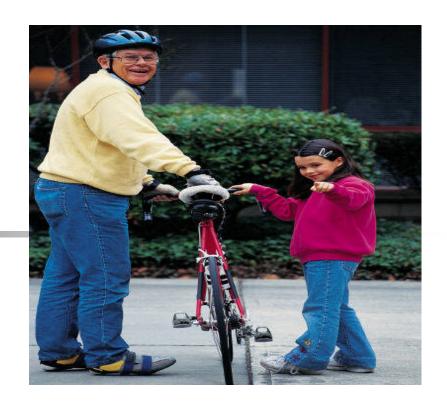
GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN



CITY OF DALLAS-OFFICE OF SENIOR AFFAIRS



The Children

Nationally

- 4.5 million children under age 18 live in grandparents-headed households
- **1.5 million** children live in other relatives' households (Census 2000)
- **30%** increase since 1990; **15%** increase since 1997

Texas

- 448,439 children under age 18 live in grandparents-headed households
- **2**nd highest state for number of children in grandparents-headed households
- A 44.1% increase from 1990 Census figures
- That's 7.7% of all Texas children under age 18
- 55,000+ Grandparents are Raising Their Grandchildren in Dallas County



The Profile of the Children



- Estimated at least 1/3 have no parent present in the home
- Half are under the age of 6
- 1/3 have no health insurance
- All socio-economic levels; over 20% living in poverty
- Higher incidence of physical, mental, & learning disabilities



The Grandparents

- 71% are under the age of 60
 - 6.7% age 30-39
 - 29.2% age 40-49
 - . 35.1% age 50-59
 - 21% age 60-69
 - 7.1% age 70-79
- 39% of grandparent caregivers have been responsible for their grandchildren for 5 or more years

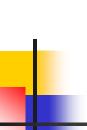
(U.S. Census 2000)



Crisis or Chronic Problems

- Substance Abuse
- Incarceration
- HIV/AIDS
- Teen Pregnancy
- Death

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Unemployment
- Divorce
- Family Violence
- Poverty
- Military Deployment



Needs of the Grandparent-Headed Families

- Financial
- Legal
- Health Insurance (physical & mental)
- Special needs of grandchildren
- Education

- Children-rearing
- Family communication and relationships
- Social isolation
- Respite care
- Outreach and Information



- Dallas County KinCare Network
- Full-Time Program Coordinator
- Grandparents Warmline
- Grandparents Resource Guide



- Mission: To provide assistance to grandparents and other relatives who are raising their grandchildren to ensure access to services.
- DCKN is an informal group of organizations, agencies and volunteers in Dallas County that is committed to supporting grandparents and other kin who are raising children.



- Provide conference and workshops for grandparents
- Provide trainings for professionals who work with grandparents
- Provide grandparents support groups
- Provide advocacy through legislative efforts
- Provide network building



Full-time Program Coordinator

- Funded by City of Dallas
- Coordinate the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program
- Liaison between Dallas County KinCare Network and City of Dallas
- Provide Case management



- New collaboration with Dallas Public Library
 Services and Dallas County KinCare Network
- Created a grandparent resource collection where grandparents can access services, seek information from a special collection designed specifically for grandparents and other relatives raising children
- Housed at one location but will be replicated to other branches throughout the city

Grand Opening Celebration



Grandparent Resource Collection Audelia Branch Library





Grandparents Warmline

- Grandparents call the warmline to seek services and assistance
- Will receive a warm and friendly voice
- The first step in accessing services and connecting with Dallas County KinCare Network



Grandparents Resource Guide

- Provided by Dallas County KinCare Network
- Funded by a grant from New York Life Foundation
- Funded by AARP



- The issues of grandparents as caregivers must be addressed
- There needs to be a collaborative effort to address the needs
- The future and the wellness of the children depends upon us all