

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

130



**FROM:** Office on Aging

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That your Honorable Board:

- 1) Approve the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Annual Report for FY 04/05;
- 2) Instruct the Office on Aging to continue staff support to assist the Task Force in addressing the direction outlined in the report;
- 3) Support the ongoing participation of staff from county departments that serve grandparents raising grandchildren.

**BACKGROUND:** The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force created by the Board of Supervisors was first convened by the Office on Aging and the Advisory Council on Aging in October 1998. The goal of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force is to address the multiple and complex issues faced by grandparents raising grandchildren through education, program development, and system advocacy; and to promote a more customer friendly system. The Task Force has been active since 1998 and continues to report back to the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis.

The annual report for fiscal year 2004-2005 is attached.

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ -0-	In Current Year Budget:	
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ -0-	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ -0-	For Fiscal Year:	FY 04/05

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b>	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** **APPROVE**

County Executive Office Signature *Alex Lann*

- Dep't Recomm.:  Consent  Policy
- Per Exec. Ofc.:  Consent  Policy



Riverside County Office on Aging



**Grandparents Raising Grandchildren  
Task Force  
Annual Report  
FY 2004 – 2005**



***Special Points of Interest:***

- **Summary Highlights**
- **Future Outlook & Priorities**
- **FY 2004-2005 WarmLine Statistics**
- **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force**

## Summary Highlights

The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force has had a very successful and productive year and is proud of its progress and its future goals.

Following are some of the highlights:

The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Forum in **September 2004** was a huge success. There were nearly one hundred people in attendance. Tania Bowman, a well respected attorney and child advocate, was the keynote speaker. She was able to provide individual consultations to the grandparents who attended the forum.

The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program acquired a new Program Coordinator and Social Worker in **October, 2004**. The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force held a retreat in **October of 2004** to discuss the implementation of the One Stop Center. Recognizing the multiple needs and challenges facing grandparents raising grandchildren, the Riverside County Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force elected to establish an integrated comprehensive service center, the One Stop Center, to empower and assist grandparents raising grandchildren in Riverside County.

A special planning session of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force was held on **November 16, 2004**. Task Force members assembled to share ideas for the Office on Aging's Strategic Plan for 2005-2009. The group identified goals for the Task Force, which are linked to the Strategic Plan on Aging.

A Strategic Plan for the One Stop Center was finalized and submitted in **December 2004**. In addition to the Strategic Plan, a Fund Development Plan was also developed to support the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Strategic Plan. The mission of the One Stop Center for grandparents raising grandchildren is a community resource center providing access to comprehensive information and services for grandparents raising grandchildren in Riverside County, empowering them to preserve their health, dignity, and independence while providing a strong family environment for the children in their care.

The highlight of **December 2004** was the annual Christmas Party for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. The Elks Lodge of Hemet donated the food and the toys for the party. Jim Venable, Supervisor of District III at the time, was on hand to encourage and commend the grandparents for all their efforts in raising their grandchildren.

**January 2005** marked the official launch of the child care/ respite program for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. First 5 Riverside provides the funding for this valuable program. Since its inception, the program has served sixty-two grandchildren and forty-three grandparents. A full-time program specialist was brought on board to oversee the program in January.



## Summary Highlights (Cont.)

In **March of 2005**, Temecula AARP raised \$549.00 for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. This money was given to grandparents raising grandchildren who were very grateful; some needed the money for rent, home repairs, and other living expenses.

In **April 2005**, the Press Enterprise published a front page article on the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. The reporter interviewed grandparents, support group leaders, as well as internal staff to create her article. The article listed the local number for the program along with the toll free number for the Riverside County Office on Aging, as well as the number for the WarmLine. This article generated an influx of calls and interest in the program. Outreach is so vital to this program so that grandparents know that help is available for them.

In **May 2005**, the Board of Supervisors approved the Strategic Plan for the Office on Aging which identified objectives for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program, as well as for the One Stop Center, some of which are listed below.



## **Future Outlook & Priorities**

According to the 2000 Census, 16,863 grandparents in Riverside County are responsible for one or more grandchildren under eighteen years of age (US Census Bureau 2000). In response to this, priority issues of grandparents raising grandchildren are addressed in the Riverside County Office on Aging's 2005-2009 Strategic Plan. A goal for caregivers outlined in the plan is to sustain/improve support systems for all caregivers who are assisting seniors, adults with disabilities, or their grandchildren, so that family stability is enhanced and community resources are maximized. There are several objectives designed to achieve this goal.

1. The Advisory Council on Aging and Office on Aging staff will advocate with federal, state, and local officials and key community stakeholders to expand information and assistance, and care management services for caregivers of seniors or adults with disabilities, and grandparents raising grandchildren.
2. Office on Aging and the Advisory Council on Aging will collaborate with local officials, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force, the Riverside Community Youth Commission, Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, and key stakeholders to reconfigure the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force to address changing/emerging needs and make appropriate influences on the service delivery system, including a countywide public social worker and mental health worker education campaign on issues of ageism related to grandparents raising grandchildren.

## **Future Outlook & Priorities (Cont.)**

3. Office on Aging staff, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force, and Advisory Council on Aging will convene two forums for grandparents raising grandchildren, Riverside County department personnel, service providers, and grandchildren being raised by grandparents to address priority issues confronted by grandparents raising grandchildren. The first forum is scheduled for September 2006.
4. Office on Aging staff will develop and issue a Blue Ribbon Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Report identifying recommendations for resolving issues identified in the grandparents raising grandchildren forums, with updates.
5. Office on Aging staff and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force will produce and disseminate a quarterly grandparents raising grandchildren newsletter to grandparents raising grandchildren, service providers, and community leaders, addressing issues in the forums, resources, and current initiatives.
6. Office on Aging staff and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force will undertake new program development together with community organizations, Department of Public Social Services, Child Protective Services, other provider agencies, First 5 Riverside, and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren volunteers, to establish a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren One Stop Center in Riverside County.

7. Office on Aging staff and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Task Force will coordinate with the Riverside County Foundation on Aging to research and apply for private sector funding to educate community leaders and officials on the needs of grandparents raising grandchildren and to establish the One Stop Center.



**WarmLine Statistics  
Fiscal Year 2004 – 2005**

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Total Calls:

July	115	January	105
August	170	February	104
September	123	March	140
October	86	April	113
November	106	May	111
December	117	June	91

Total: 1381  
Average Monthly Calls: 115

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Calls By City Area:

<u>City</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
Riverside	19 %	34%	19%	21%	26%	22%
Hemet	23 %	16%	23%	12%	12%	9%
Moreno Valley	17 %	13%	17%	14%	6%	11%
Desert	20 %	18%	23%	19%	23%	18%
Southwest	10 %	11%	11%	20%	22%	25%
Other	11 %	8%	8%	15%	11%	15%

<u>City</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Average</u>
Riverside	30 %	29%	40%	9%	22%	18%	24%
Hemet	23 %	17%	15%	27%	9%	19%	17%
Moreno Valley	10 %	9%	12%	9%	4%	11%	11%
Desert	7% 28	20%	15%	14%	29%	22%	19%
Southwest	%	20%	9%	14%	15%	19%	17%
Other	2%	5%	9%	27%	21%	11%	12%

Calls by Topic:

<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
WarmLine	41	82	41	22	49	60
Foster Care	42	39	43	27	25	27
IEHP	3	1	2	0	2	0
Kinship	3	2	2	4	2	2
Other	30	45	37	19	29	28

<u>Topic:</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Average</u>
WarmLine	58	62	88	73	84	64	60
Foster Care	18	17	27	13	9	6	24
IEHP	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kinship	1	3	1	0	3	3	2
Other	28	22	24	27	15	18	27



## Task Force Members

Chair – Betty Rogers, Advisory Council on Aging

Past Chair – Mary Blankenship, Advisory Council on Aging

### Board of Supervisor Grandparent Representatives:

District I – Betty Rogers

District II – Billie DeVol

District III – Fran Vigil

District IV – Phyllis McGraw, Ph.D.

District V – Carolyn Bradford

### Elected Officials:

Senator Hollingsworth Staff  
Supervisor Buster, District I  
Supervisor Tavaglione, District II  
Supervisor Stone, District III  
Supervisor Wilson, District IV  
Supervisor Ashley, District V

Tom Rogers  
Wendy Kolk  
Anne Stephens  
Robin Reid  
Leticia DeLara  
Robin Hastings

### Riverside County Departments:

Child Support Services  
Court, Family  
Court, Juvenile Probation  
Court, Superior Court Probate  
District Attorney, Family Support  
DPSS/Child Protective Services  
DPSS/Child Protective Services  
DPSS/Child Protective Services  
DPSS/Child Protective Services  
DPSS/Foster Care  
DPSS/KinGap  
DPSS/Warmline  
Head Start  
Mental Health  
Office on Aging  
Office of Education (2)  
Public Health Nurse  
Sheriff Department  
Substance Abuse

Joan Del Villar  
Vacant  
Rosa Strang  
Arlene Degen  
Bonita Garba  
Sharrell Blakeley  
Sylvia Deporto  
Larry Kramer  
Cynthia Marez  
Teresa Hendricks  
Vacant  
Al Trembly  
Vacant  
Debbie LeFevre  
Connie Gil  
Vacant  
Nicole Boyd  
Deputy Kim Judge  
Idonia Davis

Community Agencies/Organizations:

Advocacy/Ombudsman Program	Vacant
Community Action Agency	Mary Price
First 5 Riverside	Vacant
Healthy Children Connection	Betty VonFrankenberg
Kin Care	Trish Lande
Renu Hope Foundation	Pam Wright
Riverside County	
Foundation On Aging	Vacant
Valley Wide Park & Recreation	Gayle Hepner

Education:

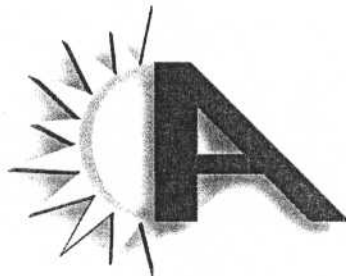
Hemet Unified School District – Sylvia Ortiz  
UC Riverside, Moreno Valley – Chutima Ganthavorn, Ph.D.

Grandparent Support Group Leaders:

Beaumont – Mary Blankenship & Al Trembly  
Hemet – Linda Grant & Fran Vigil  
Idyllwild – Jane & Sid Acton  
Mead Valley – John Clark  
Moreno Valley – Josie LaFata  
Perris – Lorena Melendez  
Riverside – Billie DeVol  
Temecula – Lisa Grunauer

Task Force Staff:

Office on Aging, Director	Lu Molberg
Office on Aging, Deputy Director of Senior Programs	Ray Mastalish
Office on Aging, Task Force Coordinator	Valerie Wheat
Office on Aging, Social Worker	Stephanie Ortiz
Office on Aging, Child Care Coordinator	Annette Jones



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