# **Generations United 2016 Annual Report** CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

**Generations United is a celebration.** The creation of Generations United marks the recognition that America's generations have never been closer, and at the same time, have never needed one another as much as they do today.

Our aim is to portray clearly how critical it is for all of the generations to build on our national experience of shared generational values.

Generations United will also devote its energies to combat those who claim that there is cause for generational conflict in America today.

Generations United, and all of its members and friends, is in the business of cooperation and not conflict, strengthening and not destroying the positive qualities of intergenerational American life and in laying the groundwork for the politics of family, community and generational solidarity.

> - Excerpt from Remarks of Jack Ossofsky at the Announcement of Generations United's Founding August 5, 1986

The words of Generations United's founder ring truer today than at almost any time in our 30-year history. While it has been a milestone year at Generations United, we know that our work if far from done. As we are inundated with messages of divisiveness, we continue to see beyond those divisions. We know that as a society we are stronger together and for every story of hate and conflict, there are more of love and compassion. Our job is to showcase the power of intergenerational collaboration and work towards building a world that values and connects all people.

We would not be here today celebrating 30 years if not for our great board of directors, committed strategic advisors, dedicated staff, and terrific friends. Together in 2016, we take pride in the progress made towards our mission. This report highlights a few of our accomplishments in 2016, as well as recognizing some of Generations United's milestones over the past 30 years.



### **Generations United's 2016 Highlights**

- Elevating age-advantaged practices and policies with the 5<sup>th</sup> MetLife
  Foundation/Generations United Best Intergenerational Community Awards given to Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Eastman Community Association in New Hampshire.
- Encouraging conversations across generations through the Valuing Vaccinations Across Generations campaign and resource materials including an infographic and discussion guide.
- Strengthening our GrAND network to raise Grandfamilies' voices on Capitol Hill.
- Recognizing U.S. Representative Karen Bass and U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch with our **Grandfamilies Champion Award.**
- Developing **new resources** 
  - o Grand Partners in Education: Grandparents as Catalysts for Family Engagement
  - State of Grandfamilies in America 2016 Raising the Children of the Opioid Epidemic: Solutions and Support for Grandfamilies
  - *Because We're Stronger Together* our animated video on the value of intergenerational communities.
- Advancing high-quality age-advantaged practices
  - Recognized a record 7 intergenerational programs around the country with our Programs of Distinction designation
  - Created the Intergenerational Curriculum for the Aging Mastery Program®.
- Susanne Bleiberg-Seperson, one of Generations United's United Nations representatives, served as **Co-Chair of Committee on Ageing/New York** International Day of Older Persons 2016
- Celebrating National Grandparents Day with over 20 national partners.
- Helping **build a playground** with KaBOOM! for more than 500 elementary and middle school children in Baltimore.
- Receiving the 2015 Eisner Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Intergenerational Advocacy and the accompanying video.

We value your commitment and hope we can count on your continued support. Together, we can build a world that values all generations. Thank you.



### **Uniting the Generations for 30 Years**

1986	•	Founded as a coalition by the National Council on Aging & the Child Welfare League of America to
		"lay the groundwork for the politics of family, community and generational solidarity"
1987	•	Began organizing State Coalitions and Networks
1988	•	Convened first national intergenerational conference
1989	•	Released first Public Policy Agenda & conducted health care policy conference
1991	•	Children's Defense Fund & AARP join CWLA & NCOA as co-founders
	•	Receives Administration on Aging grant to raise awareness about intergenerational child care
1993	•	National and Community Service Trust Act passed and received grant to identify intergenerational
		community service opportunities
1995	•	Conducted White House Conference on Aging mini conference on generational interdependence
1996	•	Convened Wingspread conference on strengthening communities through intergenerational
1997	•	approaches Incorporated as an independent not for profit organization
1997	•	Conducted first national symposium on grandparents raising grandchildren
1998	•	Worked with HHS Child Care Bureau to conduct intergenerational child care institute
1990	•	Appointed to HHS Kinship Caregiver Advisory Panel
	•	Received CNS grant to expand Foster Grandparent Program into non-traditional organizations
1999	•	Conducted the first briefing on intergenerational issues on Capitol Hill co-sponsored by the Older
1999	•	Americans and Children's Caucuses
2000	•	National Family Caregiver Support Act with provisions for grandparents raising grandchildren
		included in the reauthorization of the Older American's Act
2001	•	Established the National Center on Grandfamilies
	•	Convened symposium on intergenerational shared sites and released action agenda
2002	•	Released intergenerational agenda to eliminate child poverty
2003	•	LEGACY intergenerational housing signed into law
	•	Co-convened first National GrandRally
2004	•	Awarded Johnson and Johnson Rosalynn Carter Institute Leadership Award
2005	•	Launched Seniors4Kids to elevate older adult voices on behalf of children
	•	Received United Nations NGO status
	•	Coined the term "grandfamily"
2006	•	Released report on Meth & the Child Welfare System
2007	•	Launched Generations United MetLife Foundation Intergenerational Shared Site Awards
2008	•	Fostering Connections to Success Act passes with grandfamily provisions Launched Grandfamilies.org
2009	•	Created Generations in the Workplace toolkit for MetLife Mature Market Institute
2009	•	Established Programs of Distinction designation for excellence in intergenerational programming
2010	•	Released first signature report – Family Matters: Public Policy and the Interdependence of
	•	Generations
2011	•	Released Family Matters: Multigenerational Families in a Volatile Economy
	•	Began youth-led intergenerational programs initiative
2012	•	First MetLife Foundation Generations United Best Intergenerational Communities Awards
	•	Launched Grandparents Day campaign to encourage people of all ages to Do Something Grand
2013	•	Named one of top seven hunger organizations in the country because of signature report on
		intergenerational solutions to eliminating hunger
	•	Released Out of Many, One: Uniting the Changing Faces of America
2014	•	Released First Annual State of Grandfamilies Report
2015	٠	Awarded Eisner Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Intergenerational Advocacy
	•	Launched Valuing Vaccinations Across Generations
2016	•	Celebrating 30 years of building a world that values all generations



# **Funders and Members**

### Foundations

Annie E. Casey Foundation The Brookdale Foundation Group Florence V. Burden Foundation Casey Family Programs Eisner Foundation W.K. Kellogg Foundation The MetLife Foundation Turrell Fund Verizon Foundation

### **Organizations and Corporations**

AARP Alliance for Strong Families and Communities AON Bridges Together, Inc Chautauqua Education and Event Promotions County of San Diego DOROT, Inc The Eel River Multigenerational Center **EngAGE** Utah Friendship Center, Inc **Generations Serving Generations** Grantmakers in Aging Heart to Heart Family Support Center Hebrew Home for the Aged at Riverdale Intergeneration Foundation Intergenerational Schools International Kendal Corporation Kind Kids, Inc Kraemer Family Library LeadingAge Matz, Blancato & Associates

Methodist Children's Home Microsoft National Association of Area Agencies on Aging National Association of Foster Grandparent **Program Directors** National Council on Aging Neighbors Growing Together, Inc North American Council on Adoptable Children Ohio Family Care Association Pfizer, Inc. Plymouth Intergenerational Coalition The Salvation Army Sodexo, Inc Sweet Readers Under One Roof. Inc. United Way of Weld County University of Hawaii Visions/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Volunteers of America



### Individuals

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"This year Generations United celebrates its 30th anniversary. There couldn't be a more outstanding endorsement of our work than to receive The Eisner Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Intergenerational Advocacy. We are so proud to receive this prestigious recognition by a foundation that shares our deep belief that we can only be successful in the face of our complex future if generational diversity is regarded as a national asset and fully leveraged. To do this we must use policies and practices to connect generations and not separate them. The prize has given us cause to celebrate but even more important it's given all of us at Generations United - including our board, staff and members -reason to reflect and recommit even more vigorously to building a world that values all ages."

-Donna Butts, Executive Director of Generations United



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