Participate in the 2017 GrandRally Call-in!

What is the GrandRally?
The GrandRally brings grandparents and other relatives raising children from across the country to Washington D.C. to elevate the critical role these caregivers play in providing safe, loving and permanent families for children whose parents cannot raise them. It is a powerful way to gain policy makers attention and to focus on the importance of relative caregivers -- the challenges they face and the contributions they make. It will be an historic opportunity to celebrate, create momentum, expand awareness and build on the success of previous rallies. The call-in day offers a way for kinship families across the country, who are not able to attend Congressional visits at the rally, to raise awareness with policy makers.

Focus: This year's GrandRally will focus on building a community of hope by maintaining and strengthening federal programs and policies that support kinship families. The official GrandRally policy priorities provide additional information on federal policies that are key to helping grandparents and other relatives raising children. Please see attached document for the full list of this year’s GrandRally Policy Priorities.

When: The GrandRally will take place May 10th, 2017 at the U.S. Capitol. The toll-free numbers for the Senate and House (below) for the National Call-in Day will be open from Tuesday, May 9th through Thursday, May 11th.

How to Participate: Calling your Members of Congress to make your voice heard is easy. You don’t have to be an expert on kinship policy issues. You just need to let them know that you care about protecting and strengthening federal programs that are critical to kinship families. We encourage you to call both your senators and representative. It just takes a few minutes. Please note there are different phone numbers for the House and Senate.

HOUSE- 844-655-7464  SENATE: 844-866-1423
See reverse side for the 4 simple steps to make your calls!

For more information contact Jaia Lent at jlent@gu.org.
1. Dial **844-866-1423**. Then follow the prompts to enter your zip code and press "1" to connect to your first Senator’s office.

2. A staff person will answer the phone and you can share the message below:

   **Message:**
   Hello, my name is **(name)** and I am a constituent from **(hometown)**

   I am a: **grandparent/aunt/uncle/cousin/other** who is raising my
   **grandchild/niece/nephew/other** OR **I was/am being raised by my** 
   **grandparents/uncle/aunt** OR **I work with families where grandparents are** 
   **raising their grandchildren.**

   I am calling today as a participant in the 5th National GrandRally to urge **Senator/Representative ___________** to support kinship families where grandparents or other relatives are raising children by protecting and strengthening federal programs and policies that help provide support to kinship families.

   Children do best with family.

   The Senator/Representative can learn more about the specific federal policy recommendations at **www.grandrally2017.org**.

3. Since all your Members of Congress have a stake in these issues, please call **844-866-1423** again to get connected to your other Senator’s office. Once again follow prompts to enter your zip code, then press "2" to connect with your second Senator.

4. Next reach out to your Representative by dialing **844-655-7464**, follow the prompt and share the message in step 2 above.

   **2017 GrandRally Cosponsors:**

   ![AARP](image1)
   ![casey family programs](image2)
   ![Children's Defense Fund](image3)
   ![FosterClub](image4)
   ![generations United](image5)
   ![GrandFamilies of America](image6)
   ![National Kinship Alliance for Children](image7)