



## VISIT OUR "PARENTS A 2ND TIME" SUPPORT GROUP FOR OLDER ADULTS RAISING CHILDREN OF A FAMILY MEMBER

You're not alone...Come hear what others are experiencing too. Learn about potential resources, community programs and services, and agencies available to provide connections, guidance and peer support to older persons who are living with, caring for and parenting the children of loved ones.

To get more information and let us know if you're interested in attending a support group, and need child care for the meeting, call or email Rebecca Munley @ the Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging, 570-963-6740 or [munleyr@lackawannacounty.org](mailto:munleyr@lackawannacounty.org)

Monthly meetings throughout Lackawanna County, see what works for you!

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3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, Scranton Library, 500 Vine St, Scranton, PA

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4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, 9:30-11:30am, Carbondale Library, 5 N Main St, Carbondale, PA

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4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 1:00-3:00pm, Taylor Community Library, 710 South Main St, Taylor PA

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Child care available and refreshments provided.

# Caregiver Support Program for Older Relatives Raising Children

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Caregiver Support program for older relatives raising children is designed to provide assistance to older persons who are living with and caring for the children of family members. Priority is given to caregivers with the greatest financial and social needs.

## **CAREGIVER CRITERIA:**

1. Must be age 55+.
2. Primary caregiver of the child(ren).
3. NOT the biological parent of the child(ren).
4. Related to the child(ren) as grandparent, step-grandparent, or other non-parental older relative by blood, marriage or adoption.
5. Has a legal relationship to the child(ren) such as legal custody, adoption or guardianship, or is raising the child(ren) informally.

## **CARE RECEIVER CRITERIA:**

Must be under age 18.

## **LIVING ARRANGEMENT CRITERIA:**

1. Caregiver & care receiver must live in the same residence. (A residence is defined as a living arrangement in which members share common living areas, including the kitchen, living room and/or bathroom).
2. A child's parent can live in the same residence as the older relative who is caring for the child(ren) as long as the older adult is the primary caregiver.

## **INCOME CRITERIA:**

1. Benefits awarded and cost-shared responsibilities will be dependent on household income.
2. Household income is the total gross income of all persons living in the Care Receiver's residence, with the exception of a minor or dependent student.
3. Household income must be less than or equal to 380% of the Federal Poverty Level.
4. Proof of income for all members of the household is required prior to the start of the program.

## **BENEFITS:**

1. Care Management to assist the family in accessing available benefits.
2. Caregivers and/or their relative(s) are prohibited from receiving a reimbursement for the costs associated with providing direct personal-care services to a care-

receiver. Relatives are defined as “A spouse or a parent; child; stepparent; stepchild; grandparent; grandchild; brother; sister; half-brother; half-sister; aunt; great aunt; uncle; great uncle; niece; or nephew, by blood, marriage or adoption.”

3. Consumer reimbursement for services & supplies related to caregiving.
  - A. **Services** that may be considered include educational/tutorial programs; extra-curricular activity/sports fees, uniforms & supplies associated with the sport, gym memberships; day care & child-care/babysitters; camps; class trips; lawn maintenance & house cleaning as appropriate; and other justifiable services as authorized by the care manager.
  - B. **Supplies** that may be considered include diapers; formula & baby food; school supplies; seasonable clothing; children’s furniture; school pictures/yearbooks; and other justifiable services as authorized by the care manager.
  - C. **Excluded items** include but are not limited to prescription medication, including co-pays & deductibles; medical services not covered by insurance; mileage & gas, etc.
4. Access to caregiver support groups to meet and problem solve, share information, provide support and maintain passion for providing care to loved ones.
5. Caregiver training & education to include SNAP, Headstart, etc.
6. Family-centered benefits counseling such as drug & alcohol, mental health, ID and/or developmental disabilities, etc.

## **HOW DO I MAKE A REFERRAL?**

Call the Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging at 570-963-6740. Once a referral is made a care manager will visit the home and complete an assessment of the caregiver’s needs.

Based on the assessed needs, and the financial situation of the family, the caregiver may be eligible to receive reimbursement for both in-home and center-based respite care services, and limited supplemental services. A care manager will also assist the family in accessing other available community services.