# You are not alone.

Throughout the generations, children have been cared for by their extended families.

If you are, or know of, a relative raising children, you are part of a growing population.

In Illinois, over 200,000 children under the age of 18 are living in a grandparent-headed home, and there are thousands of children under 18 who are living with other relatives.

> Over 100,000 grandparents are directly responsible for the care of their grandchildren.

*It can happen to anyone, at any time, for any reason.* 

Several agencies provide resources to help you or the child you are raising.



# Important Telephone Numbers

#### Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

www.state.il.us/dcfs

24-Hour Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873) TTY: 1-800-358-5117

DCFS Advocacy Office for Children and Families: 1-800-232-3798

#### **Illinois Department on Aging**

1-800-252-8966 1-888-206-1327 (TTY)

#### Senior Services Area Agency on Aging, Chicago Department of Family and Support Services

www.cityofchicago.org/aging 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 1-312-744-4016 1-312-744-6777 (TTY)

After-hours and weekends Chicago non-emergency number: 311

State of Illinois Department on Aging One Natural Resources Way, #100 Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271 www.illinois.gov/aging Senior HelpLine: 1-800-252-8966, 1-888-206-1327 (TTY)

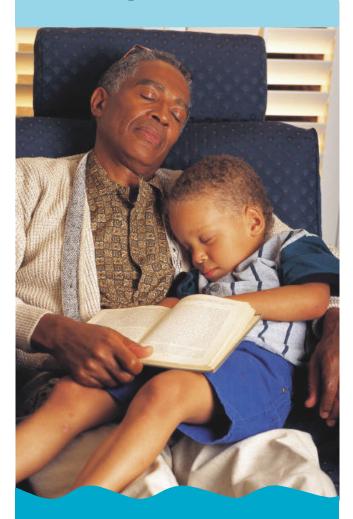
The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966, 1-888-206-1327 (ITY). IL-402-1122 Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois (ICP) IOCI 16-33 (Rev. 7/15 - 3,500 copies)

#### State of Illinois



Department on Aging Department of Children and Family Services Department of Human Services Chicago Department of Family and Support Services

# **Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children**



# Who can help in Illinois?

# Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

www.state.il.us/dcfs

#### **Child Abuse Hotline:**

1-800-252-2873 1-800-358-5117 (TTY)

Report suspected child abuse and neglect

Receive extended family support program services, including private guardianship, medical cards, and financial assistance

Ask questions about DCFS programs and services

#### Advocacy Office for Children and Families: 1-800-232-3798 TTY: 1-800-513-4980

Questions, problems or concerns regarding child welfare issues, including Post Adoption and Subsidized Guardianship services

# **Illinois Department on Aging**

www.illinois.gov/aging 1-800-252-8966 1-888-206-1327 (TTY)

Support groups, prescription drug assistance, referrals for counseling, financial and legal assistance, adult and child care, advocacy for school enrollment, special education and visitation

To report suspected elder abuse/neglect 24-Hour Adult Protective Services Hotline: 1-866-800-1409 1-888-206-1327 (TTY)

## Illinois Department of Public Health

www.idph.state.il.us 1-800-526-4372 1-800-547-0466 (TTY) Immunizations: 1-800-526-4372

## Senior Services Area Agency on Aging, Chicago Department of Family and Support Services

www.cityofchicago.org/aging 1-312-744-4016 1-312-744-6777 (TTY)

Support groups, counseling, legal counseling, information and assistance, respite and short-term emergency assistance

## **Illinois Department** of Human Services

www.dhs.state.il.us 1-800-843-6154 1-800-447-6404 (TTY)

Financial assistance, medical card, child care, food stamps, information and referral, and Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

# Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services

www.hfs.illinois.gov

#### **All Kids**

www.allkids.com 1-866-255-5437 1-877-204-1012 (TTY)

#### Child Support www.ilchildsupport.com 1-800-447-4278 1-800-526-5812 (TTY)

## Illinois State Board of Education

www.isbe.state.il.us 1-866-262-6663

School enrollment and special education issues