Who Are Arizona’s Grandfamilies? September 2019

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2017. Figures do not include grandchildren who have been adopted by their grandparents.

- **Age of Grandchildren**: 1,98,000 Children in AZ live in relatives’ households, 75,000 are being raised by grandparents.
- **Race and Ethnicity of Grandkids**: American Indian children make up 6% of AZ’s child population, yet comprise 15% of all kids being raised by their grandparents.
- **One in Four**: Grandparents raising their grandkids has a disability.
- **One in Five**: Grandkids in grandfamilies lives in poverty.
- **5%**: Of all children in AZ are being raised by their grandparents.
- **58%**: Of grandparents raising their grandchildren are working or job hunting.
More than 198,000 children in AZ are being raised by grandparents and other relatives.

Only 2,100 benefit from TANF cash assistance ($204 per household per month) even though many more are qualified

Only 5,362 benefit from the "kinship stipend" ($75 per child per month)

Only 910 live in families benefiting from monthly foster care licensing payments ($641-$1,132 per month) even though many more are placed in foster care

In July 2010, more than 14,000 lost financial assistance due to budget cuts that have never been restored.

Why Children are Unable to Live with their Parents:

- Parents are in poor health or deceased
- Parents have substance abuse problems
- Parents have mental health issues
- Parents are in the military and deployed
- Child abuse, neglect or abandonment
- Parents are incarcerated

KINSHIP CARE IS GOOD FOR CHILDREN!

Research shows that kids raised in kinship care:

- Adjust better to their new environment
- Experience fewer behavioral problems and psychiatric disorders
- Have fewer educational disruptions
- Have more permanent, stable families

Arizona’s Policies Leave Thousands of Children to be Raised by Relatives Struggling in Families with Little or No Financial Support: