Raising Relative Children

Where Do I Start?

Are you a grandparent, aunt, uncle, sibling or cousin, and you now are raising a child that belongs to one of your relatives? Do you know all the resources available for them and yourself to help raise this child? If you knew someone raising a relative child could you tell them about the resources available to them?

In this newsletter I will attempt to list most of the resources for R.A.P. families. When a relative gets a relative in their home, they are usually overwhelmed with emotion and need some help making a plan how to raise this child. This information in this newsletter, is meant to reassure KinCare parents they have resources available to them and they are not alone in this process of raising the new children in their life.

Support groups with people in similar situations are located throughout the state of Idaho and have people with experience and good ideas. We have six R.A.P. support groups located here in North Idaho. If you have any questions about any of the information in this newsletter contact: Glenda Weaver at 208-769-7096

What Documents Do I Need?

It is important to have all of the required documentation in order to start your relative child in school, get medical care and receive resource benefits. The following is a list of the required documents; Social Security numbers of all members of the household, Dates of birth for all members of the household. Birth Certificates or U.S. passport for the child to prove citizenship and your relationship to the parent. Your Driver’s License, state ID or other proof to show you are a resident of Idaho. Any Court Documents that indicate that you have custody of the child in question. This might include a Power of Attorney, Guardianship or a signed Notarized Letter from the parent of the child stating you have the right of custody. Immunization Records of the child will be needed to start the child in school.
Temporary Assistance for Families in Idaho

The TAFI grant is available to give temporary cash assistance to struggling Idaho families. Idaho has made this grant available to relative caretakers recognizing that they may be facing financial hardships. Eligibility is based on the child’s income, such as Social Security Benefits, Child Support or Court Award of money or SSI (disability benefits). The TAFI grant is $309 a month per family (not per child). The child’s parent can not live in the household to be eligible for TAFI. If a relative child is receiving SSI (disability benefits) and there is a sibling(s) in this same household that is not receiving benefits, that child is eligible for the TAFI grant of $309. There may be other minimal requirements such as school attendance and immunization records. More information is available at 2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588.

Medicaid/Health Care for Children

Medicaid is a health coverage available for children living in low income households. Normally the guidelines for coverage use the cumulative household income, but for children being raised by a relative (other than their parent), eligibility is determined based on the income of the child. The Idaho Smiles Dental Program is also available for Medicaid enrollees. Medicaid providers may ask you for information about the child’s parents. You must provide all the information they request to receive Medicaid benefits for the child. After the child is approved for Medicaid benefits you will be issued a Medicaid card. This card is good for medical visits and for medical prescriptions.

Head Start Program

The Head Start program was started to provide comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families with a special focus on helping preschoolers develop early reading and math skills they need to be successful in school. The Early Head Start Program was established to serve children from birth to three years of age in recognition of the mounting evidence that the earliest years matter a great deal to the child’s growth and development. Children being raised by a relative, other than their parent, are automatically eligible for the program. By having a child in this program allows for the child to interact with others their age. It also gives you insight if your relative child is developing at the normal rate for a child of their age. For more information call: 208-666-6755.
Free Tax Help

Confused about your taxes? Having trouble filing? Chances are there’s a location near you where you can get free assistance with your state and federal tax return. This FREE TAX PROGRAM is designed specifically to help elderly, low-income, non-English speaking and disabled taxpayers with the preparation of their taxes. If you have worked and have an income under $49,362 you may qualify for the refundable **EARNED INCOME CREDIT (EIC).**

Here is a look at the earned income credit table:

Earned income and adjusted gross income (AGI) must each be less than:

- $43,998 ($49,078 married filing jointly) with three or more qualifying children
- $40,964 ($46,044 married filing jointly) with two qualifying children
- $36,052 ($41,132 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child
- $13,660 ($18,740 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children

Tax Year 2011 maximum credit:

- $5,751 with three or more qualifying children
- $5,112 with two qualifying children
- $3,094 with one qualifying child
- $464 with no qualifying children

You must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the EIC:

- You must be married and filing jointly, head of household, qualifying widow, or single. If married, you may not file separately.
- Qualifying children must be under 18, or full-time students.
- Household members must have valid Social Security numbers.
- You must be a U.S. Citizen.
- You must have earned income.
- You cannot be a qualifying child on someone else’s return.

**Coeur d’Alene**

Lake City Senior Center                      Silver Lake Mall
1916 N Lakewood Dr.                          200 W Hanley Ave.
Feb.1 - April 15                              Monday - Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
208-667-4628                                  Walk-in

For additional Tax-Aide sites call 1-888-AARPNOW or the Idaho CareLine at 211 or 1-800-926-2588 Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm MST.

211 web access [www.idahocareline.org](http://www.idahocareline.org)
What Is Idaho 2-1-1?

The 2-1-1 Idaho Careline is a free state wide community information and referral service. It is a program of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. The comprehensive database includes programs that offer free or low cost health and human services or social services, such as rental assistance, energy assistance, medical assistance, food, clothing, child care resources, emergency shelter, support groups, and more. Agents at the 2-1-1 Idaho Careline connect people in need with government, faith-based, and community resources. When you call this number you actually get to talk to a real person and not a recording. If you need assistance, information or need to refer others who need help call: 2-1-1 or 1-800-926-2588

On-Line: 211.Idaho.gov

Community Food Banks/Community Meals

Community Food Banks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bank Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life Way Church</td>
<td>501 W 15th Falls</td>
<td>661-8137 704-7080 By Appt. only 9:00-5:00 Mon-Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Altar</td>
<td>901 E Best Ave, Cd’A</td>
<td>664-1453 3:30-5:30 Mon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC Food Bank</td>
<td>Athol City Hall, 30355 3rd</td>
<td>683-2101 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00 Mon-Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Action Center</td>
<td>4942 Industrial Ave, Cd’A</td>
<td>664-8757 9:00-4:00 Mon - Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rathdrum Food Bank</td>
<td>8027 Main St, Rathdrum 687-3696</td>
<td>10:00-4:00 Mon – Thurs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Falls Food Bank</td>
<td>415 E. 3rd St, Post Falls</td>
<td>773-0139 9:00-2:00 Mon-Fri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th Day Adventist Church</td>
<td>111 Locust Ave Cd’A</td>
<td>664-5473 9:00-12:00 Tues-Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elders Caring</td>
<td>1866 N. Cecil Rd, Post Falls</td>
<td>446-2420 10:00-1:00 T,W, &amp; Th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ the King Lutheran Church</td>
<td>1700 Pennsylvania Ave, Cd’A</td>
<td>664-9231 10:00-1:00 Tues, Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit Lake Food Bank</td>
<td>32154 N. 4th Ave, Spirit Lake</td>
<td>623-3107 12:30-3:00 Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake City Community Church</td>
<td>1701 N. 4th St, Cd’A 676-0632</td>
<td>10:00-4:00 Wed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart of the City Church</td>
<td>521 Emma, Cd’A</td>
<td>665-7808 3:30-5:30 Thurs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Christian Church</td>
<td>610 N. 4th, Cd’A</td>
<td>664 4238 10:00-2:00 Fri</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Meals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Breakfast</td>
<td>One Ministries Sherman Ave/14th St., Cd’A</td>
<td>660-4078 9:00 - 10:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Lunch</td>
<td>Lutheran Church of the Master</td>
<td>4800 N. Ramsey Rd., Cd’A 765-1002 1:30 - 2:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Supper</td>
<td>Coeur d’Alene Bible Church</td>
<td>Harding Family Center 411 N. 15th St., Cd’A 765-7601 4:30 - 5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Supper</td>
<td>The Altar</td>
<td>Athol 1:00 - 2:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Supper</td>
<td>St. George Catholic Church</td>
<td>2010 Lucas St., Post Falls 773-4715 4:00 - 5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Supper</td>
<td>St. Pius Catholic Church</td>
<td>625 E. Haycraft , Cd’A 765-5108 4:30 - 5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Breakfast</td>
<td>First Christian Church</td>
<td>610 N. 4th St., Cd’A 762-5830 9:00 - 10:00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Supper</td>
<td>Cherished Ones Ministries</td>
<td>401 N. 2nd St., Cd’A 704-0908 5:00 - 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citylink Bus Transportation

If you need a ride you can use the Citylink bus. It is a free public bus service. Most Citylink buses are equipped with seating for 33 people and bicycle racks. To accommodate the needs of North Idaho patrons, all buses are fitted with wheelchair lifts.

For more information call: 1-877-941-RIDE (7433) www.idahocitylink.com
Relatives As Parents Support Groups in North Idaho

The CdA RAP Support Group
meets the second Thursday of the month at:
Jewett House 1501 E. Lakeshore Drive
Coeur d’Alene, ID (A light lunch and child care is provided at no cost)
Noon - 2 o’clock
Glenda Weaver  208-769-7096
Margo Peebles  208-667-0320

The Rathdrum RAP Support Group
meets the second Wednesday of the month from 9:30 to 11:00 am at:
Early Mountain Head Start
14790 Kimo Court
Rathdrum, Idaho
Linda Stolley  208-712-3152

The Post Falls RAP Support Group
meets the first and 3rd Fridays of the month from 10 to 11:30 am at:
Head Start/Across from the library
106 West 9th Street
Post Falls, ID
Robbie Eaton  208-773-6164

The Bonners Ferry RAP Support Group
meets the second Friday of the month from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at:
University of Idaho Extension Office
6447 Kootenai Street (Bring a finger food to share)
Bonners Ferry, Idaho
Dena Riffle  208-267-8166
Vickie Spencer  208-267-7003

The Sacred Job of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren/Elaine K Williams
Elaine K. Williams author of the book, “The Sacred Job of Raising Grandchildren”, will be in Coeur d’Alene to do a presentation on grandparents and other relatives raising relative children. Elaine will speak at the St. Pius Catholic Church on April 10, 2012 at noon. Everyone is invited to attend this presentation. It is being sponsored by the VISTA’s (Volunteers In Service to America) working on the Idaho Kinship Project, Relatives As Parents and Kootenai Alliance for Children & Families. Watch for more information in the March RAP newsletter. Mark this date on your calendar! You do not want to miss this presentation!!
R.A.P. family
Relatives As Parents

Glenda Weaver
3202 Wedgewood Loop
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho 83815
208-769-7096

Member Name
4321 First Street
Anytown, State ZIP