

# Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children

“Caring for you... caring for others”

Volume 1, Issue 1



## BACK-TO-SCHOOL ANXIETY

Going back to school after a long holiday or summer break can be exciting for many children, since they will be meeting old friends and making new ones. However, for some young children, it can be a frightening experience, especially when they think they will be away from their family or caregivers. A new environment with strangers can increase stress levels in the young—or even older—children. You can help ease these anxieties by preparing them well *before* school starts.

For example, a few weeks before the opening of classes, you can start bringing back structured mealtimes and bedtime routines to condition their bodies and their minds for school. You can take them to school in advance to visit their new classrooms and meet new teachers. You can also make a trip to the school clinic to see the nurse and tell her your grandchild’s special needs, if there are any. You may need to explain to your grandchild that he/she may need immunizations to avoid getting sick and missing fun in school.

One way to help your grandchild get ready for school is to ask him to talk about his feelings. Also talk about how he can overcome his or her fears by, for example, going with a friend to the playground.

## We're Going Back To School



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## THE SCHOOL NURSE

Parents and caregivers often drop off their children at school, trusting that their health and safety are in good hands. The school nurse is there to give emergency treatment when needed, but grandparents and other caregivers should work closely with school authorities, including the teachers, regarding their child's *special* health needs.

Some children have medical issues such as asthma, heart murmur, or allergies, which may cause symptoms to arise anytime. Parents and caregivers like you can help their teachers and school nurses deal with these situations by giving them information about the child's history and medications, as well as necessary restrictions for the child's well-being. If your grandchild has health issues, it is *especially* important that you leave a current emergency contact number in case your child becomes ill at school.

## MY CHILD IS BACK IN SCHOOL, BUT I FEEL THEY HAVE LOST SKILLS OVER THE SUMMER

It is alarming to feel that your child is no longer making progress and may even be losing skills, but it can benefit them if you recognize this early and intervene.

Speak with their teachers about your concerns and share any samples of their work that reflect these concerns. Together, you can decide which step should be taken next. If you and the teachers feel that the level and amount of services and accommodations your child is receiving need to be revisited, then an IEP meeting should be convened.

It is important to discuss the possible reasons for your child's current struggles to determine the next course of action. For example, perhaps your child was able to compensate for their disability before, but now that they are getting older and the schoolwork is getting more challenging, their ability to compensate is being strained, and the achievement gap between your child and their peers is widening. If so, you and the other members of your child's ARD/IEP team might need to consider if further evaluation for your child is warranted.



## LIMITING TV TIME FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Kids who spend too much *screen time* watching TV, playing computer games, or “surfing” on the internet tend to have more problems with weight gain, as well as lower grades in school. Don’t use the tube as a substitute babysitter! Once kids get into the *TV habit*, it’s hard to break. Let your grandkids share activities with you; they’ll love the attention to time spent with you and maybe get some exercise.

- ◆ Make household chores into a game. While you vacuum, give your child a dust rag and see who can finish cleaning up first.
- ◆ Kids are fascinated by what goes on in the kitchen, so include them in measuring, adding, and stirring.
- ◆ You don’t need books to tell stories. Also tell stories about what you

see as you take a walk.

- ◆ Put on a favorite CD and dance! Dance is a good way for kids to get exercise and develop coordination.
- ◆ Give your kid a scrapbook, old magazines, crayons, glue and safety scissors and let them create.

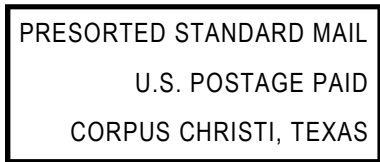
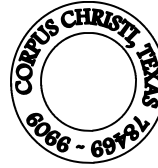
When your grandchildren do watch TV, watch with them. Talk to your little ones while you watch and explain what’s on the screen. Young kids often can’t understand the difference between commercials and programs, and they may have trouble understanding *make believe*.

Limit TV to educational or “feel good” shows like *Dora the Explorer* or *Blue’s Clues*, or those that feature singing and dancing.





Post Office Box 9909  
Corpus Christi, Texas  
78469-9909



**~Grand-Parenting News~**

The Area Agency on



and

Funded in part by the:



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**OUR PURPOSE**

To provide caregivers with critical information enabling them to do their job with confidence, pride and competence.

This newsletter is for informational use and should not be considered health advice. It is not meant to replace medical care but to supplement it. The publisher assumes no liability with respect to the accuracy, completeness or application of information presented or the reader's misunderstanding of the text.

**GRANDPARENTS RESOLUTION**

The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature whose mission is to advocate for seniors, has approved several resolutions that have been presented to Texas Legislators prior to their convening in January 2017. One of those resolutions, if passed, will assist grandparents who are raising grandchildren in getting financial assistance from child support that is part of a court order. Persons who wish to support this resolution are encouraged to contact their legislators in support of this assistance to their families.

A RESOLUTION TO: Establish in Texas law the right of grandparents who are raising grandchildren to receive all payments of support that have been ordered by the court for the benefit of the child.

WHEREAS, There are 600,000+ children in Texas being raised by others (other than their biological parents); and the vast majority of those 600,000+ children are being raised by loving grandparents; and

WHEREAS, The courts have ordered, in many cases, the biological parents to pay child support to the person raising their children; and

WHEREAS, Many grandparents are financially strained trying to survive on a fixed income and at the same time provide needed financial support for grandchildren in the house, and often, the grandparent does not receive the child support payments that the court has ordered for the benefit of the child; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 161h Texas Silver-Haired Legislature urges the 851h Texas Legislature to amend the Family Code to provide for a Grandparent Protection and Support Act to ensure that the grandparent (or other family member) actually raising the child receives all court-ordered child support payments made for the support of the child.

PASSED AND APPROVED on April 5, 2016, by the State Affairs Committee.

Chris Kyker, Chairman

PASSED AND APPROVED on April 6, 2016, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Walter Graham, Speaker

ATTEST:

Judy Vjrd, Secretary

# ~ AUGUST 2016 ~

## Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children (G R R C) Support Group

WHEN: (\*) Tuesday, August 23rd

TIME: 10:00am — 11:00am

WHERE: Ben McDonald Library

ADDR.: 4044 Greenwood Drive, Corpus Christi

PHONE: (361) 883-3935 or 1-800-817-5743

WHAT: (\*) EVENING SUPPORT GROUP

WHEN: Thursday August 25th

TIME: 6:00pm — 7:00pm

WHERE: First United Methodist Church

ADDR.: 900 South Shoreline Blvd. Corpus Christi

2nd floor—Rm #216 / parking & entrance behind church

PHONE: (361) 334-2255

FACILITATED/PRESENTED BY MCH FAMILY OUTREACH

(\*) Please call if you will bring your grandchild(ren)



For additional information contact:

**FELIPA LOPEZ WILMOT**  
Family Caregiver Program Specialist

Office: (361) 883-3935 ext - 5153

Toll Free: 1-800-817-5743

Email: felipa@cbcogaaa.org

~ OR ~

**MONZERATT SILGERO**  
NFCSP (Interim) Administrative Assistant

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Facilitation provided by:

*The National Family Caregiver Support Program*

a program of the:



*The Area Agency on Aging  
is a program of the:*



**COASTAL BEND  
COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS**

*The Area Agency on Aging of the Coastal Bend is funded in part by the :  
Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS)*



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** SUBSCRIBERS TO QUARTERLY GRANDPARENT AND OTHER RELATIVES RAISING GRANDCHILDREN NEWSLETTER

**From:** BETTY LAMB, Director  
Area Agency on Aging/Coastal Bend Aging and Disability Resource Center

**cc:** Felipa Lopez Wilmot, Family Caregiver Program Specialist

**Date:** August 1, 2016

**Re:** NOTICE OF "ACTION REQUIRED"

In order to streamline the productivity of the 'Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren Newsletter' (quarterly newsletters), the Area Agency on Aging/Coastal Bend Aging and Disability Resource Center is working to improve the method of distributing the quarterly newsletters, as well as reduce cost. Your response in updating our database with your mailing preference is required on/before **September 31, 2016**. If a response is not received by this date, you will be erased from the database. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Simply complete/update the bottom portion of this memo and either

Mail your response to:

AAA/ADRC  
Attn: GRRG Newsletter  
Post Office Box 9909  
Corpus Christi, TX 78469

Or email your response to: [NFCSP@cbcogaaa.org](mailto:NFCSP@cbcogaaa.org)

Print First Name      Print Last Name      (\*) HINT: **CUT & PASTE MAILING LABEL HERE (skip next line)**

Print Street Address      City      State      Zip Code

- Continue to mail the monthly newsletters to the above address
- Email the monthly newsletters to: \_\_\_\_\_
- I no longer wish to receive the monthly newsletter       Add me to your database (info provided above)



## Corpus Christi Nueces County Public Health District Immunization Back to School Clinic

Date: Saturday August 6, 2016

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Place: Health Department (1702 Horne Rd Corpus Christi, TX 78416)

**Back to School Immunizations for eligible children 4-18 y/o**

**These clinics are open to school aged children who meet the TVFC eligibility requirements:**

- A) Is enrolled in Medicaid
- B) Is an American Indian, or
- C) Is an Alaskan Native, or
- D) Does not have health insurance (underinsured)
- E) NOT ACCEPTING CHIPS AT THIS TIME(Must go back to their doctor office for immunizations)**
- F) Is Underinsured:
  - 1) Has commercial (private) health insurance, but coverage does not include vaccines, or
  - 2) Insurance covers only selected vaccines(TVFC-eligible for non-covered vaccines only); or
  - 3) Insurance caps vaccine coverage at a certain amount. Once that amount is reached, the child is categorized as underinsured.

**What to bring to the clinics:**

- Child's Immunization Record (Must have this information or we will not be able vaccinate the child)
- Current Medicaid Card
- Cash (the cost is \$10.00 a shot no more than \$30.00 per child)
- Parent/Guardian's ID



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Corpus Christi Nueces County Public Health District 361-826-7238



# Brush Country **CASA** Presents the 2016



# back-to-school bash

Tuesday Aug. 9th  
11am-2pm

Norman Thomas Elementary School Gym  
Bring your family & enjoy  
a fun filled afternoon of

Music, Games, Prizes  
AND MUCH MORE!!

First 100 Children receive a  
**FREE BACKPACK!!!**

For booth info call Nicole: (361) 595-7233





Church of Hope



# Back 2 School FAIR

**Saturday, August 13th**  
**10:00am - 1:00pm**

**Come get ready for school!**

**FREE BACKPACKS\* & SUPPLIES**  
**HAIRCUTS & DENTAL CLEANINGS**  
**EYE EXAMS, PHYSICALS & MORE!**

**\*CHILD MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE BACKPACK/SUPPLIES**

**13024 LEOPARD ST./241-2472**





Kingsville Independent School District

5th Annual  
**COMMUNITY  
FAIR!**

Let's Celebrate Education!

**FRIDAY  
August 19**  
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Parade Begins at 6:00 p.m. at  
the Train Depot

**OVER  
100 BACKPACKS  
WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
TO GIVEAWAY!!**

**ENTERTAINMENT  
MUSIC & DANCING!**

**FREE FOOD, RAFFIES  
& GIVEAWAYS!**

For More Information about being a vendor or donating school supplies:  
Contact the KISD PR Office at 361-592-3387 ext 8134 or 361-246-7082

**17th ANNUAL  
GRANDPARENTS AND OTHER RELATIVES  
RAISING CHILDREN CONFERENCE  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016  
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**American Bank Center – Watergarden Room  
1901 North Shoreline, Corpus Christi**

**Register to attend by calling:**

**361-883-3935 or 1-800-817-5743**



**GRANDPARENTING TOOLS & AVAILABLE RESOURCES INCLUDE:**

- \* Legal Issues
- \* School Facts
- \* Social Services
- \* Healthy Lifestyles
- \* Exhibitors & Informational Booths

*Continental Breakfast & Lunch will be served*

*Door Prizes & Much More!*

Like us on  [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

*Annual Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children Conference*

As part of the 17th Annual Grandparents & Other Relatives Raising Children Conference, sponsors are giving you a chance to win some cool prizes.

Enter your best photo of you with your child(ren) involved in a *healthy lifestyle* activity!!



# Enter Photo Contest!!

**Age Categories:**  
**Ages 0-5**  
**Ages 6-10**  
**Ages 11-13**  
**Ages 14-17**

## General Rules:

No purchase necessary. One photo entry per person. Only one winner per category. All photos submitted will **NOT** be returned.

Photos may be submitted by mail— Send your 4X6 photo and entry form to the address below **OR** post your photo to our conference Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/grrcc>

**Entry deadline: September 16, 2016**—Mail to: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, c/o FCS Department, 710 E. Main St, Ste 1, Robstown, TX 78380.

**Winner will be announced at conference. Must be present to win.**

## Photo Contest

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Age Category \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children Conference (GRRC) and its agents or employees to take and use photographs, video, and other media ("photographs") for promotional purposes of every description, which includes all print products and digital files used on electronic and mobile devices, as well as Conference administered websites and social media pages/accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.), without notifying me.

I hereby consent and authorize the GRRC Steering Committee to reproduce photographs or video of my child for advertising and publicity.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_