

Duet News


• FOR GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN •

From the Director's Desk

by Patricia Dominguez, MSW
Director of Kinship Care Services

It's a new year with new beginnings and many reasons to join us. Whether coming to one of our special events, support groups or educational workshops, kinship families are always welcome. It's with a grateful heart that we were able to reach so many families this past year, and we are looking forward to helping even more in the coming year. We strive to assist and support "grandfamilies" in a variety of ways. This quarter, we hope you will join us for an open house at Halle Heart, participate in our 5-week workshop "Guiding

Good Choices," come out and root for the Phoenix Coyotes and enjoy a wonderful time at our annual family picnic.

We want to highlight some of our partners who helped many families have an extraordinary holiday. Through Arizona Helping Hands and faith community nurses who serve with Duet, each child at our holiday party received a toy. Scottsdale Insurance Company, Steptoe & Johnson LLP and an anonymous donor adopted several families for Christmas. These families had many wishes come true. And, 80 grandparent and grandchildren enjoyed a traditional holiday performance of the "Nutcracker" thanks to wonderful ticket donations from Ballet and Friends at the Orpheum. Thank you all for giving of your hearts to enrich lives! 

Barbara with granddaughter Sarah, who is the happy owner of a new bike.



Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors Community Outreach & Advocacy Summit

We want to hear from you! Now is the time to talk about your needs and create a collective voice for the most vulnerable in our communities!

In January, the **Community Outreach and Advocacy Summit** will provide an opportunity for dialogue among grandparents, human services professionals,

elected leaders, and government agencies. This is an opportunity to speak up for children and to create a community action plan to address the challenges faced by grandparents raising grandchildren.

Due to tough economic conditions and state budget cuts, the fabric of Arizona's social safety net is weakening. The loss and reduction of social services have had devastating effects on families in our community. Now it is harder for grandparents to get basic assistance to keep their grandchildren thriving and families intact.


In Arizona, more than 100,000 children are being raised by their

grandparents. Grandparents become parents all over again in order to keep their families together and keep their grandchildren out of Arizona's overburdened foster care system. **Please join us! Space is limited – so make a reservation.**

When: January 29, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Where: Holiday Inn, 777 N. Pinal Ave., Casa Grande, AZ, 85122

Cost: FREE - includes continental breakfast, lunch and childcare

RSVP: Elaine Wilder, 520-820-8949 or wilder.e@gmail.com 



Healthy Hearts

Hey grandma, hey kids! How much do you know about your heart? Did you know it beats EVERY second, which adds up to 2.5 BILLION times in an average lifetime? Or, that it pumps 2,000 gallons of blood EVERY day through a circulatory system that spans 60,000 miles?

Join us for a visit to the Halle Heart Children's Museum which provides a dynamic and interactive environment where YOU are empowered to make healthy choices that can transform your life.



When: Sat., Feb. 4
9:00 a.m. - Noon
Where: Halle Heart Children's Museum
2929 W. 48th St., Tempe, 85282
Cost: FREE
RSVP: Required by January 23. Call Patricia at 602-274-5022 x 44 email dominguez@duetaz.org ✂



Phoenix Coyotes Hockey Game

Who will win – the Coyotes or the Sharks? We're betting on our hometown team – the Phoenix Coyotes, of course! Meet us "on the ice" February 4 for the Coyotes vs. the San Jose Sharks.

Thanks to a gift from Steptoe and Johnson Law Offices, we are able to provide special pricing for grandparents raising grandchildren. We invite you to join us for a major match-up as the Coyotes speed over the ice in a fever of excitement.

When: Sat., February 4, 6:00 p.m.
Where: Jobing.com Arena
9400 W. Maryland Ave.,
Glendale, 85305
Cost: \$5 per person (this is a special price for grandparents raising grandchildren) Discounted \$20 tickets are available for all other Duet friends.
RSVP: There is limited seating. Call Patricia at 602-274-5022. ✂

"Guiding Good Choices" Workshop

Guiding Good Choices is a five-week interactive workshop for all parents of children in grades 4-8. In a lively and open atmosphere, grandparents will learn specific strategies to help their grandchildren avoid drug use and problem behaviors.

Grandparents will learn how to set clear family guidelines and keep kids drug-free, strengthen family bonds, and increase children's involvement in their families. These skills will help grandparents guide their grandchildren into becoming healthy adults

You will not want to miss this award-winning workshop presented by Kim Obert! We are proud to offer this special event to kinship caregivers. **Space is limited** so call now to reserve your spot (minimum of 10 participants or class will be cancelled).

When: Saturdays: Feb. 11, 18, & 25, and March 17 & 24
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Where: Duet 555 W, Glendale Ave., Phx. 85021
Cost: FREE - includes a light breakfast
RSVP: To register, call Patricia at 602-274-5022 x44

Duet is proud to present this interactive workshop in partnership with Drug Free AZ ✂

Central Arizona Kinship Care Coalition

The Central Arizona Kinship Care Coalition is comprised of several members representing the state, private social service agencies, associations, and kinship caregivers. We are dedicated to supporting grandparents raising grandchildren and relative caregivers.

Through the cooperation of several agencies, we develop helpful programs, provide assistance in navigating legal, educational and health systems, and advocate for better conditions in Arizona to enhance caregivers' lives

*** Please note:** A strategic planning meeting is set for **Fri., Jan. 27** from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. All grandparents and kinship caregivers encouraged to participate.

What: Kinship Coalition meeting
When: Second Monday of each month exception January 9*
Time: Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Where: Duet, 555 W Glendale Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85021

For more Information: Call Patricia Dominguez, Chair, 602-274-5022 or Lauri Devine, Co-Chair, 602-542-2419 ✂





Annual Picnic for “Grandfamilies”

Springtime means “picnic time” at Duet! We’re planning a special event for children and grandparents at our Annual Grandfamilies’ Picnic. Please join us for this wonderful afternoon. Children enjoy the outdoors, run, play games, and have their faces painted. Grandparents relax, meet new friends, and enjoy creating memories with their grandchildren.

Each year more than 100 people participate. Mark your calendars now and so you don’t miss out. We love to share fun AND food, so plan on bringing your favorite dish to share with other families. We hope to see you there!

When: Sat., March 3., Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Where: Sahuaro Ranch Park,
Ramadas 8 & 9
9802 N. 59th Ave.,
Glendale, 85302

Bring: Your favorite dish to share

Cost: Free!

RSVP: Required by Feb. 17. Call Patricia at 602-274-5022 x44. 🦋

Join Our List for Free Tickets

Thanks to our generous community, we are fortunate enough to occasionally receive free tickets to a variety of exciting events. If you are interested in possibly receiving some of these tickets, we need current contact information – **ONLY** for grandparents raising grandchildren and relative caregivers.

We are in the process of updating our master contact list. **If you want to be on our list or remain on our list**, we must hear from you **by Friday, February 1.**

As donations are provided to Duet, we will call you with the necessary information. Please, call NOW to confirm your contact information. 602-274-5022 x 42 or email Dominguez@duetaz.org.

If you **request free tickets**, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you **pick them up and use them**. If you **fail to claim and use your free tickets**, we will be forced to **immediately and permanently remove** your name from our list. Thank you. 🦋



Need Guardianship?

Do you know whether you need to be the legal guardian of your grandchildren? We can help answer that question. If you are raising a grandchild or a minor relative, you will need formal custody to obtain benefits such as health care or to enroll the child in school. While the legal process to gain custody can be complex and overwhelming, Duet is here to help.

A volunteer attorney will guide you through guardianship of a minor, provide legal advice, and answer questions regarding uncontested guardianship.

When: Friday, Jan. 13, 3-5 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 10, 3-5 p.m.

Friday, March 9, 3-5 p.m.

Where: Church of the Beatitudes

Patio Room

555 W. Glendale Ave., Phx, 85021

Cost: Free

RSVP: Required. Call Patricia (602) 274-5022 ext. 44 🦋

Do You Need Household Items?

It may be difficult for some grandparents to provide for the needs of their family. If you are in need of household items such as bedding, pillows, towels, rugs, and blankets, we may be able to assist you (intake and income restrictions required). Call Patricia 602-274-5022 🦋

Calling All Grandparent Visionaries

We want to make sure Duet’s services are appealing to and supportive of our grandparents. We care about your ideas and need your input about our activities.

We have created a “Kinship Dream Team” led by kinship families to help us expand services, investigate relevant issues and advise us on services we currently offer to kinship caregivers.

You are invited to join our “Kinship Dream Team.” We meet once every three months - usually on a Saturday. This is a great way to get involved, meet other

kinship caregivers, and provide insight and direction on what services you think would be most helpful to grandparents raising grandchildren. Call Patricia at 602-274-5022 x44 to join our team. 🦋

“A leader has the vision and conviction that a dream can be achieved. He inspires the power and energy to get it done”. -Ralph Lauren





Duet: Partners In Health & Aging
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(602) 274-5022
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Central Arizona Kinship Coalition Strategic Meeting

We want to hear from you! Please tell us about the challenges and joys of parenting a "second time around." We welcome your participation and strongly encourage you to join us. Meeting set for Friday, January 27 from 5 - 7 p.m. (see pg. 2)

Sharing Groups for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren & Kinship Caregivers

January

No Meeting

Glendale Adult Center, Room 103
5970 W. Brown St., Glendale, 85302

January 12, Thursday, 9 - 11 a.m.

Church of the Beatitudes, lounge
555 W. Glendale Ave. Phoenix, 85021

January 24, Tuesday, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Buckeye Community Center
201 E. Centre Ave., Buckeye, 85326

January 24, Tuesday, 5 - 7 p.m.

Care 1st Avondale Resource Center
328 W. Western Ave., Avondale, 85323

February

Feb. 1, Wednesday, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Glendale Adult Center, room 103
5970 W. Brown St., Glendale, 85302

Feb. 9, Thursday, 9 - 11 a.m.

Feb. 23, Thursday, 9 - 11 a.m.
Church of the Beatitudes, lounge
555 W. Glendale Ave. Phoenix, 85021

Feb. 28, Tuesday, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Buckeye Community Center
201 E. Centre Ave., Buckeye, 85326

Feb. 28, Tuesday, 5 - 7 p.m.

Care 1st Avondale Resource Center
328 W. Western Ave., Avondale, 85323

March

March 7, Wednesday, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Glendale Adult Center, Room 103
5970 W. Brown St., Glendale, 85302

March 8, Thursday, 9 - 11 a.m.

March 22, Thursday, 9 - 11 a.m.
Church of the Beatitudes, lounge
555 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix, 85021

March 27, Tuesday, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Buckeye Community Center
201 E. Centre Ave., Buckeye, 85326

March 27, Tuesday, 5 - 7 p.m.

Care 1st Avondale Resource Center
328 W. Western Ave., Avondale, 85323

Services made possible through partnerships with Area Agency on Aging, Region One; Coyotes Charities; Desert Schools Credit Union; Fennemore Craig Law Firm; Ibiden USA; Steptoe and Johnson Law Firm; Thunderbird Charities; and by many generous individuals.