



**Intergenerational Approaches:  
Not just nice ... necessary**

The following photos used in this document are from the 2001 and 2002 Generations United intergenerational photo contests sponsored by MetLife Foundation Healthy Aging Initiative:

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# **Generations United Annual Report 2001 and 2002**



## **Intergenerational Approaches: Not just nice ... necessary**





*Since its founding, GU remains the country's only nonprofit membership organization working for the well-being of children, youth and older adults.*

# From the Chair & Executive Director

From 2001 through 2002, Generations United (GU) continued to grow and establish its niche as the country's only membership organization advocating for the mutual well-being of children, youth, and older adults. Our 2001 to 2003 strategic plan guided our work. We are pleased to report that we are on track and have reached many of our objectives. The outcomes, such as increased legislative and media attention to the issues around grandparents raising grandchildren, are beginning to bear important fruit.

This annual report documents many of our accomplishments. GU's important work would not be possible without a sharp, dedicated staff. This talented group of professionals accomplishes much more than staffs twice their size and we are proud to be able to work with them.

The board of directors, a tremendous group of national leaders, again committed to continue to organize GU's work around the dual prongs of policy and program believing in the important role each plays in informing the other. They decided to concentrate on two priority areas: grandparents and other relatives raising children and meeting dependent care needs through intergenerational shared sites. During the strategic planning process, the board identified five priority audiences for GU to address to assist with reaching our goals. They are funders, policy makers, press and media, the GU network, and providers.

While the board and staff play critical roles, the growth of GU has also been fueled by the financial investments of individuals, organizations, and grants from foundations, corporations and the federal government. These venture philanthropists took risks with a young organization and can now be pleased to see a firmly established organization working diligently towards our common vision. In particular the early investments of the Retirement Research and Verizon Foundations helped to jump-start GU's intergenerational work.

Throughout 2001 we continued to build a strong foundation from which to pursue our program and policy goals. This included planning our first international conference scheduled to begin on October 11th. The tragic events of September 11th put a damper on our enthusiasm but reinforced our resolve about the importance of intergenerational connections in all civil societies.

We didn't cancel the conference and, in fact, went on to host our largest meeting ever. A wonderful delegation from the Netherlands and representatives from the United Kingdom, Canada, and Singapore enriched the event and gave us all cause to celebrate the good work underway around the globe.

During the same year we launched Project SHARE (Sharing Helps All Resources Expand) with the generous support of the Helen Andrus Benedict Foundation. Poised to become GU's next signature initiative, Project SHARE assessed the current state of intergenerational shared site programs and resources and began to map a plan for the future. We appreciate the commitment of GU members around the country who will be working in partnership to move the agenda forward.

Our work on behalf of grandparent- and other relative-headed families accelerated in 2002 with the establishment of GU's National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children. We have witnessed public perception and understanding of the families grow. For example, in his 2002 National



JOHN ROTHER, CHAIR

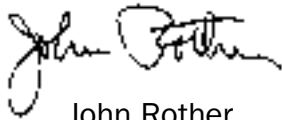


DONNA BUTTS,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Family Week Proclamation, President Bush, for the first time, recognized the significant role these caregivers play in preserving American families by including the statement “Many single parents, grandparents, and others also help raise their children in difficult circumstances, and these dedicated individuals deserve our respect and support.”

At Generations United we are about building bridges, not barricades. We remain committed to promoting intergenerational approaches as vehicles for social inclusion and social change. As we go forward to 2003 and beyond we will continue to push, to provoke, and to prove that intergenerational approaches are not just nice, they are very necessary for our future and to preserving our civil society.



John Rother  
Board Chair



Donna Butts  
Executive Director

# A Catalyst

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**G**enerations United (GU) continues to increase its impact as a catalyst for the collaboration of older adult, youth, and children's organizations seeking a mutually supportive intergenerational agenda. By December 2002, GU had almost 300 individual and organizational members representing more than 70 million Americans.

GU was founded in 1986 by the National Council on the Aging, Child Welfare League of America, AARP, and Children's Defense Fund to promote intergenerational strategies, public policies, and programs. Almost ten years later, in 1997, GU became an independent organization with 100 national organization members.

Since its founding, GU remains the country's only nonprofit membership organization working for the well-being of children, youth and older adults. GU serves as a resource for educating policymakers and the public about the economic, social, and personal imperatives of intergenerational cooperation. By providing a forum for those working with children, youth, and older adults, GU explores areas of common ground while celebrating the richness of each generation.

## OUR MISSION

To improve the lives of children, youth, and older people through intergenerational collaboration, public policies, and programs.

## OUR VISION:

A society that values all generations.

## OUR CORE BELIEFS:

We believe the time has come for advocates for children, youth and older persons to work together to build and support a common agenda. Each generation has unique strengths to help meet the needs of one another. Efforts to create more decent societies rest on the interdependence of generations – past, living, and still to come. Further we believe:

- Intergenerational collaboration will unite and improve our communities.
- Every person, younger and older, is a resource and adds value.
- Public policy should meet the needs of all generations.
- Resources are more wisely used when they connect the generations rather than separate them.
- Discrimination in any form limits a person's potential to contribute to the development of their community.
- Grandparents and other relatives who step forward to raise children are providing an invaluable service to their families and our country.



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# Intergenerational Programs



*Examples of shared sites and co-located facilities include a public school with an on-site senior center; a continuing care retirement community with on-site child care; co-located adult day services and early childhood programs; and a senior center with before- and after-school programs.*

## PROJECT SHARE OR SHARING HELPS ALL RESOURCES EXPAND

GU convened the first national expert symposium to explore meeting dependent care needs through shared sites and co-located facilities. Forty-five national experts came to Washington, DC in spring 2001 to participate in two days of strategic discussions. The symposium kicked off GU's initiative known as SHARE, Sharing Helps All Resources Expand, which was funded by the Helen Andrus Benedict Foundation. Examples of shared sites and co-located facilities include a public school with an on-site senior center; a continuing care retirement community with on-site child care; co-located adult day services and early childhood programs; and a senior center with before- and after-school programs.

To set a framework for the symposium discussions, GU commissioned three background papers on intergenerational shared site and shared resource programs: *Intergenerational Shared Site and Shared Resource Programs: Current Models* by Amy Goyer; *Evaluation and Research on Intergenerational Shared Site Facilities and Programs: What We Know and What We Need to Learn* by Dr. Matt Kaplan and Dr. Valerie Kuehne; and *Intergenerational Shared Sites and Shared Resources: Public Policy Barriers and Opportunities* by GU's own Jaia Peterson, Public Policy Coordinator and Donna Butts, Executive Director. All five authors participated in the symposium, which added to the lively discussions.

Using the results of the symposium, GU staff developed the action monograph, *Reaching Across the Ages: An Action Agenda to Strengthen Communities Through Intergenerational Shared Sites and Shared Resources*. The monograph addresses short and long-term plans for the development of intergenerational shared site and shared resource programs in communities across the country. Practical and innovative ways to promote these programs are explored. The publication's in-depth discussion of the policy issues, as well as next-step recommendations, is invaluable for advocates at the local, state, and national levels to develop solutions for tearing-down artificial age barriers.

Recommendations include:

- Developing test programs to tackle the most common policy barriers prohibiting interaction between young and old.
- Developing a blueprint for finding financial resources to support intergenerational programs.
- Sponsoring research on shared sites documenting the sites' cost effectiveness and identifying long-term benefits for participants of all ages.
- Identifying and disseminating data about the components of successful programs and the most common pitfalls to avoid.

This publication serves as the blueprint for GU and other proponents to show that shared sites provide important environments where children, youth, and older adults share space, interact, and learn together.

## PROJECT SPARC OR SENIORS: POWERFUL AND ACTIVE RESOURCES IN COMMUNITIES

GU was awarded a two-year contract with the National Senior Service Corps National Organization Initiative to raise visibility and promote senior service through GU member networks and new audiences.



This project, known as SPARC or Seniors: Powerful and Active Resources in Communities, had many successes:

- GU's Program Director, Sheri Steinig, was a key presenter during a series of presentations at four intergenerational symposia held throughout San Diego County, California during Intergenerational Week 2001.
- GU's Donna Butts was invited to speak about intergenerational initiatives and senior service to key personnel from the US Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families and Administration on Aging.
- GU staff spoke about senior service and the valuable role older adults can play in organizations and communities at over 45 national conferences and local meetings reaching over 875 people.
- GU's popular publication *Young and Old Serving Together: Meeting Community Needs Through Intergenerational Partnerships* was updated. Maureen Statland of the Chicago Metro Intergenerational Committee and University of Illinois Extension contributed to a new chapter on intergenerational service learning. This publication was printed by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and distributed to all National Senior Service Corps programs.
- GU Partnered with CNCS' new online recruitment system called JASON or Join Senior Service Now. GU members register their volunteer needs through JASON, which includes all Senior Corps projects from across the nation and other volunteer opportunities.

#### PROGRAM DATABASE ON-LINE

GU maintains the only national database of hundreds of intergenerational programs. In 2001, the database was put online and is now accessible through the GU website at [www.gu.org](http://www.gu.org). The database is an easy tool for finding program profiles and contact information on a wide variety of intergenerational programs. Visitors to the database are now also able to share information about their own programs with a national audience.

#### GU'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

On the heels of the events of September 11, GU successfully went forward with its first international conference. At a time when many conferences were being cancelled, GU staff and board members made a conscious decision to continue with the plans. The White House gratefully acknowledged GU's decision.

During October 10-13, 2001, GU held its largest conference to date with over 225 people in attendance. Despite the difficulties of traveling internationally just one month after the tragedies, attendees included fourteen prominent intergenerational experts from the Netherlands, two from Singapore, and one each from the United Kingdom and Canada.

Some highlights of the GU conference were:

- Two well-attended Pre-Conference Intensives. Close to 100 people participated in the one-day trainings.
- The Annual Awards Dinner, during which seven intergenerational visionaries and practitioners were honored for their work.
- The Opening Plenary Session entitled *Intergenerational Programmes and Policies: International Perspectives on Essential Strategies*, which featured international, intergenerational experts: Alan Hatton-Yeo, The Beth Johnson Foundation in England;



*"More and more, we are gathering evidence that intergenerational programs contribute to the new civic connections our society so badly needs."*

*Kees Penninx,  
Senior Consultant,  
Netherlands  
Institute of Care  
and Welfare*

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*On behalf of the President and myself, I want to thank you for not allowing the September 11th tragedy to deter you from holding your annual meeting. The efforts of the 109 organizations that comprise Generations United touch the lives of millions of Americans both young and old...Please know that we appreciate your conviction that your work must go on despite recent events.*

*Lawrence B. Lindsey, Assistant to the President for Economic Policy*

Kees Penninx, Netherlands Institute of Care and Welfare; and Dr. Helia Molina, World Health Organization.

- The Closing Plenary Session with Nickole Collins from the inspirational Academy Award nominated documentary *Legacy* and Tod Lending, filmmaker.
- 30 lively workshops and 25 roundtable sessions, featuring over 100 presenters from the US and abroad.

#### INTERGENERATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST

MetLife Foundation's Healthy Aging Initiative awarded two grants to GU for intergenerational

photo contests in 2001 and 2002. MetLife Foundation also funded the development and publication of a book highlighting the impact stories behind the winning photos from the 2001 contest, entitled *Behind the Scenes: Stories from Generations United's First Intergenerational Photography Contest*.

Photo contest entries were compiled into a traveling exhibit that has been displayed at many national conferences and special events. These powerful images set the intergenerational stage on GU's website and have been beautifully used in many GU publications.



# Public Policy

## INTERGENERATIONAL APPROACH TO PUBLIC POLICY

GU brings single-aged focused groups together to promote a common agenda on behalf of all generations. GU recognizes that the generations share basic needs. People, regardless of their age, need adequate income, access to quality health care and social services, educational and employment opportunities, and a safe place to live. Effective public policies must recognize these similar needs and the fact that the generations are interdependent. Accordingly, resources should be allocated wisely to connect generations rather than separate them.

With these principles in mind, GU uses an intergenerational approach to framing public policies that affect children, youth, and older adult issues. The approach involves examining the impact of such policies across the entire life span. For example, all generations are served by improving schools. Better schools result in a more capable and productive workforce, one that is better able to support those who are not working due to disability, retirement or young age.

## PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

More than 20 organizations and interested individuals serve on GU's public policy committee, under the leadership of Patrick Gaston, Executive Director of Strategic Alliances, Verizon Communications; Howard Bedlin, Vice President for Public Policy and Advocacy, National Council on the Aging; and Gregg Haifley, Deputy Director, Health Division for the Children's Defense Fund.

## PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA

In 2001, Committee members worked together to write *A Public Policy Agenda for the 107th Congress*, which served as a blueprint for GU's public policy work during this time frame.

GU's public policy committee focused on five priority legislative areas:

- Affordable housing for grandparents and other relatives raising children
- The Corporation for National and Community Service
- The Social Services Block Grant (Title XX)
- Intergenerational before- and after-school programs
- The refundable Child Tax Credit

For each of these areas, the public policy committee collaborated to delineate specific legislative action items, and provide its position statement and background information. After compiling the agenda, the committee further worked to disseminate the agenda to each Member of Congress along with a bipartisan cover letter from the Older American and Children's Caucuses; schedule visits with Members to explain the importance of these intergenerational legislative items; and work on other educational efforts in support of its common goals.

## LEGACY

As the first item in the agenda, the public policy committee sought to create affordable housing opportunities for grandparents and other relatives raising children. GU staff and the public policy committee worked with key bipartisan legislators to introduce a bill known as LEGACY — Living



*"We believe that public policy should meet the needs of all generations and that resources are more wisely used when they connect generations rather than separate them."*

*Generations United  
A Public Policy  
Agenda for the  
107th Congress*

GENERATIONS UNITED  
Annual Report  
2001-2002

Equitably-Grandparents Aiding Children and Youth – in the 107th Congress. LEGACY included provisions in the following areas:

- National demonstration programs providing affordable housing and services on-site for grandparents and other relatives raising children.
- Educating front line housing workers about policies that affect the families.
- Clarifying that grandparents and other relatives raising children qualify for the Section 8 Family Unification Program.
- Providing assistance to relatives, who own and live in small homes, to build additional bedrooms to accommodate children who have unexpectedly come into their care.
- Conducting a national study of the housing needs of grandparents and other relatives raising children.

The legislation LEGACY grew out of the housing needs vividly depicted in the Academy Award nominated documentary of the same name. In May 2001, GU held an event on Capitol Hill to introduce the documentary *Legacy* and launch GU's public policy agenda. Marion Wright Edelman, President of Children's Defense Fund (CDF) and Horace Deets, Executive Director of AARP, moderated the well-attended event.

GU staff also educated Congress on intergenerational housing needs through testimony and contributions to a Report to Congress. Donna Butts was invited to testify before the Commission on Affordable Housing and Health Facility Needs for Seniors in the 21st Century. The Commission was created by Congress in late 1999 and one of its mandates is to "examine how to establish intergenerational learning and care centers and living



arrangements, in particular to facilitate appropriate environments for families consisting only of children and a grandparent or grandparents who are the head of the household." Based on the success of Ms. Butts' testimony, the Commission asked GU to prepare a background paper for its Report to Congress, which GU staff did. GU's paper provided material used in the final Report to Congress.

GU staff regularly use US Census Bureau data to make its case for creating affordable housing opportunities for grandparents and other relatives raising children. As a result, GU staff was invited by the US Census Bureau to present at a meeting with major national nonprofit organizations concerning the importance of the American Community Survey (ACS). As the only nonprofit organization invited to speak, Ana Beltran, Director of GU's National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children, told how ACS data helps support the need for creating affordable housing for grandparent-headed families. After that meeting, GU also submitted written comments for publishing in the Federal Register.

#### CHILD POVERTY AGENDA

In addition to working together to introduce LEGACY, the GU public policy committee

collaborated on writing and promoting an intergenerational *Agenda to Eliminate Child Poverty*. The agenda calls for giving families the basic tools they need to support work, providing necessary support for families to raise children, increasing access to existing services, and ensuring that work pays enough to raise a child. Among the agenda items, it calls for an increase in the Child Care and Development Block Grant and the minimum wage, and improved access to the Earned Income Tax Credit, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance Programs.

GU released its agenda at a July 2002 event on Capitol Hill in honor of one of America's most passionate child advocates, the late David Liederman, co-founder of Generations United and former CEO of the Child Welfare League of America. A poster celebrating Mr. Liederman was also unveiled. Shay Bilchik, president and CEO of the Child Welfare League of America and GU board member, moderated the event and provided moving comments. Bill Novelli, Executive Director of AARP, and Marion Wright Edelman, President of CDF, also spoke eloquently about the fundamental need to eliminate child poverty. Earl Storm, a foster grandparent volunteer in Washington, DC who works with at-risk children, reminded the audience about the difference one person can make. "Grandpa" Storm, as he is known to the children he tutors, discussed the active role Older Americans can and should play in helping to eliminate child poverty.

#### OTHER PUBLIC POLICY ACTIVITY

During GU's first International conference, it held a Hill Day, during which over 70 participants were told first-hand about the legislative process from

members of GU's board of directors and public policy committee, staff from Congressional offices, and Representatives Shelley Berkley (D-NV), Ralph Regula (R-OH) and Henry Waxman (D-CA). After the presentations, the attendees visited their Members of Congress to promote the importance of intergenerational public policies and programs.

GU held another educational briefing on Capitol Hill, during which Ken Bryson, US Census Bureau, and GU staff spoke about the 2000 Census Data on grandparents and other relatives raising children and their housing and service needs.

Donna Butts and Jaia Peterson were asked to write a white paper for the Annie E. Casey Foundation concerning intergenerational convergence and conflicts in public policy.

Building on GU's previous work that resulted in grandparents and other relatives raising children being included in the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP), GU submitted written testimony to the US Senate Special Committee on Aging, concerning the effectiveness of the NFCSP. As part of GU's NFCSP efforts, Ana Beltran also presented oral remarks and a written statement during a listening session convened by Assistant Secretary Josefina Carbonell on the regulations implementing the reauthorized Older Americans Act, including the NFCSP.

*"Child poverty affects not just the grandparents and parents who may be in the families, but it is an issue for all generations as it influences the kind of society, workforce, and future our country will have."*

*-Shay Bilchik  
President & CEO  
Child Welfare  
League of  
America  
&  
GU Board Member*



# National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children



*"I know the important role my mother has played in the lives of her grandchildren, sharing the richness of traditions and the strength of our family's roots. This is one of the reasons I've been proud to be a part of the board and support the cutting edge work of Generations United."*

*Patrick Gaston,  
Executive Director  
of Strategic  
Alliances, Verigen  
Communications &  
GU Board Member*

## GU'S INITIATIVE BECOMES A NATIONAL CENTER

GU was awarded two national innovative grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS') Administration on Aging (AoA). This funding allowed GU to establish its National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children, which serves as an umbrella for all of GU's work on behalf of relatives raising children. Since 1997, when it convened the first national expert symposium to examine the issues facing these families, GU has provided unique leadership in the field. As the only national nonprofit organization devoted to intergenerational programs and public policies, GU has and continues to address the issues facing the families from the perspectives of both the children and the adults. The new AoA funding allowed GU to increase its efforts and consolidate its long-time work on behalf of each generation in these families. GU's leadership, outreach, and impact in this field continued to grow throughout 2001-2002.

## FIRST NATIONAL NETWORK OF SUPPORT GROUPS FOR RELATIVES CARING FOR KIN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM...KINNET

DHHS' Children's Bureau granted GU three years of funding (October 2000-October 2003) to establish the first national network of support groups for relatives caring for kin in the foster care system, known as KinNET. In partnership with the Brookdale Foundation Group (Brookdale), GU awarded mini-grants to twenty local nonprofit agencies around the country to conduct these support groups. GU connected the sites by providing various forms of technical assistance, including two annual conferences in collaboration with Brookdale, site visits, biannual conference calls, and web-based expert chats.

## KINNET SITES FUNDED IN 2001-2002

The Village for Families and Children Inc., Hartford, Connecticut

Collin County Children's Advocacy Center, Plano, Texas

St. Mary's Children and Family Services, Syosset, New York

Kaw Valley Center, Kansas City, Kansas

A Second Chance, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Denver, Denver, Colorado

Children's Home Society of Florida, West Palm Beach, Florida

Lilliput Children's Services, Sacramento, California

Native American Foster Parents Association, Chicago, Illinois

Casa Central, Chicago, Illinois

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### KINNET SITES FUNDED IN 2002-2003

- .....  
The National Center for Children and Families, Washington, DC
- .....  
Greater Richmond SCAN (Stop Child Abuse Now), Richmond, Virginia
- .....  
Family Care of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois
- .....  
Spaulding for Children, Southfield, Michigan
- .....  
Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health, Chicago, Illinois
- .....  
Licking County Department of Job and Family Services, Newark, Ohio
- .....  
Saginaw County Commission on Aging, Saginaw, Michigan
- .....  
Oklahoma State University Foundation in Partnership with the OSU Gerontology Institute,  
Stillwater, Oklahoma
- .....  
The Children's Service Society of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
- .....  
Foundation of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark, New Jersey

### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MODEL PROGRAM

GU received its third contract from the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of the DHHS to replicate Brookdale's Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP) in behavioral health agencies across the United States. By placing the RAPP program in mental health agencies, the families had access to a wide range of enhanced mental health services.

GU, in collaboration with Brookdale, selected three sites for this third round of funding:

**Jewish Family Services, Los Angeles, California**

**The Guidance Center of Brooklyn in collaboration with The Children of Alcoholics Foundation, New York, New York**

**The University of Maine-Orono Center on Aging**

Jewish Family Services focused efforts on at-risk adolescents and their families by conducting a teen support group in which staff provided emotional and social support as well as education around difficult issues. In Brooklyn, New York, the collaborative effort between the Guidance Center

and the Children of Alcoholics Foundation helped relatives raising children with issues surrounding parental substance abuse. The University of Maine developed a state-wide planning and service project focused on the significance of mental health disorders and substance abuse for rural families and the negative impact such conditions can have on older adults who have unexpectedly assumed parenting responsibilities.

### ADDITIONAL CENTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In addition to establishing KinNET and managing the mental health project, some highlights of work accomplished by GU's Center staff include the following:

- Awarded funding from AT&T Work and Family Program and the Retirement Research Foundation to research and publish a user-friendly guide about the National Family Caregiver Support Program.
- Convened and deployed a new national network of 18 expert trainers to provide training about grandparents and other relatives raising children to the aging network.
- Planned and conducted four regional trainings in New Orleans, Louisiana; Seattle,

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Washington; Washington, DC; and Richmond, Virginia, in collaboration with AARP. GU and AARP trained about 315 policy makers, direct service practitioners, professionals, and caregivers in the myriad of issues faced by the families.

- CDF, GU, and AARP sponsored a two day intensive for national organizations with faith-based and community networks at CDF's retreat center at the Alex Haley Farm in Tennessee. This two day training was an important first step in achieving the goal of building strategies to help relative-headed families at the local levels where they live.
- Continued to track state legislation and provide assistance to those interested in pursuing new legislation in their states.
- Hired a new technical assistance coordinator who provided individual technical assistance, information, and referrals to professionals, practitioners and caregivers.
- Continued to convene quarterly the advisory group consisting of experts from around the country who guide the Center's work.
- In partnership with CDF and several other national nonprofits, compiled 51 fact sheets with information about programs and policies for grandparents and other relatives raising children in each state and the District of Columbia.
- Conducted a survey of corporate human resource departments to ask about the inclusion of grandparent and other relative caregivers in their employee benefits and family friendly policies, and published a guide with those results.



# Public Education

## WEBSITE

GU's website at [www.gu.org](http://www.gu.org) continues to be its most significant outreach and educational tool. Visited by more than 14,000 visitors a month, the website contains the only intergenerational program database in the country, several GU guides in their entirety, fact sheets on many of the issues facing relatives raising children, and key intergenerational public policy information, in addition to much more.

## TOGETHER NEWSLETTER

GU's popular quarterly newsletter *Together* was revamped in 2001-2002. The changes started after inviting several intergenerational and publication experts to serve on *Together's* first national editorial board. The board consulted on style and substance changes, which were quickly implemented. *Together* got a new color scheme and font size. Recurring sections were added and more outside articles were solicited. As a result of the improvements, dissemination also grew. By the end of 2002, *Together* had a circulation list of 7,500, and was widely distributed at national, state and local conferences.

The GU editorial board consists of the following experts:

Linda Armstrong  
Early Childhood Specialist  
Armed Forces Services  
San Antonio, TX

Sandra Brostrom  
Graduate Student, Intergenerational Specialist  
Intergenerational Studies Program, University of Findlay  
Lima, OH

Gladys Hotchkiss  
Senior Affairs Commission of San Bernardino County Aging and Adult Service  
Crestline, CA

Laura Landry-Meyer  
Assistant Professor  
Bowling Green State University, School of Family and Consumer Sciences  
Bowling Green, OH

Bard Lindeman  
Syndicated Columnist "In Your Prime"  
Tribune Media Services  
Stone Mountain, GA



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*"The tragic events of September 11th took place in New York, Washington, DC and Pennsylvania. However, they touched every American whether personally or vicariously. Many reported a need to connect, to reach out in their communities and across the country. Many reached out to older relatives and friends looking for reassurance that comes from experience and age. At Generations United we believe there is an important role that intergenerational approaches can play in helping our country heal while preparing for the future."*

*Donna Butts, GU's, Executive Director*

Winifred McDuffie  
Intergenerational Consultant  
Senior Neighbors of Chattanooga  
Chattanooga, TN

Rolanda Pyle  
Grandparent Resource Center, New York City  
Department for the Aging  
New York, NY

Bob Rosenblatt  
Los Angeles Times Columnist  
Annandale, VA

GU Staff Jaia Peterson and Donna Butts

#### **MEDIA OUTREACH**

GU continued to inform public opinion about grandparents raising grandchildren and other intergenerational programs and public policies through its outreach to the media. GU staff was cited in articles appearing in the *Washington Post* and *USA Today*. As the U.S. Census Bureau released new statistics on grandparent-headed families, GU became a key source for local and national press – including the Associated Press and Gannett News Service – to call for comment. Progressive Media assisted GU staff with an editorial on grandparents raising grandchildren

that was syndicated by Knight Ridder for Older American's Month in May 2002. It appeared in over a dozen newspapers around the country.

Donna Butts was featured during a story on National Public Radio's (NPR) *All Things Considered* and Ana Beltran was interviewed on NPR's *Public Interest* with Kojo Nnamdi. GU staff were also heard on radio stations in Georgia, Ohio, and Washington State, and appeared in stories on Maryland and Pennsylvania Public Television.

In the wake of September 11, GU staff wrote an intergenerational response that resonated with other nonprofits, media, and the public. The response delineated four specific productive things Americans could do.

Also in response to September 11, GU staff wrote a letter to the editor of the New York Times, which was published:

**THE NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIALS/LETTERS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2002**

## **Grandparent Caregivers**

To the Editor:

"Grandma Helps to Fill the Void Left by Sept. 11" (front page, Feb. 1) calls attention to the growing issue of grandparents raising grandchildren.

According to the Census Bureau, more than 2 million grandparents are currently raising 4.5 million children, and other relatives are raising an additional 1.5 million children whose parents are unable or unwilling to do so.

Grandparent and other relative caregivers save taxpayers more than \$5 billion a year by keeping millions of children out of the foster care system. While the individual families are unique, they all need support, respite care, housing and access to accurate information.

In addition to the death of parents, an increase in other circumstances that send children to live with grandparents and other relatives, like substance abuse, incarceration and poverty, reinforce the need to develop social policies that support relative caregivers.

DONNA M. BUTTS  
Exec. Dir., Generations United  
Washington, Feb. 1, 2002

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## PRESENTATIONS

Throughout 2001-2002, GU staff gave almost 100 keynote addresses, presentations, and workshops at international, national, state, and local conferences. As an investment in its staff, the GU Board of Directors voted that honoraria from these presentations be used solely for staff development.

Some highlights from GU's long list of presentations include:

- Sheri Steinig and Jaia Peterson presented on intergenerational shared site programs at the 2002 International Consortium of Intergenerational Programmes Conference in the United Kingdom.
- Donna Butts presented at the International Association of Homes and Services for the Aging in Vancouver, Canada.
- Ana Beltran spoke about legal issues during the National Videoconference on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Legal and Policy Issues produced by the University of Wisconsin-Cooperative Extension and Purdue University Cooperative Extension. The videoconference was broadcast in February 2001 to 3,222 participants at 261 sites in 45 states.
- Donna Butts and Caroline Crocoll, GU's KinNET Manager, were invited to present at the prestigious Hubert H. Humphrey Policy Institute in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Donna Butts was invited to present at both the 2001 and 2002 "Family ReUnion" conferences hosted by former Vice-President Albert Gore and Mrs. Tipper Gore and sponsored by the University of Minnesota and Vanderbilt University.
- Maggie Troope Biscarr, Assistant Director of the National Center, gave the keynote address at the University of Vermont School of Social Work's conference on grandparents and other relatives raising children.
- Jaia Peterson and Sheri Steinig presented a workshop on shared sites at the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging annual meeting.
- Donna Butts was on the opening panel for the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies.
- GU staff presented multiple sessions at both the 2001 and 2002 Brookdale Relatives As Parents Program annual conferences.
- Donna Butts was asked to present at an Urban Institute First Tuesday Seminar on Kinship Care.
- Ana Beltran was invited to give the keynote address at the Children Services Annual Conference in Summit County, Ohio.
- Donna Butts presented at the Hawaii Intergenerational Network Conference, the Massachusetts Intergenerational Network Annual Meeting, the San Bernardino Intergenerational Conference, and the Virginia Governor's Conference on Aging.



### GU PIN

GU worked with New Orleans-based artist Oscar Donahue of Oscar's Originals to create a signature GU pin. The pin, only available through GU, was unveiled during GU's 2001 International Conference and continues to be a popular visual expression affirming the importance of intergenerational connections.

### LEGACY

In partnership with Outreach Extensions, GU staff continued its work to help promote the compelling documentary *Legacy*. Staff prepared a request for proposals, reviewed proposals, and awarded two rounds of mini-grants of \$500 each to a total of twenty-one community organizations. The grants were to help support their work on behalf of grandparents raising grandchildren.

### AMERICAN FAMILY

On the heels of GU's effective partnership with Outreach Extensions to promote the documentary *Legacy*, GU again partnered with Outreach Extensions to help promote the PBS series *American Family*. The series chronicled the lives of a Latino family in Los Angeles and featured a who's who of actors including Edward James Olmos, Sonja Braga, Esai Morales, and Raquel Welch.

GU promoted the important intergenerational messages highlighted in the series, reached out to Latino organizations about intergenerational approaches, and provided assistance to local PBS stations. As part of the effort, GU wrote a section on intergenerational approaches and multigenerational families for the outreach toolkit, a section on oral history for the American Family Album, and a questionnaire about common myths and stereotypes about intergenerational interaction for the PBS website. GU also distributed mini-grants of \$500 each to ten groups that supported *American Family* and had intergenerational projects, which focused on the transfer of rich cultural traditions and family stories between the generations.

### OTHER INTERGENERATIONAL OUTREACH EFFORTS

GU continued to promote Intergenerational Week in May, and Intergeneration Day, sponsored by the Intergeneration Foundation, at the beginning of October. GU also helped to promote Join Hands Day in mid-June, a national day of service that unites young people and adults in an effort to make their neighborhoods better. Join Hands Day is sponsored by America's Fraternal Benefit Societies, in partnership with The Points of Light Foundation and the Volunteer Center National Network.

# Looking to the Future

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**G**U has a unique mission that sets a clear path for its future. As the only national intergenerational nonprofit membership organization, its role is cutting edge, well defined and essential. GU will continue to expand upon its past work and successes to help guide its future. GU will also continue to promote intergenerational approaches to new audiences as it works to create a society that values all generations equally. Among the many projects for the near-future, GU will do the following:

GU, in partnership with Temple University's Center for Intergenerational Learning, will work with the National Education Association (NEA) to develop an intergenerational teacher mentor program. GU and Temple will provide technical assistance and trainings at NEA-Retired's two annual regional meetings. The how-to training will focus on developing mentoring programs for retired teachers to act as mentors to new teachers with the goal of increasing teacher retention.

GU will seek to reintroduce LEGACY in the 108th Congress and continue to encourage its passage. In partnership with Children's Defense Fund and other nonprofit organizations, the first Capitol Hill rally of grandparents raising grandchildren is planned for 2003. Creating affordable housing opportunities will feature prominently at this rally. GU's Hill Day during its International Conference in October 2003 will also focus on raising awareness about LEGACY. With increasing public awareness and media exposure, GU hopes for successful passage of LEGACY during the 108th Congress.

At the end of 2002, GU was awarded its second grant from AoA. It is a two year grant that will allow GU to continue training and providing technical assistance to the aging network. As the only national nonprofit to receive an AoA grant to support the inclusion of grandparents raising grandchildren in the NFCSP, GU considers it a privilege to continue its important work. GU will expand its national network of expert trainers and increase its training and technical assistance outreach.

2003 will be the third year of KinNET. GU will focus on the evaluation of the network, which will be the first of its kind. The in-depth study of the effectiveness of support groups for relatives caring for children in the foster care system will provide much needed data for future support group development. A video that illustrates best practices will spread the word about how support groups help caregivers more effectively care for themselves and the children they are raising.



*GU will also continue to promote intergenerational approaches to new audiences as it works to create a society that values all generations equally.*

# GU Awards

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Jack Ossofsky Award for Lifetime Achievement in Support of Children, Youth, and the Elderly:  
REP. CONNIE MORELLA, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (R-MD)

Steven L. Tunick Award for Outstanding Achievement in Intergenerational Programming:  
W.J. "BILL" LITTLE, CO-FOUNDER, SENIOR EDUCATION CORPS, NORTH CAROLINA

Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award:  
RASHIDA JOLLEY, MISS DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Outstanding Older Adult Volunteer Award:  
THELMA MURRAY, FAMILY FRIENDS, OMAHA, NEBRASKA

AARP Grandparent Award:  
DR. MARY BRINTNALL-PETERSON, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, AND DR. DENA TARG, PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Warren Featherbone Foundation Award for Innovation in Connecting The Generations:  
SHEILA SEARS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES, MOBILE, ALABAMA

# GU Publications

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## 2001

*Celebrating the Generations: Intergenerational Week Guidebook* by Fred Ramstedt

Fact Sheet: *Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Their Inclusion in the National Family Caregiver Support Program*

*A Guide to the National Family Caregiver Support Program and Its Inclusion of Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children*

*A Public Policy Agenda for the 107th Congress*

## 2002

*Behind the Scenes: Stories from Generations United's First Intergenerational Photography Contest*

Fact Sheet: *Benefits of Intergenerational Programs*

Fact Sheet: *Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Housing Needs and Challenges-The GrandFamilies House Response*

Fact Sheet: *Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Respite Care*

Fact Sheet: *Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Supplemental Services*

Fact Sheet: *Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Support Group Development*

Fact Sheet: *Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Support in the Workplace*

*Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Support in the Workplace*

*The Generations United Agenda to Eliminate Child Poverty*

*Reaching Across the Ages: An Action Agenda to Strengthen Communities Through Intergenerational Shared Sites and Shared Resources*

*Revised Young and Old Serving Together: Meeting Community Needs Through Intergenerational Partnerships*

## GU Financial Supporters

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AARP  
American Association of Homes and Services for  
the Aging  
Annie E. Casey Foundation  
AT&T Family Care Development Fund  
Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America  
Brookdale Foundation Group  
Ceridian Corporation  
Chicago Community Trust  
Child Welfare League of America  
Corporation for National and Community Service  
DHHS - Administration on Aging  
DHHS - Children's Bureau  
DHHS - Center for Mental Health Services  
Stanley Druckenmiller  
Robert Dugger  
Family Support America  
Paul Tudor Jones  
Matz, Blancato and Associates  
Richard Medley  
MetLife Foundation  
National 4-H Council  
National Association of Children's Hospitals &  
Related Institutions

National Association of Counties  
National Council on the Aging  
Omidiyar Foundation  
Eiji Ono  
OutReach Extensions  
Points of Light Foundation  
Retirement Research Foundation  
Save the Children - US Programs  
University of Minnesota  
Verizon Corporation  
Verizon Foundation  
Volunteers of America

*Generations United would also like to thank the individual contributors to our year end campaigns:*

Bob Blancato  
Donna Butts  
Donald Floyd  
Sheldon Goldberg  
Irv Katz  
William Libro  
Winifred McDuffie  
Larry Minnix  
Judith Vredenburgh

## GU Honors

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- In 2002, Donna Butts was elected as one of only two Americans to the board of the International Consortium on Intergenerational Programmes.
- With Janet Sainer of the Brookdale Foundation, Maggie Troope Biscarr co-chaired the grandparents raising grandchildren track at the ASA/NCOA Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado.
- Ana Beltran was asked to write an essay reviewing five books concerning grandparents for the *Gerontologist*, which was published.
- Donna Butts was asked to serve on the editorial board of the new *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships: Programs, Policy and Research*.
- Jaia Peterson served on the Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Issues Website Advisory forum.
- Donna Butts co-wrote two chapters for a new book published in 2002, *Linking Lifetimes: A Global View of Intergenerational Exchange*, by Matthew Kaplan, Nancy Henkin and Atsuko Kusana.
- Ana Beltran wrote two articles with Dr. Carrie Jefferson-Smith that were published in the *Journal of Aging and Social Policy* and the *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*.



# GU Board of Directors and GU Staff

MaryLee Allen, Secretary (01-02)  
Director, Child Welfare and Mental Health  
Children's Defense Fund

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Family Care Development Fund, AT&T

Mary Ann Van Clief (02)  
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Judith Vredenburg (01-02)  
Director /CEO  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America

Special Advisors To The Board:

Robert Blancato (01-02)  
Partner  
Matz, Blancato, & Associates

Irv Katz (01-02)  
Executive Director  
The National Assembly of Health and Human Service

Maggie Troope Biscarr, Project Coordinator (01), Associate Director (late 01-02), National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren

Caroline Crocoll, KinNET Manager (mid 02), Associate Director, National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children (late 02)

Katie Finkelstein, Intern (01)

Cara Goldstein, Technical Assistance Coordinator, National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren (late 01-02)

Terence Kane, Public Policy Associate (02)

Tara Kimball, Work Study Student (02)

Hector Lopez, Public Policy Associate (01)

Florence Mitchell, Office Assistant

Kode Nascimento, Intern (01)

Jaia Peterson, Public Policy Coordinator (01) Director (02)

Donna Rawls, KinNET Coordinator (01-mid 02)

Jennifer Smith, Intern (01)

Eboni Speight, Office/Grants Manager

Sheri Steinig, Program Director

## GU Staff

If there are no dates next to the name, the person held the position for the entire time period.

Donna M. Butts,  
Executive Director

Ana Beltran, Director,  
National Center on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children (01-late 02) Special Advisor (late 02)

# GU Members

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SERVICE  
KANSAS INTERGENERATIONAL  
NETWORK  
LUTHERAN HOMES AND  
SERVICES

## GENERATIONS UNITED

Annual Report  
2001-2002

# GU Members, cont

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LUTHERAN SERVICES IN AMERICA	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM DIRECTORS	NEW JERSEY INTERGENERATIONAL NETWORK	SALVATION ARMY
MATZ, BLANCATO, AND ASSOCIATES	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS	NEW YORK STATE INTERGENERATIONAL NETWORK	SAVE THE CHILDREN
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF GULF PORT	NATIONAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH	OLDER WOMEN'S LEAGUE ORGANIZATION FOR THE NEEDS OF THE ELDERLY (O.N.E.)	SECOND TIME AROUND PARENTS/FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE OF DELAWARE CO.
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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AREA AGENCIES ON AGING	NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE AGING	RSVP OF MOBILE ALABAMA	TREESLER LUTHERAN SERVICES
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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL	ST. CLARE'S COMMUNITY CENTER	UNITED WAY OF AMERICA
	NATIONAL NETWORK FOR YOUTH	ST. JOHN'S HOME OF MILWAUKEE	VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS
			VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA
			WISCONSIN POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

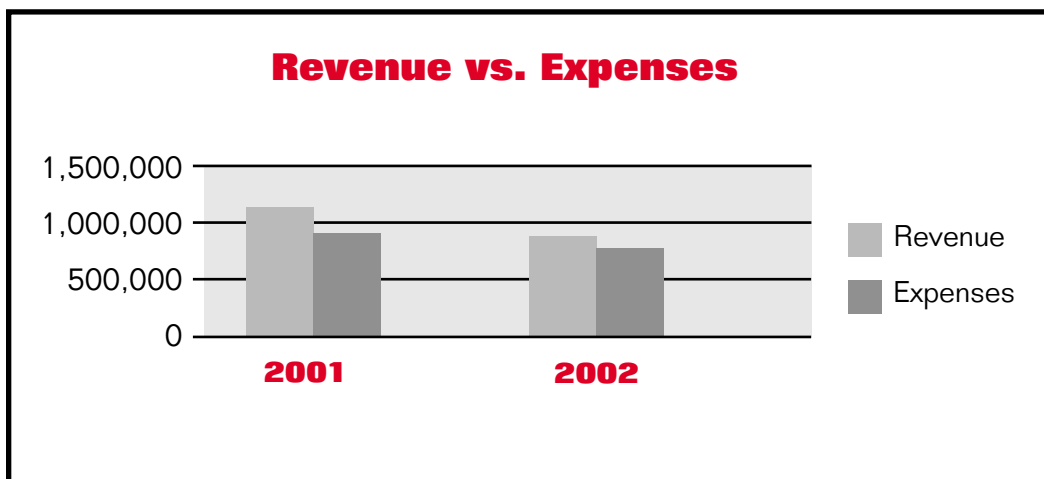
# GU Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31,

	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Contributions and Grants	668,754	402,343
Conference and Symposium	885	*49,323
Membership dues	127,370	128,369
Publications income	3,367	2,152
In-kind contributions	70,022	70,476
Interest	9,999	11,854
Other	11,966	21,894
Net assets released from restrictions:		
Satisfaction of program restrictions	184,197	232,463
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>1,076,560</u>	<u>918,874</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
<i>Program Services:</i>		
KinNET	348,793	287,165
Foster Grandparents	0	8,099
Learn and Serve	191	15,442
Membership	17,449	27,103
Public Education	19,936	32,857
Conference	2,792	51,154
Photography contest	25,616	13,855
Legacy	35,569	23,383
Coffee table book	3,559	8,169
Publications	0	36,640
Relatives as Parents	21,885	23,610
Grandparents Project	24,288	78,264
Project SHARE	67,833	74,682
American Family	5,258	463
NFCSP	238,954	24,957
Project SPARC	88,457	73,531
<i>Supporting Services</i>		
General and Administrative	71,494	35,199
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>972,074</u>	<u>814,573</u>
Change in unrestricted net assets	10,4486	104,301
Change in temporarily restricted assets		
Grants and contributions	35,235	205,328
Program income	1,150	0
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>-18,419</u>	<u>-232,463</u>
Change in temporarily restricted assets	-147,812	-27,135
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	-43,326	77,166
<b>Net Assets, beginning of year</b>	<u>588,161</u>	<u>510,995</u>
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	<u><u>544,835</u></u>	<u><u>588,161</u></u>

# Generations United Statement of Financial Position

	2002	2001
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	327,556	357,747
Certificate of Deposit	200,094	75,163
Accounts receivable	49,782	62,447
Grants receivable	5,974	96,675
Prepaid expenses	0	4,153
Furniture and equipment (net)	24,166	29,775
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>607,572</u>	<u>625,960</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable	25,272	8,804
Accrued salaries and benefits	27,465	18,995
Deferred dues (net)	10,000	10,000
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>62,737</u>	<u>37,799</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		
Unrestricted	471,462	366,976
Temporarily restricted	73,373	221,185
Total Net Assets	<u>544,835</u>	<u>588,161</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<u>607,572</u>	<u>625,960</u>



# Auditor's Statement

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Independent Auditor's Report  
To the Board of Directors of  
Generations United

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of Generations United (the Organization) as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Generations United as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 and results of its activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Lane & Company  
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