



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Family Assistance



Tribal TANF 2014: Addressing the Needs of Children

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and Other Child-Only Issues

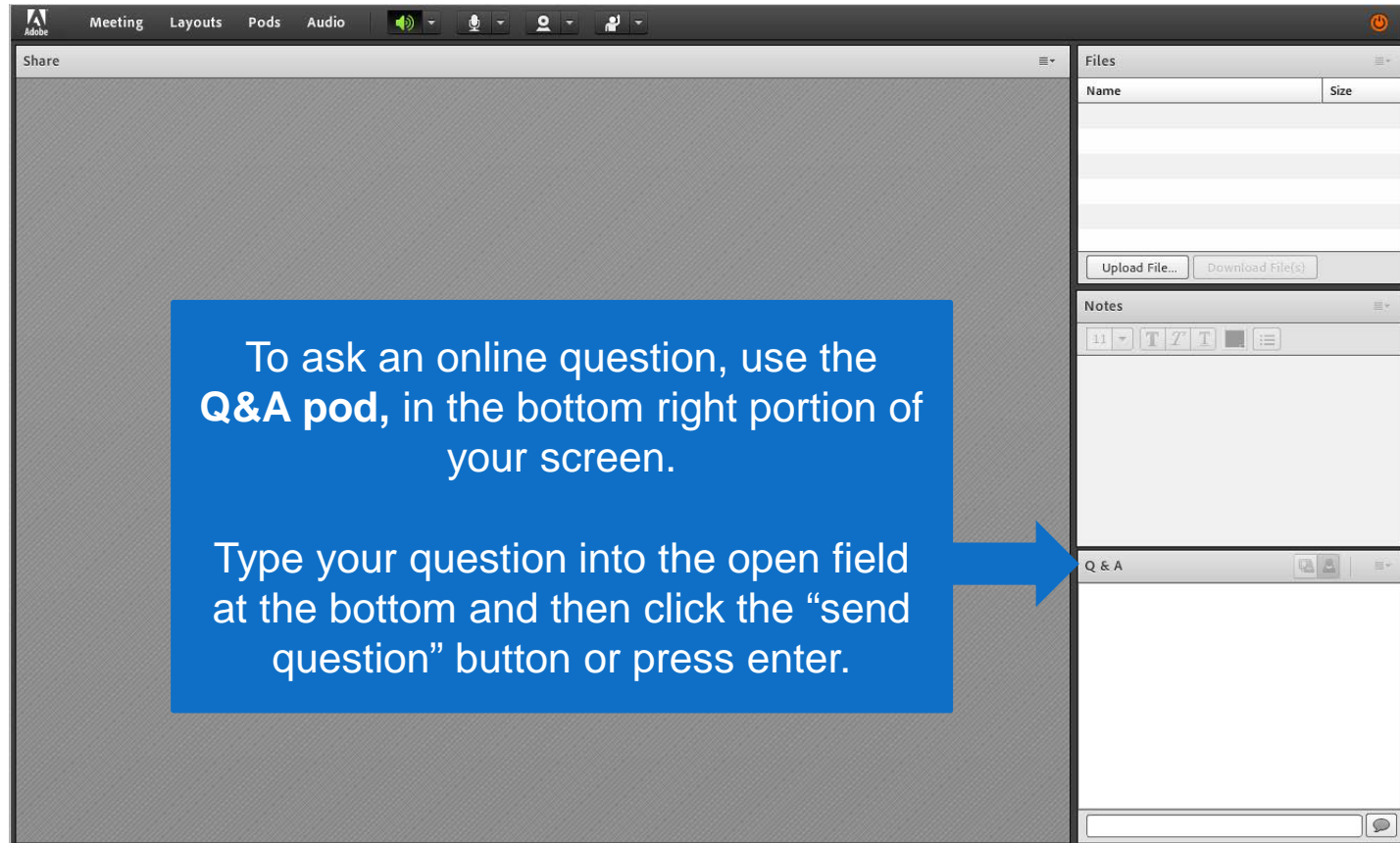
August 20, 2014 | 2 p.m. EDT

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Participant Phone Number: 1-888-510-1767

Participant Passcode: 377396

Asking a Question



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To ask an online question, use the **Q&A pod**, in the bottom right portion of your screen.

Type your question into the open field at the bottom and then click the “send question” button or press enter.

Welcome and Introductions

Kisha Russell

TANF Regional Program Manager, Region VIII
Administration for Children and Families,
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



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Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and Other Child-Only Issues

National Indian Council on Aging, Inc.

Randella Bluehouse
Executive Director

Rebecca Owl Morgan
NMAO TAC Project Coordinator



NICOA

National Indian Council On Aging

Advocating for American Indian and Alaska Native Elders

**NICOA presents the
Grandparents Raising
Grandchildren Resource:
an online community**



NICOA

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NICOA's Mission

To advocate for improved comprehensive health, social services and economic wellbeing for American Indian and Alaska Native Elders.

NICOA Organizational Profile

- NICOA is a national nonprofit membership organization advocating for AI/AN Elder 55 years and older.
- A 13 member Board of Directors represents the NICOA membership which is divided in to 12 regions and 1 national Title VI grantee association member.
- NICOA voting members are AI/AN Elders 55 and over. The Elders establish the policy and direction of NICOA.

NICOA Programs and Services

- National Biennial Conference on Aging. NICOA Elder Forum and General Meeting.
- SCSEP (Senior Community Service Employment Program) Provides job training to low income Elders, operates in 14 states.
- NMAO-TAC (National Minority Aging Organizations – Technical Assistance Center) Works to educate service providers in the Aging Network about diversity in service delivery to AI/AN Elders.
 - Tribal Footprints Resource Directory in development.
- Savvy Caregiver Supplement Manual for use in Indian Country.



NICOA

National Indian Council On Aging

Advocating for American Indian and Alaska Native Elders

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

NICOA recognizes the unique challenges facing American Indian and Alaska Native grandparents raising their grandchildren. They may encounter social isolation, lack of resources, limited knowledge about available benefits. They face legal issues related to guardianship and economic support, parenting, educational and health issues regarding their grandchildren, as well as their own emotional and health related and aging issues. Grandparents living on tribal lands may also encounter challenges navigating their own individual tribal governments and social service systems.



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How many grandparents are raising grandchildren?

- The number is growing.
- 2.36 million grandparents are raising their grandchildren.
- 1.5 million grandmothers (64%) and 860,000 grandfathers (36%) live with their grandchildren and are responsible for providing for their grandchildren's basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing.



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Sharing information can help Grandparents

With a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Native Americans (ANA) NICOA developed an online resource. The goal was to create a helpful place for grandparents who find themselves in a difficult situation without knowledge or resources about how to begin raising a child. Conscientious grandparents may find themselves financially and physically challenged to keep up with the demands of a young child. The resource is designed in a question and answer format to allow a grandparent to scan for a question they have or to submit a question if they want.



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Help Us Help Our Elders Donate To NICOA Today!

Your kind donations will help us with our cause of helping our elders to improve the lives of American Indian and Alaska Native Elders, their family and caregivers.

[DONATE TO NICOA >](#)

FOR ELDER

FOR CAREGIVERS

FOR STAKEHOLDERS



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Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

NICOA and ANA welcome all grandparents and grandchildren to participate in this sharing forum.

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Q&A Categories

▶ [Why Are Grandparents Raising Grandchildren?](#)

▶ [How Many Grandparents Are Raising Grandchildren?](#)

▶ [Rewards & Challenges](#)

▶ [Indian Child Welfare Act](#)

▶ [Tribal Enrollment & Benefits](#)

▶ [Cultural Support](#)

▶ [Emotions: Joy to Grief](#)

▶ [Family Struggles](#)

▶ [Help with Grandparenting](#)

Find a Question:

[Recent Questions](#)

[Popular Questions](#)

Financial help

I need help paying for basic expenses, where can I turn?

No Answers In: Financial

NM laws on adoption

what are the laws relating to adoption in NM?

No Answers In: Adoption

See a doctor how often?

How often should my grandchild see a doctor?

No Answers In: General Questions, Health Care, Health Care for Grandchildren

Planning meals

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Fact Sheets

[01 Fact Sheet – You Are Not Alone](#)

[02 Fact Sheet – So Many Challenges](#)

[03 Fact Sheet – Top Concerns](#)



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Find a Question:

About

For Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

You will find questions and answers/comments on this site that have been provided by:

- Grandparents raising grandchildren
- Grandchildren who are being raised by grandparents
- Social service personnel who are providing help to grandparents raising grandchildren.

You don't have to register on the website if you just want to read what's already here.

If you want to ask a question of your own, or to answer or comment on questions that others have asked, you will be asked to register.

We're going to ask you to create a user name (a nickname or alias) and a password, but YOU DON'T HAVE TO GIVE YOUR REAL NAME. Any questions you ask or information you share will be provided anonymously.

For Social Service Personnel Helping Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

If you want to contribute questions or answers to the site, you will be asked to register. If you would like us to include your organization's information on our Resources by State page, please respond to the information you'll be asked as part of your



Sign Up

Get all of your questions answered now!

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Find a Question:



Sign Up

None of your information is made public in any way. You will remain completely anonymous when posting and answering questions.

Your username, password, and email address are used only for your benefit and will not be shared with anyone in any way.



Username *

This is what you'll use to login to the site.

Email *



Sign Up

Get all of your questions answered now!

✔ Sign Up Now

Member Log In

Log In Now »

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Username *

This is what you'll use to login to the site.

Email *

 Sign Up

Get all of your questions answered now!

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What have you learned?

What have you learned from your grandparent or grandparents?

In: Grandchildren Speak

 3 Answers

[Answer this Question Now](#)

Answer #1

I've learned so many things from my grandmother; I learned how to cook just watching her.



Answer #2

My grandmother taught me how to be happy. My mother drank and she was really sad all the time, but my grandmother is a more like a kid herself and we always have fun together.



Answer #3

Respecting yourself and respecting other people. Always being yourself.





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Please join the conversation!

The more participation on the site the greater the value to our Grandparents.

Please check out the resource here: <http://nicoa.org/>

Click the link For Caregivers, then select Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

THANK YOU!

Randella Bluehouse

Executive Director

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Albuquerque, NM 87111

505-292-2001

rbluehouse@nicoa.org



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**Native American Professional
Parent Resources, Inc.**

Maria Brock
Program Director



Native American Professional Parent Resources, Inc. (NAPPR)

NAPPR Tribal Home Visiting and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

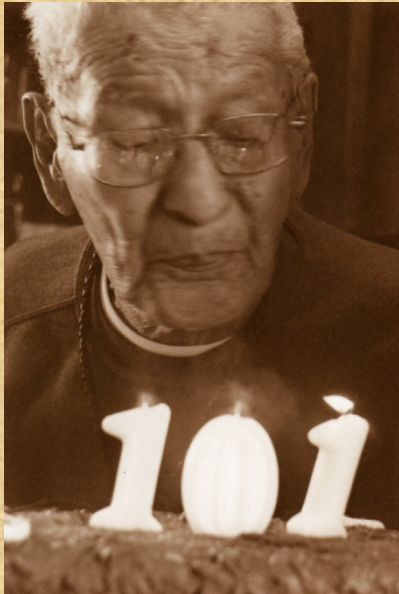
OFA Regions 5-8 Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Webinar
August 20, 2014



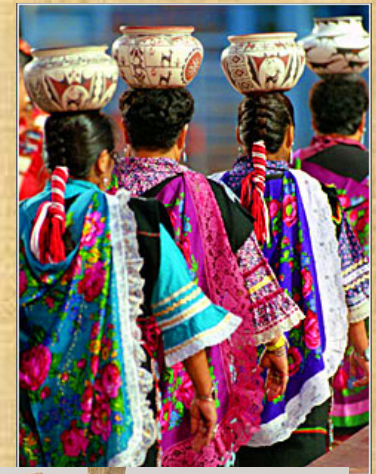
Our greatest strengths.....our Staff!



Our greatest strengths....our People!



Our greatest strengths....our Cultures!



Culture of Relationship Drives NAPPR THV

Strengths of the THV Program

- Authenticity and equity
- Early involvement
- Convenient and comfortable
- Sustained involvement
- Clear, open, and consistent communication
- Learning component
- Parent driven services
- Aligned with Indigenous World View and Core Values
- At the core: Parent-Child Relationships
- Practitioners attend to the what AND the how
- Reflective practice—cornerstone of Culturally Relevant work
- Organizational support for relationships



2011 GRG Community Forums

- In partnership with NICOA
- Locations: Albuquerque and Pueblo of Acoma
- Over 200 attendees from both on and off reservation tribal communities



Key Themes from Forums

- **Respect for Elders**
- **Generational Gap**
- **Legal Resources**
- **Language/Cultural preservation**

- The participants identified that guardianship of a grandchild comes with complex *legal barriers* and affordable legal help is difficult to find. Grandparents stated that there are *not enough resources or support groups* provided in their tribes, communities, cities or the state specifically for 'Grandparents Raising Grandchildren'. Finally, the overall *well being and health* of grandparents is an issue. Grandparents may be experiencing health issues and taking care of their grandchildren can put an added strain on their physical and emotional well-being.



How can Home Visiting support GRG?

- Stable support for family during transition (ex: HV worked with mother and then grandmother)
- An in home resource for child development and child rearing information and support (ex: “its been a long time since I cared for a baby....things have changed a lot”)
- Early years impact development the most, HV can support attachment and bonding during family transition
- Provide concrete resource connection (ie income supports, WIC, legal, etc).



Engagement Strategies

- Hiring (current staff has an HV who has personal experience as a GRG)
- Outreach to social services
- Be specific in wording in materials
- Reduce barriers to participation



Challenges and Opportunities

- GRG often isolated and not connected to helping agencies, they find out about programs “late” (better outreach)
- Shifting nature of GRG relationship with the parents, children going back and forth in rapid cycle prevents effective support (from the beginning work with 2 generations of caregivers)





Questions???



Contact Information

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Program Director

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El Paso County Kinship Services

Gwen Oulton

Kinship Assessment & Support II Supervisor

Sheryl Sablan

Family Services Team Supervisor



El Paso County Kinship Services

Gwen Oulton, Kinship Assessment & Support
II Supervisor

Sheryl Sablan, Family Services Team
Supervisor

8/20/2014



The Process

- Kin/Kin Like- Anyone ascribed by the family
- Referral is made to the kinship unit
- Kin worker is assigned and conducts a safety and permanency assessment and provides the relatives with a description of levels of support available to them
- Relatives decide their desired level of support and involvement with DHS

Planning for Permanency

- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Adoption?
- Permanent Custody with TANF Child Only?
- Relative Guardianship Assistance?





Challenges for Kinship Caregivers

- Finding Kin Families
- Poverty
- Insufficient housing & transportation
- Lack of money to pay for child care
- Need for respite
- Chronic sorrow
- Attachment & trauma information
- Age and health
- Long term back up plan



Family Services Team

- One on One Support
 - Support Groups
 - Home visits
 - Resource information
- 
- 



Contact Information

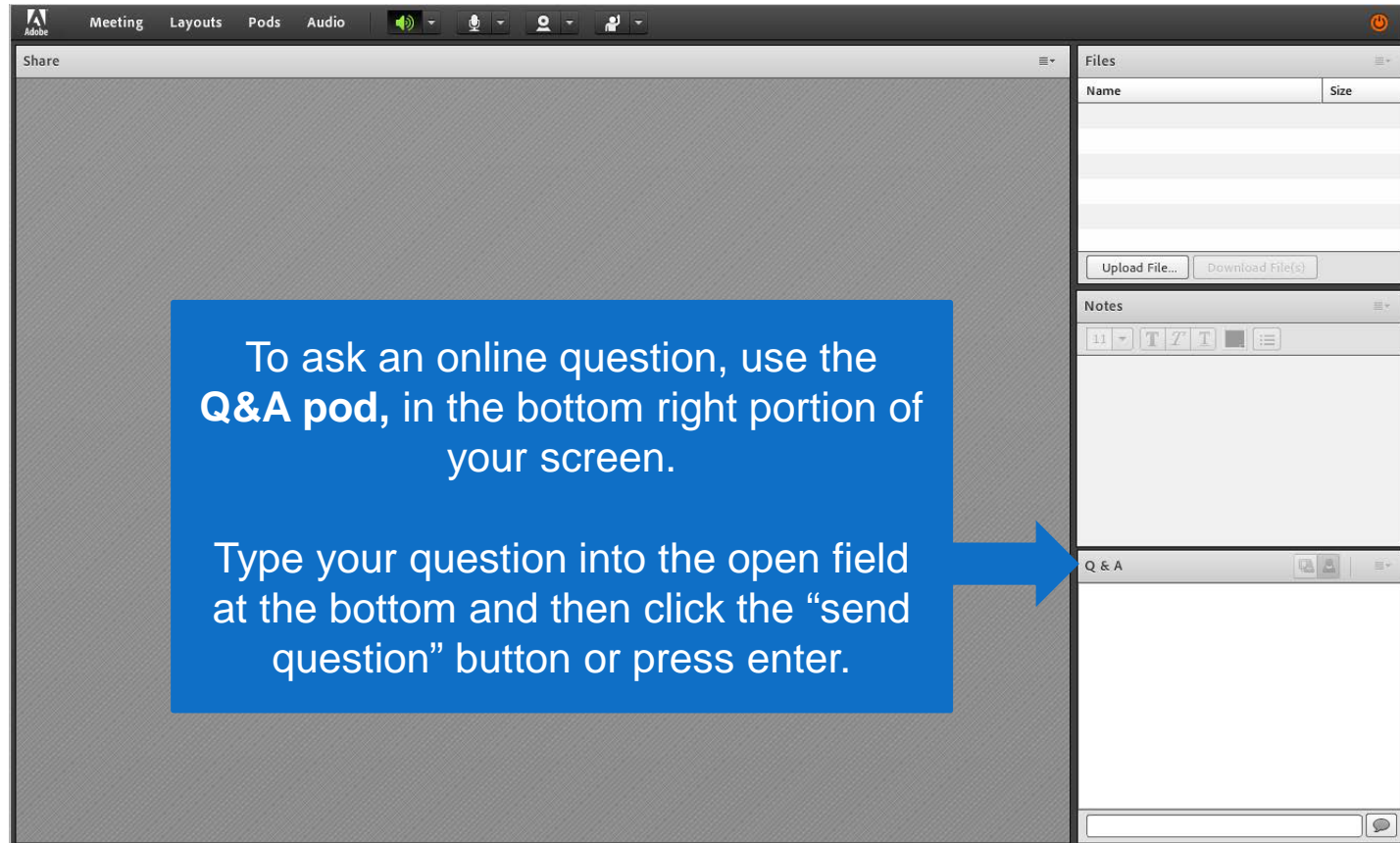
- Gwen Oulton – (719) 444-5904

GwenOulton@elpasoco.com

- Sheryl Sablan – (719) 444-5220

SherylSablan@elpasoco.com

Q and A



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Survey

Thank you for attending
today's Webinar!

Materials from today's Webinar will be posted on OFA
PeerTA in the coming weeks.