

Grandfamilies/Kinship Support Informational Session - February 22, 2022

Questions & Answers from the Zoom session:

**Will a copy of the power point presentation be available after the webinar?**

Yes, a copy of the presentation can be found below this document.

**Is the requirement that the requested budget not be more than 25% of the applicant organization's budget for the combined three-year grant period?**

No. It is the annual amount of the request that cannot be more than 25% of the applicant organization's annual budget. For example, if your organization's annual budget is \$1M and you request \$450,000 over three years from the foundation (\$150,000 per year), the calculation would be based on one year of requested funding – so \$150,000 divided by \$1M which would be 15%.

**What is the allowable overhead?**

Overhead cannot exceed 25% of the total project budget.

**Is rent for program spaces an allowable budget line?**

Yes.

**How many inquiries are allowed per organization?**

Just one inquiry will be accepted per organization.

**Are afterschool non-profit organizations eligible to apply?**

Yes.

**Are Camden or Chester counties included in this RFI?**

No. Only services in Philadelphia are eligible.

**Do you have to apply for a new program or can you apply for an existing program?**

Existing programs are eligible to apply.

**Do kinship families supported by this funding have to be grandparents or can they be other relatives?**

While the emphasis of the RFI is grandparents raising grandchildren, other kinship caregivers and their children can be included in the proposal.

**Do grandparents need to be raising young children? Is there any age requirement for the children?**

No, there is no age requirement for the children.

**Do we need to know the exact number of children we serve that live in homes other than with their parents?**

You do not need to know exact numbers, but you need to demonstrate that you know the demographics of the target population you serve or want to serve.

**Do you anticipate this being an annual opportunity or a one-time competition?**

This is a request for three years of funding. As of now, there is not an intention to open the RFI to new organizations next year. However, organizations are welcome to discuss new projects with foundation staff at any time.

**Approximately how many applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal and how many will be funded?**

We anticipate inviting 5-8 organizations to submit a full proposals and estimate 5-8 organizations will be awarded funding in July.

**Are you looking for organizations that already serve grandfamilies?**

While not required, it is expected that the most competitive inquiries will come from organizations with experience serving grandfamilies/kinship caregivers.

**You mention early literacy in the RFI. Can this project focus on building literacy in families' home language as well as building skills in English?**

Yes.

**Can organizations use technology, like WhatsApp, to engage families?**

Yes.

**Where can organizations get a copy of the RFI document?**

It can be found here:

<https://williampennfoundation.org/sites/default/files/uploaded/Grandfamilies%20RFI%20FINAL.pdf>

All information related to this opportunity can be found here:

<https://williampennfoundation.org/newsroom/grandfamilieskinship-support-funding-opportunity>



**Request for Inquiries**  
Informational Webinar

**Grandfamilies/Kinship Support**  
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# WEBINAR GOALS

1. Overview of William Penn Foundation funding strategies
2. Overview of Grandfamilies/Kinship Support opportunity
3. Questions & Answers

# GREAT LEARNING

## Overall Vision

All children from low-income families in Philadelphia have high quality educational opportunities that lead to **improved life outcomes**.

## Core Priority – Early Childhood

Supports a **strong start** for children and prepares **strong readers**



Engaged Families



Quality ECE Centers



Strong Literacy Instruction



Literacy-Rich Environments



Qualified Educators



Advocacy

- **Build a cohesive set of opportunities for parents and caregivers to learn about their children's development and enact their role as first teachers.**

# GRANDFAMILIES/KINSHIP SUPPORT

- Seeking inquiries for three-year projects to enhance organizations' ability to serve grandfamilies in Philadelphia.
- The Request for Inquiries (RFI) is an outgrowth of a recent study, conducted by Generations United, entitled *Grandfamilies of Philadelphia*.



# BACKGROUND

## Generations United

Karen Gillespie, BA, Project Assistant and GRAND Voice member

Dr. Anita Rogers, Senior Fellow, Co-Author of *Grandfamilies of Philadelphia* study

# BACKGROUND

- There are 2.6 million children in the U.S. who are living with extended family, inside or outside the child welfare system because their parents cannot care for them.
- The Philadelphia Department of Human Services (2021 Quarterly Indicators Report), notes that more than half (57%) of the children in foster care were in grandfamilies/kinship foster care (2,457 youth).
- In the state of Pennsylvania, for every one child raised by kin in foster care, there are ten being raised by kin outside of foster care.
- Strong evidence shows children in grandfamilies/kinship care thrive, especially when they get the support they need.



# BACKGROUND

*At the age of 70, my arthritis is kicking up, my money is funny, my space is limited, and I have to start taking care of children all over again. - Philadelphia kinship caregiver*

- Many low-income grandfamilies have insufficient financial resources to address basic needs.
- Caregivers often have difficulty navigating agency/government systems
- Children in grandfamilies often have behavioral health needs
- Caregivers' physical and mental health can also be impacted by their new parenting role
- Navigation of the school curriculum and virtual education presents financial and digital challenges.

# BACKGROUND



- Agencies may be unresponsive and culturally insensitive to the unique needs of grandfamilies.
- Informal supports (e.g., family, friends, church) are essential.
- There are insufficient opportunities for caregivers to overcome isolation; support groups provide a lifeline.
- The legal hurdles to achieve child family stability can often be obstacles.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Authentically engage grandfamilies in all aspects of program planning, execution and evaluation, policies and practices that affect them.
- Assess caregivers' and children's health (physical, mental, behavioral) status and needs as part of intake process.
- Facilitate linkages and follow-up on referrals.
- Secure dedicated financial resources and legal support systems.
- Provide timely emergency funds or access to free resources to address urgent needs.
- Include extended family members and friends in support plans and consider ways to support families in managing complex family dynamics.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- Design school activities and events with grandfamilies in mind such as through inclusive communications.
- Provide parenting education and enrichment classes.
- Identify and provide free or low-cost digital resources and offer technology literacy support.
- Address community safety issues for grandfamilies.
- Partner with local clergy to conduct outreach to grandfamilies. Faith-based agencies are often a trusted source for many caregivers.
- Expand cultural competency training for staff; include caregivers as potential training co-facilitators.

# OBJECTIVES

- **Increase** the number of grandfamilies being effectively served in linguistically and culturally responsive services.
- **Implement** high-quality programs and services that support children's development, early literacy/language development, academic achievement, and connection to needed resources that improve family stability.
- **Increase** the use of best practices and strategies that can enhance outreach and support to targeted families.
- **Enhance** the agency's infrastructure to serve these families.
- **Strengthen** the network of kinship service professionals, grassroots community partners, and educators to foster peer learning and collaboration among providers.
- **Build** the capacity of organizations to evaluate their impact.

# ELIGIBILITY

- **Community-based organizations**
- **Public institutions**
- **Programming in Philadelphia**

# PROJECT CRITERIA

- **Community Need**
- **Agency Performance and Capacity**
- **Participant Involvement**
- **Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness**
- **Services and Participant Resources**

# PROJECT CRITERIA

- **Organizational Resources and Capacity**
- **Partnership**
- **Budget**
- **Sustainability**



# BUDGET

- **Three years of funding.**
- **May include up to 3 months for planning and professional development.**
- **Budgets should be inclusive of subcontracts and consultants.**
- **Total funding from WPF may not exceed 25% of a participating organization's operating budget.\***
- **All aspects of project development and implementation are eligible.**
- **External evaluation costs should NOT be included.**
- **Total request under \$500,000.**

# EVALUATION/ LEARNING COMMUNITY

- **Funded agencies will be required to participate in a learning community and formative evaluation.**
- **More details will be provided to organizations invited to submit a full proposal.**

# PROCESS

- Inquiry form can be downloaded as a Word document from our website
- Inquiries due by 5:00pm EST March 7, 2022
- Inquiries should be submitted via email to [RFI@williampennfoundation.org](mailto:RFI@williampennfoundation.org)
- Inquiries will be reviewed by a team of internal and external stakeholders

# TIMELINE

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<b>Monday, March 7</b>	<b>Inquiry forms due by 5:00 PM EST</b>
March 22	Select applicants invited to submit proposals
April 22	Proposals from invited applicants due by 5:00 PM EST
July 22	WPF Board review of selected proposals
August 2022 – July 2025	Program implementation and evaluation

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# QUESTIONS



*It's like starting over again. It's a good thing. I love the kids. I want to keep them out of the system and make sure they have a better life.*

- Philadelphia grandfather, age 62