

15 THINGS

that made 2018 a great year for

GENERATIONS UNITED

1

Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Our National Center on Grandfamilies and Releasing Our 2018 State of Grandfamilies Report

Our National Center on Grandfamilies celebrated its 20th Anniversary with an event on Capitol Hill that included the release of our 2018 State of Grandfamilies Report. *Love Without Borders: Grandfamilies and Immigration* highlights the additional hurdles faced by grandfamilies who come together as a result of a parent's detention or deportation. Those hurdles include restricted access to support and services to help meet the children's needs, language barriers, and fear of government agencies. The report contains concrete policy and program recommendations to help guide policymakers and advocates. Learn more at <https://www.gu.org/resources/love-without-borders/>

2

Releasing Our New Report on Intergenerational Shared Spaces with The Eisner Foundation

All In Together: Creating Places Where Young And Old Thrive is a report from Generations United and The Eisner Foundation that includes the findings of two national surveys, profiles of model programs and recommendations for how we can increase the number of the intergenerational shared sites. Learn more at <https://www.gu.org/resources/all-in-together-creating-places-where-young-and-old-thrive/>

3

The Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act Signed into Law

The Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act was signed into law on July 7, 2018 after unanimously passing the U.S. House and Senate. It was first introduced in the Senate on May 10th, 2017 by Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Senator Bob Casey (D-PA). A companion bill was introduced in the House by Representative Jim McGovern (D-MA) and Representative Peter King (R-NY) on June 29, 2017. The law establishes a Federal Advisory Council to Support Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children. The advisory council will exist for three years. Learn more at <https://www.gu.org/resources/supporting-grandparents-raising-grandchildren-act/>

"I'm so grateful for the work you do...and the resources and momentum and inspiration you give to those of us pioneering new territory in our communities."

- Colleen Romito, coordinator at the Timeless Wings of Learning

4

Updating and Re-releasing our 2016 State of Grandfamilies Report on Grandfamilies Impacted by the Opioid Crisis

Our updated report highlights the sharp increase in drug overdose death rates among adults of childbearing age with increases of 29 percent among 25- to 34-year-olds and 24 percent among 35- to 44-year-olds – leaving grandparents and other kin to raise children. Read our report at <https://www.gu.org/resources/the-state-of-grandfamilies-in-america-2016/>

5

Launching Intergenerational Solutions for Healthy Aging in Michigan

Generations United was among the Michigan Health Endowment Fund's 2018 Healthy Aging Grant recipients. Our one-year planning grant will pilot an intergenerational project with Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan that aims to reduce social isolation in older adults while building the future health care workforce. With leadership from our Senior Fellow and Michigan local Bruce Astrein, along with senior staff member Sheri Steinig, this planning grant and pilot program will take place in the communities of Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor in Michigan's Washtenaw County.

6

The Family First Prevention Services Act Signed into Law Including Key Provisions for Grandfamilies

The Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First) became federal law on February 9, 2018, as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. Family First is a landmark child welfare law that aligns with the principle that children do best in families. Although Family First addresses an array of services and programs, this brief summary focuses solely on the several provisions specifically important for grandfamilies. Learn more at <https://www.gu.org/resources/family-first-prevention-services-act/>

7

Launching Our New Website

For more than 30 years, Generations United has been proud to be the go-to source for all things intergenerational. The great information that was on our old site is still there. It's just organized in a different way. Check out our site at <https://www.gu.org/>

8

Releasing a Brief on "Framing" Intergenerational Action

Our Senior Fellow Irv Katz and former intern Danica Derriennic look at how The FrameWorks Institute's research on framing can be applied to increase understanding of intergenerational strategies. Learn more at <https://www.gu.org/resources/frames-that-inform-intergenerational-work/>

9

Recruiting and Convening 25 New Members of the GRAND Voices Network for W.K. Kellogg Foundation Supported Racial Equity Initiative

The GRAND Voices Racial Equity Initiative project aims to improve culturally appropriate supports and services to African American and Native American grandfamilies by elevating their voices, perspectives, and expertise to inform and influence policy, practice, and research. Working with the National Indian Child Welfare Association and A Second Chance Inc, Generations United recruited and prepared 25 family caregivers to join our GRAND Voices network, a proven group of family caregiver advocates who educate, represent and testify about their grandfamily situation. Learn more at <https://www.gu.org/projects/grand-voices/>

10

Developing and Strengthening Strategic Partnerships

- **LeadingAge.** Phase 2 of our work with LeadingAge, supported by the Retirement Research Foundation, will build on the research conducted last year to develop a toolkit on intergenerational programming in senior housing. This work is led by our Senior Fellow Nancy Henkin.
- **The Ohio State University.** Working with Dr. Shannon Jarrott, this partnership produced a national survey of shared site programs (first of its kind in more than 20 years). The key findings are including in the report All In Together and presented in a brief. More information at <https://www.gu.org/resources/survey-of-shared-site-intergenerational-programs/>
- **N4A.** Generations United is one of the partners for engAGED: The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults, a national effort to increase social engagement among older adults through a variety of activities administered by the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) and funded by the U.S. Administration on Aging, which is part of the Administration for Community Living. Learn more at <https://www.engagingolderadults.org/>
- **ZERO TO THREE.** Through this partnership, we elevated babies and toddlers in our intergenerational work in our 2018 shared sites report and articles, through social media, and participating in Strolling Thunder 2018. [See our Strolling Thunder recap.](#)

11

Working with the Media to Tell Intergenerational Stories

- Generations United provided background information for a CBS 60 Minutes story on opioids and grandfamilies that ran in May. You can watch the story at <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/opioid-epidemic-leaving-grandparents-to-raise-grandchildren/>.
- We worked with *The New York Times* on an article on intergenerational shared sites that featured Collington, A Kendal Affiliate and our report with The Eisner Foundation. Read the article <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/05/well/family/elderly-loneliness-aging-intergenerational-programs-.html>.
- *TODAY* aired a story on June 19, 2018 focused on high school seniors helping adult seniors connect with tech as part of their special series Senior vs. Senior. The story cited our report with The Eisner Foundation.

12

Strengthening International Connections

United Nations

- Donna Butts participated in an Expert Group Meeting on “Family Policies for Inclusive Societies” and contributed a paper on intergenerational shared spaces and places
- Donna also participated in “Focusing on families to support the implementation of the SDGs” hosted by the Doha International Family Institute
- Senior Fellow Nancy Henkin spoke at the annual UN NGO conference on the roundtable “Youth, Today’s Leaders”

World Human Rights Cities Forum

- Donna was invited to speak at the World Human Rights Cities Forum in Gwangju, South Korea and presented a paper on the city and the elderly – intergenerational integration

Valuing Vaccinations Across Generations–Japan

- Pfizer supported the continuation and expansion of Valuing Vaccinations Across Generations – Japan, a partnership with the Japan Intergenerational Unity Association and the Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology, to educate the public and policy makers about the importance of vaccinations at all ages

13

Recognizing Five New Programs of Distinction

With the support of our expert review panel, we selected five intergenerational programs to receive the prestigious 2018 Programs of Distinction designation. The designees represent a broad range of high-quality intergenerational programming. Learn more at <https://www.gu.org/projects/programs-of-distinction/>.

The 2018 designees are:

- **Family Friends Program** (<https://education.temple.edu/igc>)
- **Friends in Schools Helping (FISH)** (www.jabacares.org)
- **Link Generations** (<http://Linkgenerations.org>)
- **Sharing Teens and Elders Project (STEP)** (<http://www.southsoundseniors.org/STEP>)
- **The UNISON-Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) Tutor Program** (<http://bit.ly/UNISON-MPSTutor>)

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Welcoming Our New and Renewing Members

We welcomed 10 new and 21 renewing members. The support of our members makes our work possible. Learn about our membership and ways to get involved at <https://www.gu.org/get-involved/>

15

Building Our Team

We welcomed Diane Roznowski as our policy and program coordinator; Danica Derriennic as our summer intern, and new Senior Fellows Bruce Astrein and Michael Marcus. We also had to say goodbye to our policy and program assistant Adam Otto, who left for new adventures in law school. Learn more about the Generations United team at <https://www.gu.org/who-we-are/our-team/>

SUPPORTERS

Foundations

AARP Foundation
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Borealis Foundation
Brookdale Foundation
Casey Family Programs

Crowell & Moring Foundation
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
The Eisner Foundation
Hartford Foundation
W. K. Kellogg Foundation

Michigan Health Endowment Fund
Retirement Research Foundation
Rowe Family Foundation
Turrell Fund
West Foundation

Organizations & Corporations

A Little Help
Advocacy Resources LLC
Appalachian Promise of Claiborne
County
Assertive Family Solutions
Bethlehem Intergenerational Center
Bridges Together, Inc.
Bridging The Gapp
Brightmoor Alliance
Caring for our Generations
Child Care Aware of America
CTA Foundation
DOROT
Eastman Community Association
Ebenezer Ridges
Gentog
Grandmother Project - Change
Through Culture
Harbor House of Louisville

Household Helper
Jewish Council for the Aging of Greater
Washington
KAFASI
Kendal at Oberlin
Kind Kids Inc.
Kraemer Family Library
LeadingAge
Link Generations
Matz, Blancato & Associates
Mi Casa Inc - Genesis
Minnesota Power
Montana Grandparents Raising
Grandchildren
National Association of Area Agencies
on Aging
National Association of Counties
Northland Foundation
ONEgeneration

Pfizer
Plymouth Intergenerational Coalition
Purdue Pharmaceuticals
REUNIONCare, Inc
Rx Abuse Leadership Initiative
Sages and Seekers
Sodexo, Inc
The Salvation Army
Thrive-Alliance Foster Grandparent
Program
ViewHomes
Virginia Tech - Neighbors Growing
Together
Visa
VISIONS/Services for the Blind
Volunteers of America
ZERO TO THREE

Individuals

Marsha Adler
MaryLee Allen
Paul Arfin
Ana Beltran
Donna Butts
William Carey
Mary Ann Casey
Nani Coloretti
Maryanne Courtney
Joseph Cuticelli
Susan Dreyfus
Lauren Feyh
Helene Block Fields
Jean Fiorito
Jatrice Martel Gaiter
Bert Hayslip
Gerry Hyland

Karyne Jones
Eric Kingson
Gail Kohn
Jaia Lent
Bill Libro
John Martin
Mary Anne Mason
David McMillan
Janet McUlsky
Matthew Melmed
Mae Mendelson
Jesse Nation
Brittany Nobles
David Ochoa
Marilyn Oyler
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Lenora Poe

Barbara Quaintance
Marilina Sanz
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Pfizer, Inc.

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Operations and Grants Manager

Irv Katz
Senior Fellow

Alan King
Communications Specialist

Michael Marcus
Senior Fellow

Jaia Peterson Lent
Deputy Executive Director

Adam Otto (thru August 2018)
Policy and Program Assistant

Emily Patrick
Senior Manager

Diane Roznowski (starting September 2018)
Policy and Program Coordinator

Sheri Steinig
Special Projects Director

ABOUT GENERATIONS UNITED

The mission of Generations United is to improve the lives of children, youth and older adults through intergenerational collaboration, public policies and programs for the enduring benefit of all. For over three decades, Generations United has catalyzed cooperation and collaboration among generations, evoking the vibrancy, energy and sheer productivity that result when people of all ages come together. We believe that we can only be successful in the face of our complex future if age diversity is regarded as a national asset and fully leveraged. To learn more about Generations United, please visit www.gu.org.

**generations
united**

Because we're stronger together®

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