

# 2017 Annual Report

Thanks to the support of our board of directors, funders, members, partners and staff, Generations United had another record-breaking year elevating intergenerational solutions to our country's and communities' most pressing issues.

These are a few ways that support of age-advantaged practices helps make a difference in the lives of children, youth and older adults in 2017.

## SUPPORTING GRANDFAMILIES

Building support for grandfamilies by releasing our annual State of Grandfamilies Report - *In Loving Arms: The Protective Role of Grandparents and Other Relatives in Raising Children Exposed to Trauma* - and advancing policies on their behalf.

Testifying at the Senate Aging Committee Hearing on Grandfamilies – which resulted from our 2016 State of Grandfamilies report, *Raising the Children of the Opioid Epidemic: Solutions and Support for Grandfamilies* – led to Chairwoman Senator Susan Collins and Ranking Member Senator Bob Casey introducing a bill to support grandfamilies.

Convening over 600 grandfamilies in Washington, DC for our 5th National GrandRally. Michelle Singletary featured the GrandRally in her nationally-syndicated *Washington Post* column.

Connecting grandfamilies around the country with current news and resources with our new GrAND Voice electronic newsletter.

Launching a three-year partnership with National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) and A Second Chance, Inc., to elevate and strengthen African American and Native American grandfamilies.

Updating our state GrandFact Sheets for all 50 states and the District of Columbia and launching an updated version of Grandfamilies.org.

## ELEVATING INTERGENERATIONAL SOLUTIONS

Highlighting intergenerational programs by releasing a signature report with The Eisner Foundation - *I Need You, You Need Me: The Young, The Old, and What We Can Achieve Together* - and hosting The Eisner Prize for Intergenerational Excellence event at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Recognizing excellence in intergenerational programming by awarding six new Programs of Distinction and renewing the designation for 11 programs.

Awarding the City of Two Harbors, Minnesota with the 2017 Generations United/MetLife Foundation Best Intergenerational Community Award and designating the City of Surprise, Arizona; Jenks Public Schools in Jenks, Oklahoma; and the Town of Yarmouth, Massachusetts as national finalists.

Partnering with LeadingAge to explore intergenerational programming in senior housing. This project lead by our Senior Fellow Dr. Nancy Henkin and funded by the Retirement Research Foundation resulted in the report *Intergenerational Programming in Senior Housing: Form Promise to Practice*.

Developing resources to encourage global intergenerational conversations on the value of vaccinations across the generations.

# MAKING CONNECTIONS

Hosting a successful biennial global international conference with St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, bringing together innovative intergenerational research and practices from around the world and strengthening the network of practitioners working on intergenerational solutions.

## RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

Raising our visibility in the media (BBC News, CBS News, New York Times, Washington Post and Reuters), and contributing to the Huffington Post.

Working with NBC News on the *TODAY Show's* segment on opioids and grandfamilies.

Promoting Grandparents Day 2017 with 20 national partners and over 150 unofficial partners reaching over 1.1 million people on Twitter and over 970,000 people on Facebook.

**"You guys don't get enough credit for the powerful things you all do. ...I just want to say thank you."**

Santana Lee, GrAND Member, Wisconsin

## AWARDS & ACCOLADES

- Our Deputy Executive Director Jaia Peterson Lent was named a Next Avenue Top 50 Influencer in Aging
- Irv Katz joined our team as a new Senior Fellow. Irv served as president and CEO of the National Human Services Assembly from 2001-2015. He is also a former Board Member, Strategic Advisor and long-time friend of Generations United.
- Our Executive Director Donna Butts celebrated her 20th anniversary at Generations United.
- Donna Butts receive an award from the International Federation for Family Development at the UN
- We expanded our national footprint when staff member Sheri Steinig moved to Denver, Colorado, joining our other remote team member Ana Beltran who is based in Seattle, Washington.
- We were honored to receive GRAND Magazine's Dr. Arthur Kornhaber 2017 GRAND Advocacy Award in recognition of leadership and dedication to improving the welfare of grandparents and grandchildren.



# LEGAL IMPACT NETWORK FOR KIN

Join other public interest attorneys who serve kinship families to expand partnerships, share best practices, and create better policies and laws.

LEARN MORE



## Search Laws

A searchable database of laws and legislation affecting grandfamilies both inside and outside the foster care system for all 50 states and the District of Columbia.



## Resources

Free and online legal resources in support of grandfamilies within and outside the child welfare system.



## Publications

View our publications that support grandfamilies including: Model Family Foster Home Licensing Standards, Using the Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP), and Relative Foster Care Licensing Waivers in States.

# NEW RESOURCES IN 2017

**I NEED YOU, YOU NEED ME:**  
THE YOUNG, THE OLD, AND WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE TOGETHER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

generations united | THE EISNER FOUNDATION

STATE OF GRANDFAMILIES 2017

**IN LOVING ARMS**  
THE PROTECTIVE ROLE OF GRANDPARENTS AND OTHER RELATIVES IN RAISING CHILDREN EXPOSED TO TRAUMA

generations united

**Intergenerational Programming in Senior Housing: From Promise to Practice**

Nancy Z. Henkin, Ph. D., Senior Fellow, Generations United and Taryn Patterson, Ph.D., Policy Research Associate, LeadingAge with Robyn Stone, DrPH, Senior VP for Research, LeadingAge and Donna Butts, Executive Director, Generations United

With generous support from the Retirement Research Foundation

2017



# Funders and Members

## Foundations

Annie E. Casey Foundation  
The Brookdale Foundation Group  
Casey Family Programs

Eisner Foundation  
W.K. Kellogg Foundation  
Maine Community Foundation

Rowe Family Foundation  
Turrell Fund  
WVU Foundation

## Organizations and Corporations

A Little Help  
AARP  
Academy for the Love of Learning  
Alliance for Strong Families and  
Communities  
Bethlehem Intergenerational Center  
Between the Lines  
Bridges Together, Inc  
Bristol-Myers Squibb  
Child Care Aware of America  
Children's Advocacy Center of Texas  
County of San Diego  
DOROT, Inc  
Elder Advocates, Inc  
Harbor House of Louisville  
Hebrew Senior Life  
Intergeneration Foundation  
Jewish Council on Aging  
Jockey International, Inc  
KAFASI

Kendal at Oberlin  
Kind Kids, Inc  
Kraemer Family Library  
LeadingAge  
Link Generations  
Matz, Blancato & Associates  
Metro Denver Intergenerational  
Collaborative  
Mi Casa  
Montana Grandparents Raising  
Grandchildren  
National Association of Area Agencies  
on Aging  
National Association of Counties  
National Council on Aging  
Northland Foundation  
OASIS Institute  
Ohio Family Care Association  
The Ohio State University  
Pfizer, Inc.

PhRMA  
Pine Harbour Assisted Living  
Plymouth Intergenerational Coalition  
Sages and Seekers  
The Salvation Army  
Space Coast Intergenerational Center  
Sunshine Care  
Sweet Readers  
Under One Roof, Inc  
Visions/Services for the Blind and  
Visually Impaired  
Volunteers of America  
WE Energies  
ZERO TO THREE

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Walter Earnest  
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Jatrice Martel Gaiter

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David Hoffman  
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Walter Jones  
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Eric Kingson  
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Sharon Niederhaus  
Davic Ochoa  
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Yvonne Thompson-Friend  
Marvin Waldman  
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Mature Market Institute

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Vice President  
The Brookdale Foundation Group

Juan Williams  
Journalist & Political Analyst

## Staff

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Ana Beltran, JD  
Special Advisor, National Center on Grandfamilies

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Operations and Grants Manager

Irv Katz

Senior Fellow

Alan King  
Communications Specialist

Jaia Peterson Lent  
Deputy Executive Director

Adam Otto  
Program and Policy Assistant

Emily Patrick  
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Sheri Steinig  
Special Projects Director

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