

**The Grandparents Raising
Grandchildren Program**

Is currently supported by:

**Title III-E through the Agency
on Aging of South Central
Connecticut**

Contact Us

**For information about resources
for relative caregivers or to
become involved in the
program, contact the
Grandparents Raising
Grandchildren Program at**

**Christian Tabernacle Baptist
Church
425 Newhall Street
Hamden, CT 06517**

**Ph (203) 624 3028
Fax (203) 752-9080**

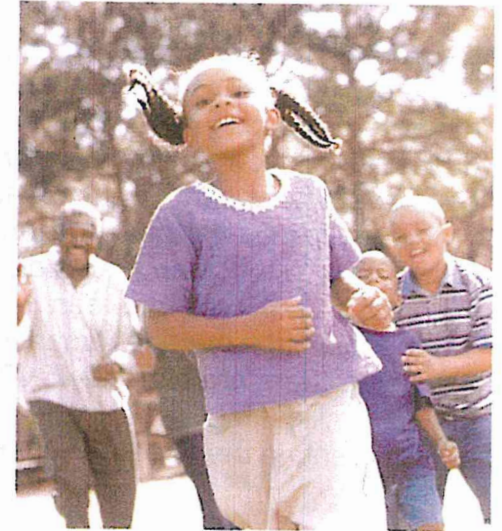
Christian Tabernacle Baptist Church

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Hamden, CT 06517**

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GRG - GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

**A program of support, education,
and advocacy for relative caregivers**



A Growing Trend

According to the last census in 2010, a trend first observed in the early nineties continues to grow. More than 20,000 grandparents in Connecticut alone are providing full-time care to their grandchildren.

Why They Do It

Each family's story is different, but some of the reasons grandparents and other relatives take over child-rearing duties often involve a single parent who becomes overwhelmed with financial problems, is incarcerated, succumbs to illness or substance abuse, or dies. High rates of divorce and teen pregnancies fuel the phenomenon. It is estimated there are currently 5,000 Grand families, families headed by a grandparent, in the Greater New Haven area.

A Difficult Job

Parenting is always a difficult job, but for grandparents and other relative caregivers it may be compounded by legal problems, reduced social involvement, issues of aging, poor health, lack of money and often, difficult behaviors in the children, many who have experienced loss or trauma, or affected by behavioral health issues. Caregivers sometimes feel alone or are in need of support.

All custodial grandparents and other relative caregivers are welcome. There are NO membership fees.

Support Programs

Membership benefits include:

- * Monthly support group meetings
- * Educational Programs
- * Respite Opportunities
- * Information and Referral
- * Occasional advocacy

Additionally, there are opportunities for grandparents to socialize among other grandparents and children

Educational Programs

Times change, people change, which makes effective parenting in this changing world also very challenging. Speakers are often invited to speak at the support group meetings to address issues that are of interest to members.

Respite

Another ongoing endeavor is to provide much-needed respite to grandparents. Whether it is a barbecue, museum tour, a boat ride, bowling or skating, camp for the children, an opportunity to see a show, dinner out, an appointment at the hairdresser or a haircut. It is clear that grandparents need a break now and then. We continue to work to find creative respite opportunities and to secure funding for program activities.

Utilizing a Collaborative Approach

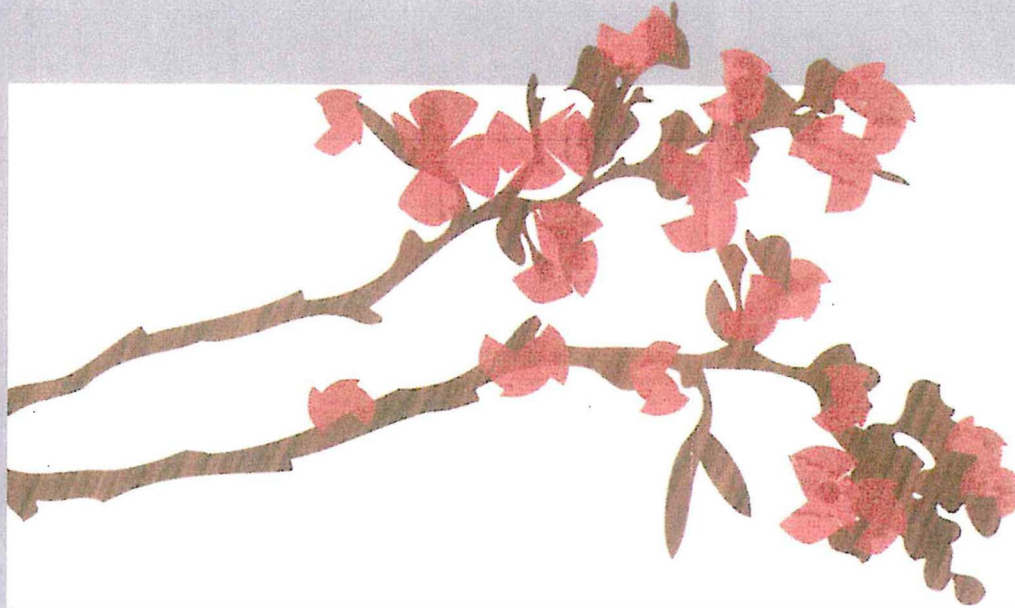
Always seeking creative solutions, Christian Tabernacle Baptist Church collaborates with other support programs, as well as local, state and national organizations to develop programs and services to support relative caregivers.

Legislative Advocacy

Grandparent Raising Grandchildren periodically engages in advocacy on issues that affect our members. We will lobby for subsidized guardianship, a stipend that will help financially burdened caregivers.

The program promotes integrity and resilience of grand families allowing children the opportunity of kinship care vs foster care and support to caregivers at the intersection of aging and child rearing

Serving the towns of:
Ansonia, Derby, East Haven,
Hamden, Milford, New Haven
and West Haven



CHRISTIAN TABERNACLE PRESENTS...

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW RAISING GRANDCHILDREN?
YOU ARE DEFINITELY NOT ALONE... YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR
OUR GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP.

HOSTED AND FACILITATED BY:

CHRISTIAN TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH
425 NEWHALL ST HAMDEN, CT 06517



GRG

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL US AT (203) 624 3028
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ctbctrustees@gmail.com