

# Generations United Annual Report

1997 - 2000

Intergenerational Approaches:  
Not Just Nice ... Necessary



Generations United Annual Report • 1997 - 2000

## From the Chair & Executive Director

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From 1986 to 1997, Generations United operated as a coalition of children, youth, and senior organizations working together to combat efforts to pit the generations against each other. GU was successful at holding the line and preventing the “haves” from dividing and conquering the “have-nots.” GU played an important role during these years but by the mid 1990s it was clear that to really flourish, GU needed to become an independent organization. The four founding groups—the Child Welfare League of America, the National Council on the Aging, the Children’s Defense Fund, and AARP— incorporated GU in August 1997. The timing was perfect. The national economy was growing, unemployment was low, and professionals had the luxury of looking outside their own organization’s survival box. We could work together.



Since incorporating, GU has thrived. The board of directors was expanded by the original founders to include the leaders of other major national not for profit groups and the corporate community. To this day, the combined wisdom of the board has helped GU stay focused and develop its own unique niche. The board members are each highly accomplished in their own right and have been very generous in sharing their time and talents as GU continues to develop.

This report, the first of its kind for GU, covers our first four years from inception through 2000. During this time, the board and staff worked together to create GU’s mission, vision, core beliefs, and strategic plan that guided our efforts from 1998 through 2000. We are pleased that GU reached the objectives set forth in the first strategic plan and is now operating from a firmer financial, programmatic, and policy position. GU enjoys a growing reputation as a resource among policy makers and the general public.

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Above all else, GU's strength is its membership. In the early years only organizations could be members. Shortly after incorporating, the board voted to change this structure and welcomed individual members for the first time. As one of our first sustaining members said, "I always wanted to show how much I support GU and now I can." The result has been a steady increase in membership that we expect will continue.

The intergenerational field continues to grow. The list of practitioners who have been committed to developing and using intergenerational methodologies increases each year. While many understand the importance of this work, others are just beginning to wake up and smell the changing demographics. As our world continues to age, GU will be there promoting the social inclusion of our youngest and oldest, advocating on behalf of using the unique strengths of each age group to build more caring communities. At GU we focus on the bookend generations—our children, youth and seniors. We believe that through this effort we support the middle generations. Our goal continues to be combating the growing age segregation that has led people to isolation—and consequently to fear—between the generations. Older people in senior-only housing, children in child-only centers, teenagers in schools are all examples of how society now offers few opportunities for age mingling. The potential is great and together we can build a country that values all ages.

John Rother  
Board Chair

Donna M. Butts  
Executive Director

## A Catalyst

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Generations United, founded in 1986, became an independent organization in 1997 with over 100 national organization members representing more than 70 million Americans seeking a shared, mutually supportive agenda. GU is the country's only membership organization advocating for the mutual well-being of children, youth, and older adults by promoting intergenerational public policies, programs, and strategies. With 145 individual and organizational members by December 2000, GU acts as a catalyst for stimulating the collaboration of aging, children, and youth organizations. GU promotes solidarity among the advocates working on issues critical to children, youth, and older adults. GU serves as a resource for educating policymakers and the public about the economic, social, and personal imperatives of intergenerational cooperation. GU provides a forum for those working at opposite ends of the lifespan to explore areas of common ground while celebrating the richness of each generation.

In 1998 the new board of directors held a strategic planning retreat and established GU's vision, mission, and core beliefs. Together, they laid the groundwork for GU's first strategic plan and re-affirmed GU's two-prong focus on public policy and program. Between 1997 and 2000, GU established a new initiative and developed a reputation as a national leader on the issue of grandparents raising grandchildren. Beginning with a national symposium on the issue in 1997, GU had great success in disseminating information to professionals and the public and educating public policy makers. GU also achieved great success in building partnerships around the country to promote the value of **"Intergenerational Approaches: Not Just Nice, Necessary."** These themes permeate throughout this report.



*"Many of us are working towards an age-integrated society that values the rich resource found in children, youth, and the elderly; a world that includes communities where age groups can meet, mingle, work, and play together. Our world appreciates that we all like being alone with our peers at times, but it also understands we have much to learn from and share with each other."*

*Donna M. Butts,  
Executive Director  
GU*

### Our Vision

A society that values all generations.

### Our Mission

To foster intergenerational collaboration on public policy and programs to improve the lives of children, youth, and the elderly.



### Our Theme

Young and old working together.

### Our Core Beliefs

We believe the time has come for advocates for children, youth, and older persons to work together to build and support a common agenda. Each generation has unique strengths to help meet the needs of another. Efforts to create more decent societies rest on the interdependence of generations—past, living, and still to come. Further we believe:

- *Intergenerational collaboration will unite and improve our communities.*
- *Every person, younger and older, is a resource and adds value.*
- *Public Policy should meet the needs of all generations.*
- *Resources are more wisely used when they connect the generations rather than separate them.*
- *Discrimination in any form limits a person's potential to contribute to the development of their community.*

# Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Initiative

## EXPERT SYMPOSIUM

GU was the first national organization to address the issue of grandparents and other relatives raising children from the perspective of what is best for both the older (grandparents) and younger (children) generations. GU emerged as a leader in the field by setting a goal of improving the lives of the adults and children in these families. In a pioneering effort, GU held the first national expert symposium in October 1997 to bring together leaders in the fields of older adults and children to set an agenda on the issue of grandparents and other caregivers raising children. With support from the Retirement Research Foundation, The Travelers Foundation, The Helen Bader Foundation and AARP, the symposium brought together 35 of the nation's leading experts from the child welfare, aging, government, legal, and academic communities to ascertain the state of knowledge about critical policy issues, identify knowledge gaps and begin to address workable solutions through policy development, research, and implementation.

GU commissioned background papers by noted experts on four topics to serve as springboards for discussion at the symposium: "Intergenerational Households headed by Grandparents: Demographic and Sociological Contexts" by Meredith Minkler, Professor at the University of California at Berkeley's School of Public Health; "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Public Benefits and Programs" by Faith Mullen, Senior Policy Analyst with AARP's Public Policy Institute; "Kinship Caregiving and the Child Welfare System" by Dana Burdnett Wilson, then Director of Kinship Care Services with the Child Welfare League of America and MaryLee Allen, Director of Child Welfare and Mental Health with the Children's Defense Fund; and "Supportive Services" by Sandra Campbell-Jackson then Director of Raising Others Children, a support program in Philadelphia.

## ACTION AGENDA CREATED

The experts GU convened at the symposium created a framework of strategies to systematically remove the barriers these families face and to strategize how to work together to achieve success. This framework is documented in *Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: An Intergenerational Action Agenda*. Released in 1998 at a press conference on Capitol Hill, this document presents the intergenerational action plan used

*In 1997, 3.9 million or 5.5% of all children were being raised in grandparent-headed households.*



*In 2000, 4.5 million or 6.3% of all children were being raised in grandparent-headed households. Another 1.5 million were being raised by other relative caregivers.*



*Grandparents and other relative caregivers who step forward to raise children save taxpayers a minimum of \$4.5 billion a year by keeping children out of the foster care system.*



*“Despite the stability and permanence grandparents and other relatives provide, children living in these families are routinely discriminated against simply because their parents are not available.”*

*Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: An Intergenerational Action Agenda*

by Generations United and other groups to support grandparents and other relatives raising children. The document includes key recommendations for policymakers, advocates, community organizations, and leaders as well as a resource section. GU’s Intergenerational Action Agenda is based on the fundamental principle that true policy reform involves a broad base of community and national support.

As a national leader in a growing field of organizations working to support these families, GU worked in partnership with many organizations between 1998 and 2000 to raise public awareness, provide professional training, and improve public policies. Examples of GU’s leadership include the following:

- *Received its largest foundation grant to date from the Retirement Research Foundation in 1998 to build and develop its Grandparents and Other Relative Caregivers Raising Children initiative, enabling the organization to hire staff to implement the action agenda.*
- *Created and led a national advisory group that worked together to implement the agenda.*
- *Co-sponsored “Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Implications for Professionals and Agencies,” a satellite video conference that reached 3000 participants at 280 sites in 41 states and Canada. This video conference was sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Extension in Madison and Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service.*
- *Provided information and testimony to the U.S. Congress, and helped to ensure that a new National Family Caregiver Support Act was included in the Older Americans Act when it was re-authorized in 2000. This legislation makes older grandparents and older relatives raising children eligible to receive supportive services.*
- *Surveyed practitioners from around the country concerning the families’ needs and published the results in its Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Grassroots Concerns and Solutions From Across the United States*

- *Held three briefings on Capitol Hill*
- *Wrote and published three widely-disseminated fact sheets on grandparents raising grandchildren*
- *Tracked state legislation*
- *In conjunction with AARP, published a national chart of grandparent caregiver laws*
- *Delivered presentations at over 30 national, state, and local conferences.*



#### **RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM (RAPP)**

In 1998, GU received funding from the Center for Mental Health Services of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to work with the Brookdale Foundation Group to pilot behavioral health model programs based in mental health sites. Based on the Brookdale Foundation Group's model, Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP), the goal of the initiative was to improve the lives of relative caregivers and the children they are raising. GU and the Brookdale Foundation selected four sites in which to pilot the project in 1998 and four new sites were chosen in 2000. GU's RAPP followed Brookdale's model by issuing two-year seed grants to local behavioral health facilities to either start or expand a current support group and add one or more components such as respite care, therapeutic children's groups, educational seminars, and individual and family counseling. The seed grants also encouraged cooperation and collaboration among various services delivery systems. GU offered the sites technical assistance and training. An innovative practice report with contributions by the sites was released in 2000. Successes resulting from the program included: offering case-management services that helped families avoid placing the children in in-patient treatment centers; grandparents feeling empowered to advocate in their state to continue a subsidized guardianship program; expanding the project statewide

*“Generations United is the only national organization focused solely on promoting intergenerational strategies, programs, and policies. RRF and GU share a common vision of older adults as invaluable contributing community members. We value your efforts to increase intergenerational understanding that strengthens communities and reinforces the social contract. We wish you continuing success in nurturing intergenerational understanding and relationships.”*

*Sharon Markham, Associate  
Vice President, Retirement  
Research Foundation*

with three new pilot projects; and developing a therapeutic curriculum for children that can be replicated by other groups.



*“GU’s replication of the Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP), which provides mental health services to kin caregivers across the country, has proven to be an important addition to Brookdale’s RAPP Network. The services provided to the caregivers, and especially to the children, have made a major difference in the lives of these families.”*

*Janet Sainer, Special Consultant, The Brookdale Foundation Group*



*Four RAPP sites funded in 1998:*

WestCoast Children’s Center in El Cerrito, CA; Mid-Erie Counseling and Treatment Center in Cheektowaga, NY; Family and Children’s Service in Nashville, TN; and Adult Well-Being Services in Detroit, MI.



*Four RAPP sites funded in 2000:*

Jewish Family Service in Los Angeles, CA; Catholic Family Service in Amarillo, TX; Lutheran Social Service in Minneapolis, MN; and Community Counseling Center in Cape Girardeau, MO.

## Public Policy

Generations United brings single-aged focused groups together to promote a common agenda. GU believes that public policy should meet the needs of all generations and that resources are more wisely used when they connect generations rather than separate them. Generations United promotes an intergenerational approach to framing public policies that impact children, youth, and elderly issues by examining the impact of policies across the entire lifespan. GU believes that generations share basic needs; people of all ages need adequate income, access to quality health care and social services, educational and employment opportunities, and a safe place to live.



### **PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA**

Under the leadership of co-chairs Patrick Gaston of Verizon (formerly Bell Atlantic) and Howard Bedlin of the National Council on the Aging, GU formed a public policy committee in 1998, convening representatives of over 20 agencies serving children, youth, and seniors. With the committee's input, GU drafted the "Public Policy Agenda for the 106th Congress" in 1998. The Co-Chairs of the Older Americans Caucus and the Children's Caucus of the House of Representatives wrote a cover letter and distributed GU's Agenda to every House member. GU distributed the Agenda to the U.S. Senate. In support of the agenda John Rother, Director of Legislation and Policy at AARP and Chair of Generations United Board of Directors said "The Nation can both meet the needs of its children and support a growing elderly population."

*The original organizations represented in GU's Public Policy Committee include: The National Council on the Aging; Verizon (formerly Bell Atlantic); AARP; Girl Scouts of the USA; Goodwill Industries International, Inc.; AARP Loudoun County, Virginia; National Association of Social Workers; National Network for Youth; Children's Defense Fund; Lutheran Services of America; American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging; Joint Acton in Community Service, Inc.; National Association of Counties; Gray Panthers; Child Welfare League of America; National Association of Children's Hospitals; Catholic Charities USA and Camp Fire Boys and Girls.*

*Policies that are supportive of the long-term welfare of any age group must build on the common concerns of all generations.*



“There is nothing more important to the future well-being of current and future retirees than policies that enable children to have an opportunity to grow up to be productive citizens. Our ability to continue to grow and support larger numbers of older Americans depends upon quality education, training, and health programs that increase the productivity of the work force.”

*John Rother, Director of  
Legislation and Public Policy,  
AARP and GU Board Chair*

### **GU Public Policy Position Statements**

Generations United is committed to:

- *improving health care access, protections, and coverage for children and seniors as well as their families and caregivers.*
- *advocating for continued federal involvement in valuable social programs that are proven to enrich lives, from the very youngest and most vulnerable to the oldest and most frail of our nation’s citizens.*
- *supporting a strong and solvent Social Security system that continues to meet its obligation for current and future beneficiaries.*
- *supporting public policies that assist family caregivers of all types in caring for family members.*

In its Public Policy Agenda, GU set four priority areas for its public policy work between 1998 and 2000: Health Care, Social Supports, Income Supports, and Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children. GU worked collaboratively with member agencies to hold public policy briefings and Brown Bag Policy Lunches; sponsor Hill Days for GU members; visit Representatives and Senators, and write letters. Most significantly, Donna Butts, Executive Director, was invited to testify before the Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions’ Aging Subcommittee on the National Family Caregiver Support Act in 1999.

### **EDUCATIONAL BRIEFINGS**

GU worked with Senate staff and the Older Americans and Children’s Caucuses in January 1999, May 1999, and June 2000 to present the country’s first intergenerational congressional briefings. The January 1999 briefing focused on barriers to education and housing for grandparents and relatives raising children. The May 1999 briefing, which covered social security, grandparents issues, and the Older Americans Act, represented the first time the two Caucuses co-sponsored a congressional hearing. The 2000 briefing was entitled “Mental Health, Housing Concerns, and Innovative Responses for Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children.”

Most significantly, GU led the inclusion of grandparents raising grandchildren in the National Family Caregiver Support Act (NFCSA), which passed as part of the Older Americans Act re-authorization in October 2000. GU suggested the inclusion of grandparents and other relatives raising children in the NFCSA based on the belief that older Americans give care as well as receive it and play a key role in holding American families together. GU worked to specifically include “informal” caregivers in the language of the bill, since many of such caregivers do not have a legal relationship such as guardianship or legal custody. Donna Butts, Executive Director, testified before the relevant Senate Subcommittee, saying that “the National Family Caregiver Support Program provides an important endorsement to the exchange of resources that take place across the generations everyday. Policies and practices nationally, in states, and local communities should encourage, not discourage, the responsible actions of those relatives who care for the children of kin.” NFCSA adds new language to the Older Americans Act, making grandparents and older relatives over the age of 60 who are raising children eligible to receive supportive services. GU worked closely with Senator Mike DeWine, Republican of Ohio in drafting and passing the legislation.



GU began to make a significant contribution to national public policy between 1997 and 2000 by emphasizing over and over again “**Intergenerational Approaches: Not Just Nice, Necessary.**”

## Intergenerational Programs

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### INTERGENERATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE

GU administers the only national clearinghouse of intergenerational programs in the country. The goals of the clearinghouse are to collect and disseminate information about intergenerational programs and to encourage people and agencies to incorporate intergenerational approaches into their communities' programs. GU's intergenerational program database has over 350 different intergenerational program models.



In 1998, GU secured a grant from the Bell Atlantic Foundation to support updating GU's intergenerational clearinghouse and program database. With grant funds, GU began preparations to make clearinghouse information available through its website. The clearinghouse responds to hundreds of requests per year for information on statistics, best practices, training opportunities, and local and national program contacts. Staff members collect information on intergenerational programs from members of the GU network across the country and encourage the program replication and the sharing of ideas and models.

Also in 1998, GU was selected as the intergenerational partner for the National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, a unique collaborative effort among twelve national partner organizations to collect and disseminate information for Learn and Serve America Programs, as well as other service-learning programs. The Service-Learning Clearinghouse was funded by the Corporation for National Service and led by the University of Minnesota, well known for their study of service-learning. GU's role during the three-year grant period was to increase the number of intergenerational service-learning programs in the Clearinghouse. In 1999, GU collected information on approximately 60 intergenerational service-learning programs and 15 intergenerational Learn and Serve America programs for the database and in 2000, GU collected information on an additional 45 intergenerational service-learning programs. These intergenerational programs were also added to GU's own intergenerational database and demonstrate once again that **“Intergenerational Approaches: Not Just Nice, Necessary.”**

## FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

An innovative partnership between GU and the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) resulted in a 1998 grant award from the Corporation for National Service. GU worked with CWLA to promote seniors in service and senior volunteerism to new audiences through the agencies' membership and to provide assistance to five sites funded to implement the Foster Grandparent Program, a program of the National Senior Service Corps (part of the Corporation for National Service).

GU provided technical assistance to CWLA's Foster Grandparents Programs. The sites, all serving children with special needs, recruited senior volunteers to provide one-to-one tutoring, mentoring and support to the children in settings such as schools, family centers, community centers, Head Start, pre-schools, and day care centers. GU performed site visits, facilitated e-mail groups and conference calls between affiliates, advised on methods to recruit seniors, and provided training on working with and supporting senior volunteers. In 1999, 68 seniors worked with 272 children, and by December 2000, 114 seniors worked with 456 children.

GU and CWLA also created public awareness of the Foster Grandparent Program throughout CWLA's and GU's networks. GU promoted the value of older adults as resources in communities and in serving children through local, regional, and national speaking engagements; articles in a variety of trade and national agency publications; the GU and CWLA websites; and the CWLA member survey. In 1999, GU staff made 23 presentations to over 1000 people and in 2000, delivered 45 presentations to over 2000 people.



*"I'm am glad we have Grandma Delores. She is a special grandma and I am sorry that she has to leave after lunch. She is so kind with everybody. She loves having a good time with us."*

*7 year old's comments about his Foster Grandparent*



### GU/CWLA Foster Grandparent Programs

Kansas Children's Service League in Wichita, Kansas; the Cathedral Home for Children in Laramie, Wyoming; Trillium Family Services in Corvallis, Oregon; Central Baptist Children's Home in Springfield, Illinois; and Central Baptist Lakeshore Family Services in Lake Villa, Illinois.



### GU CONFERENCES

*"Vital Aging: Partnering for the Future,"* held March 30–April 2, 1998 in Washington, DC was sponsored by the National Council on the Aging and co-sponsored by GU. The conference, attended by 1600 people, included workshops, roundtable discussions, and networking opportunities focused on using intergenerational programming and policy approaches to strengthen communities and individuals. GU coordinated an intergenerational track and an awards luncheon. GU also arranged for then 17 year-old, Alex Annunziato from Florida, to join conference keynote speaker Ken Dychtwald of Age Wave, to offer a youth perspective. John Rother, GU Board Chair, and Donna Butts, Executive Director, spoke during the conference's opening session that featured former New York Governor Mario Cuomo.

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*“We were a group that shaped an identity and purpose and felt connected to each other, a connection consistent with our intergenerational work. . . . The tone of this conference reflected a growing professionalism and pride in understanding the value of our work. . . . I would like to commend the GU staff and board for their efforts in creating a conference that provided challenging ideas, reflected the diversity of its members and acknowledged the interests and skills of the participants.”*

*Sally Newman, Ph.D., Founder and former Executive Director,  
Generations Together, University of Pittsburgh*

*“Creating a Society for All Ages Through Intergenerational Solutions,”* GU’s 10th annual and first “stand alone” conference was held in May 1999 and attended by over 180 participants from across the country. The conference began with a one-day pre-conference intensive on intergenerational programs and included a total of forty-eight workshops, roundtables, special interest group meetings, and plenary sessions. Dr. Robert Blum, Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota, and noted expert on adolescent health issues, and Dr. Rose Dobrof, Brookdale Professor of Gerontology at Hunter College of the City University of New York, and expert in gerontology, both participated in the thought-provoking opening plenary session on ways to connect the generations and create a society for all. The closing plenary session featured Rick Siggelkow, Executive Producer of the PBS children’s series “Noddy,” who presented his behind-the-scenes perspective about the creation of an intergenerational television series, including its outreach and promotion campaign. Session topics included intergenerational programming as well as public policy issues, grandparent caregivers, and national and state coalition building. Other highlights of the conference were performances by the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra led by Lorraine Marks and “Hill Day,” where a Congressional briefing on intergenerational issues was the first-ever jointly sponsored event by the U.S. House of Representative’s Older Americans Caucus and Children’s Caucus.



## Public Education

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### WEB PAGE

The Generations United website features detailed information on intergenerational programs, public policies, and grandparents and other relatives raising children. The website is regularly updated by GU staff members and is one of GU's most visible and effective outreach tools. GU received funding in 1999 from the University of Minnesota Service-Learning Consortium and Bell Atlantic Corporation to revamp and update the site. In 1999, the web site averaged 20,000 successful hits per month and in 2000 there was an average of 80,000 successful hits per month.

### TOGETHER NEWSLETTER

The Generations United Newsletter, *Together*, has grown in its quality and circulation with a current readership of over 6,000. The newsletter, which began as a two page update on the work of the organization, now receives a wide range of submissions and shares information about current program and public policy work across the nation and abroad; new resources; upcoming conferences and events; and recent research. GU has begun developing a diverse editorial board to provide regular feedback and guidance on the quality and development of the newsletter.

### MAJOR WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

GU staff delivered over 85 presentations between 1997 and 2000 across the country. Some of the highlights include:

- *GU helped plan and presented at the Intergenerational Child Care Leadership Forum in 1998. Sponsored by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services' Child Care Bureau, this first of its kind forum brought together leaders from the early childhood and aging fields.*
- *GU presented a session on intergenerational issues and opportunities during a national audio conference for senior staff of U. S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Children and Families and Administration on Aging in 1998. This marked the first time many of the children, family and aging professionals were in the same room together.*

- *GU, in collaboration with AARP, presented two regional trainings on grandparents raising grandchildren, held in Harrisburg, PA and Austin, TX in the Fall 2000 and attended by state policy makers, administrators, and advocates from 13 states.*
- *Donna Butts, Executive Director, presented on building stronger communities through intergenerational approaches at the 1999 and 2000 “Family ReUnion” conferences hosted by former Vice President Al Gore and Tipper Gore and sponsored by the University of Minnesota and Vanderbilt University.*
- *Paul Inyang, Program Director, presented on intergenerational partnerships at the National League of Cities conference in December 1999.*
- *Ana Beltran, Project Director of Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children, and Donna Butts presented at the 2000 Grantmakers in Health conference in Miami.*
- *GU made presentations at the Brookdale Foundation’s Relatives As Parents Program Annual Conference, June 2000.*
- *Ana Beltran delivered the keynote address and led a workshop at the Kansas Intergenerational Network Grandparenting Conference in June 2000.*
- *GU presented with staff from Tennessee’s Relative Caregiver Program at the National CASA Conference in Arlington, Virginia in June 2000.*
- *Maggie Troope, Project Coordinator of Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children, spoke at a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conference at New Shiloh Baptist Church in Miami, Florida about advocating for grandparent’s rights in October 2000.*



*“The social compact is based on the belief that there is a natural giving and receiving of resources that occurs over the life span. Our communities, and consequently our world, benefit by recognizing the contributions and assets of each generation.”*

*Donna M. Butts*  
*Executive Director*  
*GU*



#### **NODDY OUTREACH CAMPAIGN**

In 1998, GU was invited by Outreach Extensions, a firm specializing in community outreach campaigns for public television and film, to partner with them by providing technical assistance on intergenerational issues for a new PBS series called “Noddy” (Notions, Oddities, Doodads and Delights of Yesterday). In the “Noddy” series, young children go to their grandfather’s shop (The Noddy Shop) after school each day. GU wrote an intergenerational section of a tool kit created for communities to develop activities and also helped to promote the show. For example, in Waco, TX seniors and children created the Noddy Toy Shop; they gathered and fixed broken toys together and then gave them to needy children. GU provided technical assistance to local PBS stations as they designed programs and promoted the series in speeches and through its newsletter and website.

### LEGACY OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

Following the success of the NODDY partnership, in 1999 Outreach Extensions invited GU to partner in the outreach campaign for “Legacy,” a documentary that followed a family in Chicago public housing during their five-year struggle to move into their own home. The film demonstrates the value of intergenerational relationships and the important role the grandmother played in holding the family together. Additionally, the narrator, a teenage member of the family, participates in a local mentoring program, demonstrating the success of local youth development programs. For the national outreach campaign to community leaders, policy makers, and the public, GU helped to facilitate discussion of the issues that are powerfully portrayed in “Legacy” by preparing a section on Intergenerational Programs and another on Grandparents and other Relatives Raising Children for a community outreach toolbox. GU helped promote the film through articles in *Together*, GU’s quarterly newsletter; information on the GU website; presentations across the country at national conferences, regional training for social service providers, and to groups of grandparents raising children. GU distributed the toolbox and film upon request to individuals, groups, and organizations planning to use it for outreach education and advocacy.



*The Collins family*

## Looking to the Future

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*“Investment in children is an intergenerational compact which protects our future security. Children need help during the eighteen years it takes to reach adulthood. But today’s adults will later turn to these children for support during retirement years. In the future there will be more elderly people for the nation’s economy to support. To protect ourselves in our old age, we must see to it that today’s and tomorrow’s children grow into productive and compassionate adults, because the security of all of us will come to rest on their shoulders.”*

*Marian Wright Edelman,  
President, Children’s Defense  
Fund*

Beginning in 2001, GU will work on developing a new priority area: addressing dependent care needs through shared sites also known as co-located facilities. Examples of intergenerational shared sites include a public school with an on-site senior center; a continuing care retirement community with on-site child care; co-located adult day services and early childhood programs; and a senior center with before- and after-school programs. Intergenerational shared sites provide new environments where children, youth, and older adults share space, interact, and learn and grow together. They provide opportunities for organizations serving children and those serving older adults to work together to enhance services and expand and fully use resources.

GU was awarded its first major federal grant in the Summer 2000 from the Children’s Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, allowing for the expansion of the Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children program. With this grant, GU will establish a national network of support groups for relatives caring for kin in foster care called KinNET (Kin Nurturing, Educating, Teaching). GU will partner with the Brookdale Foundation to create “KinNET” by reaching kin caregivers with a network of up to 30 existing support groups and by funding 20 new support groups. This new network will address the unique concerns of grandparents and other relatives who are caring for almost a third of all the children in the total foster care system in the United States. A team of evaluators from Syracuse University will determine the program’s effectiveness in promoting stability for the families.

The leadership GU demonstrated nationally, and even internationally, between 1997 and 2000 ensured that the organization’s goals were met and also set the stage for more achievements in education, public policy, local community support, and partnerships in the coming years. GU will continue to show that **“Intergenerational Approaches: Not Just Nice, Necessary.”**

## GU Awards 1997-2000

1997

### **Jack Ossofsky Award**

Janet Sainer, Brookdale Foundation, New York, NY

### **Steven L. Tunick Award**

Susan Perlstein, Elders Share the Arts, Brooklyn, NY

### **Leadership Award for Outstanding Support of Intergenerational Programs**

Pioneer Press, St. Paul, MN

1998

### **Jack Ossofsky Award**

Rep. Henry A. Waxman, U.S. House of Representatives (D-CA)

### **Steven L. Tunick Award**

Camy Condon, Wild Friends, Albuquerque, NM

### **GU Leadership Award for Outstanding Support of Intergenerational Programs**

Department of Labor and The National Senior Citizens Education and Research Center, Washington, DC

1999

### **Jack Ossofsky Award**

David Liederman, Child Welfare League of America and Co-Founder, Generations United, Washington, DC

### **Steven L. Tunick Award**

Helene Block Fields, formerly of Oakton College, Downers Grove, IL

### **Leadership Award for Outstanding Support of Intergenerational Programs**

Miriam Charnow, National Council on the Aging, Washington, DC

### **Special Pioneer Award**

Fred Ramstedt, Founder, Intergenerational Week, San Francisco, CA

### **Outstanding Older Adult Volunteer**

Harold Allen, Experience Corps, Center on Intergenerational Learning, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

### **Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award**

Leah Stein, Student, University of Delaware.  
Home: Silver Spring, MD

2000

### **Jack Ossofsky Award**

Senator Jay Rockefeller, U.S. Senate (D-WV)

### **Steven L. Tunick Award**

Robert Kasey (posthumous), Founder, Creative Grandparenting, Wilmington, DE

### **Leadership Award for Outstanding Support of Intergenerational Programs**

Barbara Hammick, formerly of Interages, Kensington, MD

### **Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award**

Bradley Scott Sultan, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Frederick, MD

### **Warren Featherbone Foundation Award for Innovation in Connecting the Generations**

Dr. Stuart Kandell, Stagebridge, Oakland, CA

## GU Publications

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1997

**Strengthening the Social Compact:** *An Intergenerational Strategy*

1998

**Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children:** *Background Papers from Generations United's Expert Symposium*

**Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children:** *An Intergenerational Action Agenda*

**Fact Sheet:** Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Challenges of Caring for the Second Family

1999

**Generations United Public Policy Agenda** for the 106th Congress

**Fact Sheet:** Social Security: A Program that Benefits All Ages

**Fact Sheet:** Intergenerational Mentoring: A Unique Response to the Challenges of Youth

**Fact Sheet:** Intergenerational Elements of the Older Americans Act

**Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children:** *Grassroots Concerns and Solutions from Across the United States*

*2000*

**Fact Sheet:** The Earned Income Tax Credit: An Important Tool in Lifting Families Out of Poverty

**Fact Sheet:** Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Subsidized Guardianship Programs

**Fact Sheet:** Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children: Access to Education

**Chart:** State Laws and Regulations Affecting Grandparent and Other Relative-Headed Families with AARP

**Chart:** State Laws Governing Grandparent and Other Third-Party Visitation with Children with AARP

## GU Financial Supporters

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*Generations United thanks its financial contributors between 1997 and 2000*

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American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging  
American Society on Aging  
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National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related  
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National Association of Counties  
National Council on the Aging  
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Points of Light Foundation  
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Tudor Investments Corporation  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center  
for Mental Health Services

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,  
Children's Bureau  
United Way of America  
University of Minnesota National Service-Learning  
Clearinghouse  
Verizon Corporation  
YWCA of the U.S.A.  
and Generations United's Members

## GU Honors

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In 1998, Donna Butts was appointed by Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala to serve on the Kinship Care Advisory Panel mandated by the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997. Donna was one of 25 individuals chosen from across the country to participate.



In April 1999, Donna Butts was invited to participate in an international meeting in Dortmund Germany, along with representatives from seven countries, to discuss the state of intergenerational programming in their countries and to help plan an international conference.

In June 1999, Donna Butts was invited to participate in an inter-regional meeting of experts in Seoul, Korea, called during the United Nation's declared "Year of Older Persons: Towards a Society for All Ages." Donna helped to create a policy framework for all ages based on solidarity between the generations so they can contribute and benefit from full participation in society. Donna was one of only two Americans asked to participate.

In 2000, Ana Beltran was asked to serve on the advisory group for the second national videoconference on Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children.

Also in 2000, Ana Beltran was asked to join the Casey Family Programs National Center for Resource Families Advisory Group.

## GU Board of Directors 1997-2000

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MaryLee Allen (98-00)  
*Director, Child Welfare and  
Mental Health  
Children's Defense Fund*

Shay Bilchik (00)  
*Executive Director  
Child Welfare League of  
America*

Gloria Cavanaugh (97-98)  
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*Director, Legislation and  
Public Policy  
AARP*

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*President and CEO  
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*Director  
Family Care Development  
Fund, AT&T*

Judith Vredenburg (99-00)  
*Director/CEO  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of  
America*

James Weill (97)  
*Counsel  
Children's Defense Fund*

Special Advisor:  
Robert Blancato (98-00)  
*Partner  
Matz, Blancato & Associates*

## GU Staff 1997-2000

---

Ana Beltran, *Project Director, Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren (99-00)*

Donna M. Butts, *Executive Director (97-00)*

Alison Frantz, *Intergenerational Coordinator (98), Public Policy Coordinator/Newsletter Editor(99)*

Paul Inyang, *Program Director (98-00)*

Judith Kline Leavitt, *Executive Director (97)*

Stacy Kotzin, *Intern (98)*

Marti Long, *Public Policy Coordinator/Newsletter Editor (00)*

Maria Martins, *Intern (98)*

Florence Mitchell, *Office Assistant (99-00)*

Jaia Peterson, *Public Policy Coordinator/Newsletter Editor (00)*

Donna Rawls, *KinNET Coordinator (00)*

Luciana Renfroe, *Administrative Assistant (98)*

David Richards, *Administrative Assistant, (97-98)*

Leah Stein, *Intern (98)*

Sheri Yoho Steinig, *Intergenerational Coordinator (97-98), Program Director (00)*

Maggie Troope, *Office Manager (99), Project Coordinator, Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Grandchildren (99-00)*

Grace Udoh, *Office Manager (00)*

## GU Members 1997-2000

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### Individual Members

Mary Jane Allen  
Joaquin Anguera  
Annabel Baird  
Peg Barlett  
Sybil Bell  
Katlyn Blackstone  
Helen Block Fields  
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Sara Wolff  
Maria Young

### Organizations

AARP  
American Association of  
Homes and Services for  
the Aging  
American Federation of  
Teachers  
American Orthopsychiatric  
Association, Inc.  
American Public Human  
Services Association

American Red Cross	Family & Community	National 4-H Council	New Jersey
American Society on Aging	Service of Delaware	National Academy Teaching	Intergenerational
AT&T Family Care Dev.	County	& Learning About Aging	Network
Fund	Family Support America	National Association of	Older Women's League
Barrington Area Council	Florida State	Area Agencies on Aging	Oregon Generations
on Aging	Intergenerational Task	National Association of	Together
Bell Atlantic	Force	Children's Hospitals and	Points of Light Foundation
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of	Generations Together	Related Institutions	Public Private Ventures
America	Girl Scouts of the USA	National Association of	Salvation Army National
Camp Fire Boys & Girls	Goodwill Industries,	Counties	Headquarters
Care Castle	International	National Association for the	Sanilac County
Catholic Charities USA	Gray Panthers	Education of Young	Community Mental
Center for Law and Social	Hawaii Intergenerational	Children	Health Services
Policy	Network	National Association of	Save the Children
Chicago Metropolitan	Illinois Intergenerational	Foster Grandparent	Second Time Around
Intergenerational	Initiative	Directors	Temple University Center
Committee	Institute of Cultural Affairs,	National Association of	for Intergenerational
Child Welfare League of	Western Region	Social Workers	Learning
America	Interages	National Benevolent	The Beth Johnson
Children's Defense Fund	Intergeneration Day	Association of the	Foundation
City of Norwalk	Foundation	Christian Church	The Brookdale Foundation
Community Programs	Isabella Geriatric Center	National Black Child	Group
Center of Long Island	Joint Action in Community	Development Institute,	The Colorado Trust
Council of Accreditation	Service	Inc.	Tressler Lutheran Services
Crittenton Services for	Kansas Intergenerational	National Center on Elder	United Way of America
Children and Families	Network	Abuse	Wisconsin Positive Youth
Creative Grandparenting	Lifespan Resources, Inc.	National Community	Development
Division of Aging & Adult	Lutheran Church in	Education Association	Worcester State College
Services/Arkansas	America Division for	National Council of	Young Women's Christian
Department of Health	Church In Society	Catholic Women	Association
and Human Services	Lutheran Services in	National Council on the	
Easter Seals Society Of	America	Aging	
Oregon	Magic Me	National Network for	
Evangelical Lutheran	Matz, Blancato & Associates	Youth	
Church in America	Medina County Office for	National Urban League	
Family & Child Welfare	Older Adults		

## Generations United, Inc. Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31,

	2000	1999	1997-98
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Contributions and Grants	434,948	314,036	202,957
Conference and Symposium	19,941	39,977	8,967
Membership dues	131,415	142,217	107,148
Publications income	939	1,532	3,112
In-kind contributions	72,113	86,808	71,900
Interest	9,551	6,971	2,338
Other	1,660	-1,465	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>670,567</u>	<u>590,076</u>	<u>396,422</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
<i>Program Services:</i>			
Foster Grandparents	70,024	61,740	11,048
Grandparents Project	176,305	127,673	21,662
KinNET	22,926	-	-
Learn and Serve	24,802	25,090	8,777
Membership	40,861	30,967	31,740
Public Education	47,180	84,194	68,561
Publications	55,774	49,669	69,218
Relatives as Parents	53,314	31,565	3,459
Training and Technical Assistance	5,034	21,186	18,925
<i>Supporting Services</i>			
Fundraising	-	-	450
General and Administrative	44,471	27,393	23,174
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>540,691</u>	<u>459,477</u>	<u>257,014</u>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	129,876	130,869	250,250
<b>Net Assets, beginning of year</b>	<u>381,119</u>	<u>250,250</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Assets, end of year</b>	<u>510,995</u>	<u>381,119</u>	<u>250,250</u>

## Generations United, Inc. Statement of Financial Position

For the Year Ended December 31,

	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1997-98</u>
	<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	320,228	295,668	200,729
Certificate of Deposit	50,000	-	-
Accounts receivable	33,486	3,548	1,297
Grants receivable	136,895	98,072	64,163
Prepaid expenses		1,521	1,476
Furniture and equipment (net)	<u>21,991</u>	<u>11,661</u>	<u>9,223</u>
Total assets	<u>562,600</u>	<u>410,470</u>	<u>276,888</u>
	<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>			
Accounts payable	23,550	8,966	3,482
Accrued salaries and benefits	13,055	10,385	7,004
Deferred dues (net)	<u>15,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>16,152</u>
Total liabilities	<u>51,605</u>	<u>29,351</u>	<u>26,638</u>
<b>Commitment</b>			
<b>Net assets</b>			
Unrestricted	262,675	214,304	128,480
Temporarily restricted	<u>248,320</u>	<u>166,815</u>	<u>121,770</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>510,995</u>	<u>381,119</u>	<u>250,250</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>562,600</u>	<u>410,470</u>	<u>276,888</u>

## Auditor's Statement

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Independent Auditor's Report  
To the Board of Directors  
Generations United, Inc.  
Washington, DC

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of the Generations United, Inc. (the "Organization") as of December 31, 2000 and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the period from inception (August 1997) to December 31, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Generations United, Inc. as of December 31, 2000 and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the period ended

Langan Associates, P.C.  
Alexandria, Virginia  
Certified Public Accountants

## To Contact Us

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For further information about current programs and public policies, please contact:  
Generations United, 122 C Street, N.W., Suite 820, Washington, D.C. 20001; (202) 638-1263, Fax: (202) 638-7555; e-mail: [gu@gu.org](mailto:gu@gu.org),  
or visit the GU website at [www.gu.org](http://www.gu.org) .

Generations United (GU) is the national membership organization focused solely on promoting intergenerational strategies, programs, and policies. GU represents more than 100 national, state, and local organizations representing more than 70 million Americans. It is the only national organization advocating for the mutual well-being of children, youth, and older adults. GU serves as a resource for educating policymakers and the public about the economic, social, and personal imperatives of intergenerational cooperation. GU provides a forum for those working with children, youth, and older adults to explore areas of common ground while celebrating the richness of each generation.

