



# Kinship Care News



County of Saginaw

December 2010

## Ideas to Start Conversations with your Children

- Which sense is the most important: sight, hearing, touch, smell, or taste? Why?
- What are you thankful for? Why?
- If you could make the rules for parents what would they be?
- Which friend makes you feel good about yourself? How ?
- What three things would your friends say about you that make you a good friend to have?
- Why do you think it is important to help others in need?
- How could you share your talents with your community?
- What makes you special? What are you proud of yourself for?
- What are the slang expressions in school? When are they used?
- Have you ever felt afraid at school?
- How well do the kids at school get along?
- Have you ever had to defend one of your beliefs to your friends? What was it about? How did it feel to defend yourself?

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## HOLIDAY EVENT

**Wednesday December 15th**

**---Holiday POTLUCK---**

**5:30-7:30pm**

**Location—Salvation Army Gym  
2030 N Carolina, Saginaw, MI 48602**

**Bring a new or gently used item for**

**White Elephant Bingo**

**Please RSVP-797-6884**

**Prizes**

**Bring a Dish to pass**

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\*Kinship Care Support Services (KCSS) offers assistance to adults ages 55 and over in Saginaw County who are raising grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews or other related minors (where the biological parent is not in the home). The program provides support to both the adult caregiver and the minor children. KCSS offers support groups, information and referral to community resources, educational opportunities, recreational events, respite care funds, and emergency funds.

## Information passed on from E-Kinnections

—A newsletter of the Kinship Care Resource Center

### Raising Awareness of Kinship Care

Here is something you can share with anyone to raise awareness of kinship care, its benefits and its challenges - The Clark County Nevada Department of Family Services produced a film featuring kinship providers and young people talking about their experiences in kin care giving.

Visit the NRCPCFC homepage to view the film: [www.nrcpfc.org/](http://www.nrcpfc.org/)

### AARP's Grandcare Support Locator

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Foundation has launched the Grandcare Support Locator, which allows kinship caregivers to search for specific types of groups and services within their State or jurisdiction. Using the online search form, users can search within their zip code to find services (e.g., child care, health care, respite care, newsletters) or support groups (in-person, telephone support, or online). Users can limit the search to Spanish- or English-language results, and they can restrict the search to items relevant to grandparents raising grandchildren or to grandparents experiencing visitation issues.

Find the free searchable database at: [www.giclocalsupport.org/pages/search\\_form.cfm](http://www.giclocalsupport.org/pages/search_form.cfm)

### Disaster Assistance

Winter is coming on fast and you never know when our Michigan weather may turn against us. Your families might appreciate knowing about [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov), which provides information on how to get help from the U.S. Government before, during and after a disaster. [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov) also provides news, information and resources to prepare for disasters, help keep your family safe during an emergency, and to recover afterwards.

For more information, visit their website: [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov)

**You can obtain more information, resources and contact information for the MSU Kinship Care Resource center at: [www.kinship.msu.edu/](http://www.kinship.msu.edu/)**

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## A Thank You for Thanksgiving Baskets

We were fortunate to have had so many donated Food baskets from local churches for Thanksgiving. All requested baskets came in this year. We even had a last minute call from a church with extra baskets. **If you would like to send a thank you letter, the list of Churches and days baskets were provided from each are listed below.** — please call KCSS with any questions the churches do not have your information.

- St. John Vianney— 6400 McCarty— Delivered on Sunday
- St. Mary's Cathedral— 705 Hoyt— Picked up at COA Tuesday
- St. Peter and Paul— 4735 W. Michigan— Picked up at church Tuesday
- St. Paul Baptist— 120 N. 15th— Delivered Tuesday

**IF you are in need of Christmas support and have not been called contact KCSS at 797-6884.**

Kinship Care Support Services  
2355 Schust  
Saginaw, MI 48603  
Phone: 989-797-6884  
Fax: 989-797-6882  
Email: mvalvano@saginawcounty.com

## Kinship Care Coffee Club

The Support Group for Kinship Caregivers  
1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month  
12:30 to 2 p.m.

Location—Unless otherwise noted:

Saginaw County Commission on Aging  
2355 Schust Rd

**Kinship Care Coffee Club**  
**August Meetings**

 December 2nd   
12:30-2:00—Parenting  
Helping with Chores Video and Discussion  
Call by Tuesday if you will need childcare for the meeting on Thursday

December 15th  
5:30-7:30pm  
**HOLIDAY EVENT—please RSVP 797-6884**  
**POTLUCK— Bring a Prize for White Elephant Bingo**

LOCATION: Salvation Army Gym  
2030 N Carolina, Saginaw, MI 48602

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- Have you had to stick up for a friend? How did you feel?
- Have you ever avoided helping another person? Why or why not ?
- Who do you look up to? Why?
- How would you describe a good role model? What qualities does a role model have?
- Are you a role model for any one? Why do you think they look up to you?
- What kind of music do you like?
- Who is your favorite music artist? What do you like about the music?
- What is your favorite movie? What was your favorite part?
- What is the best book you have read? Why did you like it?
- How can you tell if someone has been watching TV or playing Video/Computer games for too long?

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## Transportation

If you are unable to drive and/or do not have transportation, you may be qualified to receive transportation through Kinship Care Support Services.

**WE can arrange transportation to and from the 12:30-2:00 Support Group meetings with 2 week notice.**

**Call Kinship Care Support Services at 797-6884**



Saginaw County Commission On Aging  
 2355 Schust Rd · Saginaw, Mi 48603

# December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <b>KCSS</b> Group concerns 12:30-2:00	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 <b>KCSS</b> HOLIDAY EVENT 5:30-7:30	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	