# 15 Things that made 2018 a great year for Generations United

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Our National Center on Grandfamilies and Releasing Our 2018 State of Grandfamilies Report</td>
<td>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 <a href="https://www.gu.org/resources/love-without-borders/">https://www.gu.org/resources/love-without-borders/</a></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Releasing Our New Report on Intergenerational Shared Spaces with The Eisner Foundation</td>
<td>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 <a href="https://www.gu.org/resources/all-in-together-creating-places-where-young-and-old-thrive/">https://www.gu.org/resources/all-in-together-creating-places-where-young-and-old-thrive/</a></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>The Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act Signed into Law</td>
<td>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 <a href="https://www.gu.org/resources/supporting-grandparents-raising-grandchildren-act/">https://www.gu.org/resources/supporting-grandparents-raising-grandchildren-act/</a></td>
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“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 Steing, 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 Derrienic 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/
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/

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 included 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.

Working with the Media to Tell Intergenerational Stories


- 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.
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

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)

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/.

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, Blanchato & 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
- Kelsey Pellarin
- Lenora Poe
- Barbara Quaintance
- Marilina Sanz
- Jean Schulze
- Susanne Seperson
- Pam Smith
- Rita Soronen
- Sheri Steinig
- Eileen Stephey
- Marie Terova
- Julie Tippens
- Bettina Thorpe-Tucker
- Marvin Waldman
- Liora Yalof
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West Health Institute

Mary Anne Mason
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Crowell & Moring LLP

Janet McUlsky
Senior Director, Alliance Development
Pfizer, Inc.

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Julius B. Richmond Professor of Health Policy and Aging
Department of Health Policy and Management
Mailman School of Public Health
Columbia University

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Sandra Timmermann
Corporate Gerontologist & Founder of MetLife Mature Market Institute

Mary Ann Van Clief
Vice President
The Brookdale Foundation Group

Juan Williams
Journalist & Political Analyst
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.

VISIT WWW.GU.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION