

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Media Affairs

For Immediate Release

September 10, 1995

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today I am pleased to join my fellow citizens in commemorating National Grandparents Day.

This is an important year for grandparents -- 1995 is the Year of the Grandparent. It is also a year of significant anniversaries for many programs important to older Americans -- the 60th anniversary of Social Security, as well as the 30th anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid, the Older Americans Act and the Foster Grandparents Program.

But it is also an important year because many of these programs are threatened. Proposals put forward by the Congress would increase Medicare costs for older Americans, decrease funding for Older American Act programs like Meals on Wheels and the Senior Community Service Employment Program, and cut the Foster Grandparents Program and other National Senior Service Corps Programs. These valuable initiatives help grandparents and other older Americans live independent and productive lives, and in turn contribute to the well-being of their families and communities.

These programs are not just for older Americans -- they are a compact between generations. Medicare means that parents can save for their children's college and protect their parents' health. And Medicare keeps older Americans healthy and active so that they can continue to strengthen the communities our grandchildren will inherit.

Grandparents are increasingly being called on to help families. Households comprised of several generations have increased by more than 50 percent in the past 25 years, and today, nearly three-and-a-half million children live in a household headed by a grandparent. Our nation's 24,000 Foster Grandparents contribute nearly 22 million hours of volunteer services each year to children, teenagers and their families. Grandparents are invaluable resources of compassion, strength and support for parents, children, and communities.

I believe we have to balance the budget and have introduced a plan to do so. My plan shows that we can eliminate the deficit, reduce federal spending, and secure the Medicare trust fund without pulling out the rug from under grandparents and other older Americans who are giving so much to us today. Today and throughout the year, we honor grandparents everywhere for all they teach and give us. As we work toward a balanced budget that ensures a bright future for Americans young and old, I will continue to honor and support our precious natural resource -- grandparents.

D-R-A-F-T
PRESS STATEMENT FOR GRANDPARENTS DAY
September 10, 1995

Today I am pleased to join my fellow citizens in commemorating National Grandparents Day.

This is an important year for grandparents -- 1995 was declared Year of the Grandparent; and it is a year of anniversaries of programs important to all older Americans -- Medicare, Social Security, the Older Americans Act.

But it is also an important year because many of many of these programs are threatened. Proposals put forward by the Congress would increase Medicare costs for older Americans; decrease funding for Meals on Wheels and other Older American Act programs; and decrease funding for the Senior Service Corps programs through which seniors continue to serve their communities. These valuable programs help grandparents and other older Americans live independent and productive lives.

And these programs are not just for older Americans -- they are a compact between generations. Medicare means that parents can save for their children's college and protect their parents' health. And Medicare helps keep older Americans healthy and active so that they can continue to strengthen the communities our grandchildren will inherit.

The American family has undergone dramatic changes in the past few decades -- contributed to by a rising divorce rate, declining birth rate, and changing economy. In the midst of all these changes, grandparents are increasingly being called on to help families. Households comprised of several generations have increased by more than 50 percent in the past 25 years, and today, some 3.4 million children live in a household headed by a grandparent. [STAT FROM SENIOR SERVICE/FOSTER G'PARENTS PROGRAM] Grandparents are invaluable resources of compassion, strength and support for parents, children, and communities.

I believe we have to balance the budget and have introduced a plan to do so. My plan shows that we can eliminate the deficit, reduce federal spending, and secure the Medicare trust fund without pulling out the rug from under grandparents and other older Americans who are giving so much to us today.

Today and throughout the year, we honor grandparents everywhere for all they teach and give us. As we work toward a balanced budget that ensures a bright future for Americans young and old, I will continue to honor and support our precious natural resource -- grandparents.

TO: Andre Oliver
White House Office of Public Liaison

FROM: Gloria Johnson
White House Liaison and
Director of Constituent Relations

RE: Event Request for September 22, 1995

DATE: 8/25/95

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

As promised, attached is the Event Request for the white House reception commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Foster Grandparent Program which coincides with the Medicare Anniversary.

Please let me know the realistic turnaround time for getting a formal and final response from scheduling. Since we're talking about transporting a few seniors to the event, we need to know as soon as possible so we can make their travel arrangements without causing undue consternation on their parts. Ya know what I mean!

Also, you might be interested to know that we just learned that our Foster Grandparent Program will be featured in People Magazine's September issue. We'll also be plugged on the "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee" Show on September 22nd. So folks recognize there's a constituency out there.

Thanks for all your help.

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-606-5000

Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

EVENT REQUEST

PROPOSED DATE: September 22, 1995 (or other date at month's end)

EVENT: A reception recognizing the 30th Anniversary of national service's Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) which coincides with the 30th Anniversary of Medicare.

MESSAGE: Linking National Service Funding and Medicare Funding

"Medicare provides healthcare to millions of low-income citizens like National Senior Service Corps Members. Because they are healthy and active, seniors can, in turn, give back to America."

"Far from stealing from future generations, the President's proposed funding of Medicare enables many seniors to strengthen the communities our grandchildren will inherit."

AUDIENCE: *

- * 10 Senior Honorees representing 24,000 FGP members
- * 50 FGP partners including national nonprofit organizations serving and engaging seniors and children (A suggested list of invitees is attached.)
- * 10 National Service representatives

BACKGROUND:

What Foster Grandparents Do? - They meet the needs of at-risk children and youth, including abused and neglected children, teen parents, and youth in the juvenile justice system.

Partisan Considerations - The White House needs to reclaim credit for funding the Seniors Program, of which the FGP is a part, now that Congressman Lazio (R-NY) introduced an amendment (which passed) to return two-thirds of the FY 96 funding cut originally made by Republicans.

Past White House Support - There have been two previous White House FGP receptions under Republican Administrations, for the 20th and 25th anniversaries.

Recent White House Developments - In his speech at the White House Conference on Aging, President Clinton praised the FGP for its role as resources to communities nationwide. The Corporation for National Service sent more than 200 of the 2,000 delegates attending the Conference where a resolution was passed with resounding support stating that the Corporation should take the lead in promoting community service by older persons.

CONTACT: Gloria Johnson, White House Liaison and Director of Constituent Relations at the Corporation for National Service. (202) 606-5000 extension 234.

Partial List of Invitees for Foster Grandparent Reception

AARP (American Association of Retired Persons)
American Red Cross
American Association for International Aging
Association of Junior Leagues International
B'nai Brith International
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America
Catholic Charities USA
Child Welfare League of America
Childrens Defense Fund
Coalition for National and Community Service
Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation
Kiwanis International
Lutheran Social Services
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Association for (Hispanic) Older Persons
National Hispanic Council on Aging
National Caucus and Center on Black Aged
National Council of Senior Citizens
National Association of Community Action Agencies
National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA)
National Association of Senior Companion Directors
National Association of RSVP Directors
National Black Child Development Institute
National Council of La Raza
National Council on the Aging
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A)

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National Association of Partners in Education

Pharmaceutical Manufacturers of America

Prudential

Public Private Ventures

Salvation Army

United Way of America

YMCA of the USA

Youth Volunteer Corps of America



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary
Administration on Aging

Washington, D.C. 20201

FAX TRANSMISSIONDate: 8-25To: MollyFax Number:

FROM:

Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for AgingPhone: (202) 401-4634 or (202) 401-4541
FAX: (202)401-7741 Fernando M. Torres-Gil, Assistant Secretary for Aging
 Portia Porter Mittelman, Principal Deputy Christina Cabral
 James Jones
 Betty Mason
 Valerie Soroka
 Vicki Shepard Stefanie Novacek
 Anna Kindermann
 Michele Puccinelli
☒ Moya Benoit Thompson

Comments:

 Hee you go again!
 (1) Grandparent proclamation
 (2) Press release on 6-day from 1994

Number of Pages (including cover sheet):



Year of the Grandparent, 1995

By The President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The American family has undergone dramatic changes in the past few decades. Families have felt the effects of a rising divorce rate, declining birth rate, and an increasingly fast-paced and complicated economy. At the same time, Americans are living longer, retiring younger, and taking advantage of more leisure hours than ever before. Today, approximately 60 million grandparents in the United States look forward to spending time with their families and to enjoying their much-deserved respite.

Despite the many changes, grandparents remain an important source of knowledge and stability in American families. Grandparents help us understand the past and encourage us to hope for the future. They preserve and strengthen the values we hold most dear—compassion and generosity, responsibility and tradition. These relationships between generations have always been central to the happiness and well-being of young and old alike.

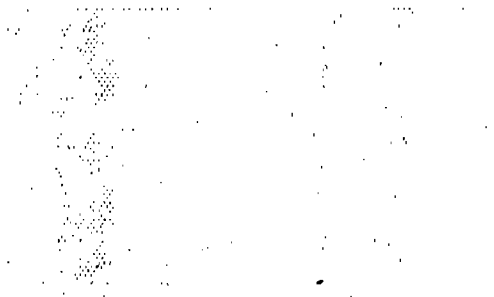
Households made up of several generations have increased by more than 50 percent in the past 25 years, and today, some 3.4 million children live in a household headed by a grandparent. For parents struggling with issues including substance abuse or teenage pregnancy, divorce or separation, grandparents can be invaluable resources of compassion. For children who are abused or neglected, grandparents can be lifesavers. All too often, grandparents embrace these tremendous responsibilities because no one else is able. But they also do so out of love, out of the wisdom that comes from a lifetime spent learning the importance of family. For all they teach us and for all they give, we pledge this year to honor grandparents everywhere.

The Congress, by Public Law 103-368, has designated 1995 as the "Year of the Grandparent" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim 1995 as the Year of the Grandparent. I invite Federal officials, local government, advocacy groups, and families across the United States to join in commemorating the many contributions that grandparents make and in observing this year with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of January, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

William Clinton



THE
END
OF
THE
WORLD



THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 17, 1995

YEAR OF THE GRANDPARENT, 1995

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

The American family has undergone dramatic changes in the past few decades. Families have felt the effects of a rising divorce rate, declining birth rate, and an increasingly fast-paced and complicated economy. At the same time, Americans are living longer, retiring younger, and taking advantage of more leisure hours than ever before. Today, approximately 60 million grandparents in the United States look forward to spending time with their families and to enjoying their much-deserved respite.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of January, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

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ADMINISTRATION ON AGING



For Immediate Release
Monday, January 30, 1995

Contact: Moya Benoit Thompson
202/401-4541

1995 - THE YEAR OF THE GRANDPARENT

The Administration on Aging (AoA) and Fernando M. Torres-Gil, Assistant Secretary for Aging, join our Nation in proudly saluting America's grandparents - past, present and future. President Clinton issued a formal proclamation on January 17, 1995 making 1995 "The Year of the Grandparent."

The Presidential proclamation states "The American family has undergone dramatic changes in the past few decades. Families have felt the effects of a rising divorce rate, declining birth rate, and an increasingly fast-paced and complicated economy. At the same time, Americans are living longer, and taking advantage of more leisure hours than ever before.....Despite the many changes, grandparents remain an important source of knowledge and stability in American families. Grandparents help us understand the past and encourage us to hope for the future."

"This official acknowledgement by the President is a special tribute to our country's grandparents and the extraordinary place they hold in our families and our communities," said Assistant Secretary Torres-Gil. "It is significant to note that approximately 3.4 million children live in households headed up by a grandparent, more often a grandmother who is the primary caregiver. Today's

rapidly changing demographics and social patterns compel us to widen our scope of attention to take into account the roles and responsibilities of contemporary grandparents," he continued.

The proclamation invites Federal officials, local government, advocacy groups and families across America to join in commemorating the many contributions that grandparents make, and observe this year appropriately. Torres-Gil concluded, "I think of my own grandmother often and remember her for her love, strength and sense of purpose as she struggled to raise her family. I urge all who have known, or known of, the love and wisdom of a grandparent to take time to especially acknowledge these very special individuals in some way today and throughout the year."

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