



Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors

AZGA Leaders to Lawmakers: “Kinship Keeps Kids in the Family”

Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors are a statewide coalition of grandparents raising their grandchildren. We stepped up to keep our families together and strong. We are the reason our grandchildren are not in foster care, group homes, or other non-familial settings.

Our mission is to support, mobilize, educate, and advocate for Arizona’s grandparents who are raising their grandchildren and to work with elected leaders to develop better laws and policies that enable us to care for and raise strong, resilient children .



Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors enjoyed a day of education, networking, and advocacy as they gathered together at the Arizona State Capitol on February 13, 2017, for the annual “Grandparent Day at the Capitol.” Ambassadors shared stories with Governor Doug Ducey as well as State Representatives and Senators.

Ambassadors spent the day advocating for increased kinship and “fictive kin” TANF eligibility as well as an expansion of the Grandparent Stipend to include all relative placements, not just grandparents and great-grandparents.

Both issues must be addressed within the state budget negotiations, which are happening right now. To remind lawmakers of the importance of supporting kinship caregivers, AZGA leaders prepared “Cookies from Grandma” care packages and delivered them to all 90 lawmakers with a letter asking them to support kinship caregivers within the state budget.

You can make a difference by calling your lawmakers (look them up here: www.azleg.gov) and ask them to support kinship caregivers in the budget by including the provisions of SB1108 and the stipend expansion in the Governor’s budget.



Happening Now:

SB1108: removes the kidcap for an otherwise eligible child in an unlicensed unrelated home placed by DCS or children in unlicensed placements in custody of tribal court or tribal welfare agency

Governor’s Budget includes a request to expand the Grandparent Stipend to other related adults.



Get Involved with AZGA

Maricopa Chair: Sherry Griffin (602) 456-0762, CentralAZGA@gmail.com

Pima Chair: Ann Nichols (520) 312—8067, annwnichols@gmail.com

More Information About Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors: www.azga.org