

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to be part of this program, or for more information, contact the Butler County Area Agency on Aging.

Phone: 724-282-3008
Toll Free: 1-800-367-2434

If choosing the Caregiver Support Program is the family's best alternative, the Care Manger will help the family arrange these benefits unique to the Caregiver Support Program, enabling the family to receive the maximum benefits.



GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

Caring for Children of Family Members

“Doctors diagnose, nurses heal, and caregivers make sense of it all.”

Brett H. Lewis

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Caregiver Support Program

GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

BUTLER COUNTY
AREA AGENCY ON AGING



Caregiver Support Program Grandparent Program

Do You Care for a Child?

Caring for a child in the home of a grandparent or older relative can be stressful. Many older adults do not know where to go to get the help they need.

The Grandparent Program is part of the Pennsylvania Caregiver Support Program that helps older adults take care of children whose parents are unable. Sometimes the children are in the legal custody of the older adult or the older adult, through an informal agreement is raising the child. Support for the older caregiving adult is the primary focus of the Grandparent Program.

GRANDPARENT PROGRAM Caring for Children of Family Members

The Grandparent Program is designed to provide assistance to older persons who are caring for the children of family members, and who live in the same household. Priority is given to caregivers with the greatest financial and social need who are raising children with special needs.

The Grandparent Program is an ongoing effort to provide intergenerational programming opportunities and to develop stronger ties with educational and child-care networks.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

The Area Agency on Aging will complete a review of the family. A staff person will arrange for a home visit to meet the older adult and child. The family will be assisted with obtaining community benefits.

This is a reimbursement based program: Program services and reimbursement is based on the availability of funding and also assessed on a case by case basis. The income of the household is required in order to determine the percentage of reimbursement for the caregiver approved services.

Once a referral is made, agency staff will visit the home and complete an assessment of the caregivers needs for the child. As stated above, based on the assessed needs and the financial situation of the family, the caregiver may be eligible to receive reimbursement for agency approved services. An agency care manager will also assist the family in accessing other available community services.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- The older adult (caregiver) must live in the same home and be a relative of the child
- The child must be younger than 18 years of age
- The older adult must be 55 years of age or older
- The older adult must be related to the child by blood, marriage, or adoptions but not be the biological parent
- Must have an informal or legal relationship such as custody, guardianship, or is the child's adoptive parent.

BENEFITS AND SERVICES FOR CAREGIVERS

- Assessments of caregiver and care recipient needs
- Respite care
- Financial assistance to purchase supplies or services
- Other items may be approved on a case by case basis.

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

Sir Winston Churchill