECT FREE LENDING LIBRARY

Inside this issue:

FREE KLG COUNSELING	1
KLG SUPPORT GROUPS	2
FACEBOOK WITH GRAND-CHILDREN	2
KINSHIP NAVIGATOR	3
NJ FAMILY CARE	3
TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD HANDBOOK	4

GrandsPlace Fact Sheet

Across the country, more than six million children - approximately 1 in 12 children -- are living in households headed by grandparents or other relatives. In New Jersey, there are over 185,000

grandparents that are living in households with one or more of their own grandchildren under the age of 18. Over 58,000 grandparents are meeting the basic needs of their grand-

children; 4800 from Newark alone. Check out GrandsPlace, a NJ State Fact Resource Sheet at www.grandsplace.org/gp8/nj.html or contact KinKconnect to receive a list resources.



NJ Kinship Connections



DID YOU KNOW?

THAT KINKONNECT OFFERS
FREE TRAINING WORKSHOPS

FOR KINSHIP RELATED
SUPPORT GROUPS?

THEY INCLUDE:

“ADVOCATING FOR YOUR
GRANDCHILD/ RELATIVE IN
SCHOOL”

AND

“TELLING DIFFICULT HISTORY
TO YOUR RELATIVE’S
CHILDREN”

E-MAIL

DWFRIED@KINKONNECT.ORG

TO SCHEDULE

Kinship Care Support Groups

Would you like to meet
other kinship care
givers? Consider these
NJ support groups:

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Monthly

Meetings. Englewood;
sponsored by Family
Support Organization of
Bergen County:
201-796-6209 Ext 102.

Grandma K.A.R.E.S

Monthly support group,
South Orange NJ.

[www.grandmakares.vp
web.com](http://www.grandmakares.vpweb.com);

973-327-4114.

Sussex County Support Group:

2nd Wednes-
day of each month
10:30 am - 12:00 noon,
Sussex County Family
Support Organization
Office, Newton, NJ. For
information and direc-

tions call: 973-940-
3194.

For a listing of other NJ
support groups and
information, please
check out **GrandFacts**, at
[www.kinkconnect.org/
images/grandfacts-
newjersey.pdf](http://www.kinkconnect.org/images/grandfacts-newjersey.pdf) or call
our KinConnect Warm-
line at 877-KLG-LINE
(877-554-5463). We
would be happy to do
the research for you.



Are you on Facebook? Your Grandkids May Want You to Be!



THE KINKONNECT FREE
LENDING LIBRARY
OFFERS ARTICLES AND
BOOKS ON HUNDREDS
OF TOPICS.

CONTACT

[WARMLINE@KINKONNECT.](mailto:WARMLINE@KINKONNECT.ORG)

ORG

According to a recent
study, people over the
age of 65 are the fast-
est growing segment on
Facebook and other
social networks. Many of
these individuals are
grandparents or great-
grandparents.

As Facebook has
become somewhat of a
personal journal or diary
for many kids and teens,
where they share their
hopes and fears, good
days and bad, it would
be surprising if the kids
and teens wanted their

grandparents online
reading what they say.
Turns out - that's not true!
In a recent survey, 80%
of teens are actually
helping their grandpar-
ents sign up for and use
Facebook and other
social media sites.

Why? Many grandkids
want a connection to
their grandparents who
are often unable to visit
or too far to see the
everyday happenings of
their extended family.
By joining social media
networks like Facebook,

grandparents can check
out new photos, celebrate
in sports team wins, and
play games like Scrabble.
For more information on
the above study log onto:
[www.pewinternet.org/Rep
orts/2011/Social-
Networking-
Sites.aspx?src=prc-
headlin](http://www.pewinternet.org/Reports/2011/Social-Networking-Sites.aspx?src=prc-headlin). For more infor-
mation on GrandVoice, log
onto: www.grandsub.com.



Kinship Navigator: Call 2-1-1

Kinship caregivers are special people who have taken on the responsibility of caring for their relative's children. These children might be the caregiver's siblings, nieces, nephews, or, most often, grandchildren.

The children may be eligible for monthly payments through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program as well as Medicaid health insur-

ance. The local Kinship agencies serve three main functions:

- Staff from the agencies help caregivers "navigate" other forms of government assistance.

- Kinship agencies determine if the caregiver's family is eligible for Kinship Navigator program benefits (e.g., vouchers for child care, help with short-term expenses for the relative

child, etc.)

- Kinship agencies provide technical support and guide the family through the process of Kinship Legal Guardianship if the caregiver wishes to make a legal commitment to the child.

The telephone numbers of the four Kinship agencies and the counties they serve are listed below or log onto www.kinkconnect.org for information.

CarePlus, NJ - (201) 797-2660 or (201) 398-9110, serving Bergen, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, and Warren Counties

The Salvation Army - (973) 373-5045 serving Essex County.

Children's Home Society - 1-800-396-4518 serving Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Somerset, Hunterdon, and Union Counties

Family Service Association, 1-877-569-0350 serving Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties

Or call 2-1-1 or 877-652-1148

For details log onto: www.nj.gov/dcf/families/support/kinship/

NJ FAMILY CARE

Affordable health coverage. Quality care.

Parents of children without health insurance, including private insurance, NJ FamilyCare or Medicaid, should check the box on their 2012 NJ State Income Tax Return, question #13.

Parents who check this box will receive an **Express Lane Application** that provides a quick way to get health coverage for children. Parents

should complete and return the application as quickly as possible for fast coverage. You work hard to keep your children safe, healthy and happy! Take advantage of this opportunity so your kids can get the checkups they need to stay healthy and see the doctor when they're sick or injured. NJ FamilyCare is committed to covering uninsured

children and protecting families' privacy. Information provided to NJ FamilyCare is used only to enroll children for health insurance.

For more information, contact NJ FamilyCare at www.njfamilycare.org or 800-701-0710, or Advocates for Children of New Jersey at 973-643-3876 or advocates@acnj.org.

www.KinKconnect.org

The KinKconnect Free Lending Library

1-877-KLG-LINE
(1-877-554-5463)

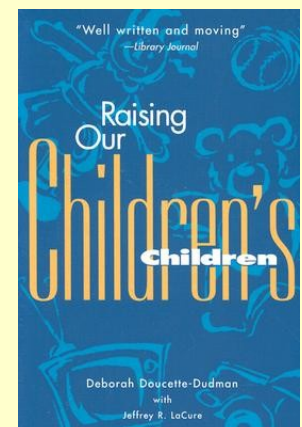
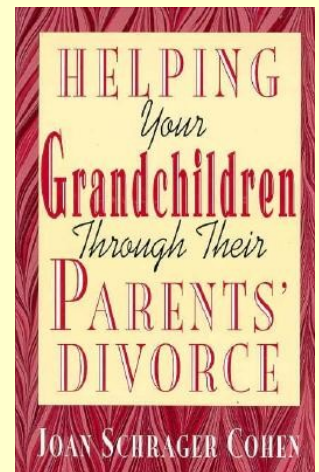
Titles In the Spotlight:

Helping Your Grandchildren Through Their Parents' Divorce

By: Joan Schragger Cohen
1994

Raising Our Children's Children

By: Deborah Doucette-Dubman
1996





NJ KINSHIP LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP
RESOURCE CLEARING HOUSE

WWW.KINKONNECT.ORG

A PROGRAM OF CHILDREN'S AID AND FAMILY SERVICES

WWW.CAFSNJ.ORG

Children's Aid and Family Services
76 South Orange Avenue, Suite 209
South Orange, NJ 07079

Phone: 973-763-2041
KLG Warmline: 866-KLG-LINE
866-554-5463

E-mail: warmline@kinkonnnect.org
Visit us at: www.kinkonnnect.org

Children's Aid and Family Services is one of northern New Jersey's leading non-profit human service agencies. Since 1899, we have built better lives for thousands of disadvantaged children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned. For more information, visit our website: www.cafsnj.org.

DISCLAIMER

While NJ Kinship Legal Guardianship Resource Clearing House (KinKonnnect) or Children's Aid and Family Services makes every effort to present accurate and reliable information, neither KinKonnnect nor Children's Aid and Family Services guarantees the completeness, efficacy or timeliness of such information. In addition, reference herein to any specific product, process, service, organization, or viewpoint does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation or favoring by KinKonnnect or Children's Aid and Family Services.

New Handbook Available for Youth Aging Out or a Young Adult Becoming Independent

Do you have a child/grandchild or are you taking care of a teenager who is about to go out on his or her own? Do you need some help in guiding them to apply for college scholarships, a drivers license or start a bank account? This guide, created by Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ), Children in Court Improvement Committee (CICIC), Youth Advisory Board, foster care youth groups as well as other key authors is a wonderful new, handbook that can help you and your child/grand children to become self sufficient.

"*Helping You Transition to Adulthood: Resources for New Jersey's Youth*" is an up-to-date resource handbook with pages of helpful information and internet links to various topics such as education and employment, scholarship listings, medical/behavioral health counseling, housing services, auto insurance, and other special services. Included also are personal journal and activity pages.

To download this handbook, please log onto www.njarch.org and select "Handbooks" or www.kinkonnnect.org and select "Handbooks and Publications" or call us at 877-KLG-LINE (877-554-5463) and we would be happy to send you a copy.

