

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, 213,265 children under the age of 18 are living in a grandparent-headed home.

75,000 children under the age of 18 are living with other relatives.

101,317 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)

DCFS.illinois.gov

24-Hour Child Abuse Hotline:

1-800-25-ABUSE

(1-800-252-2873)

DCFS Advocacy Office for

Children and Families:

1-800-232-3798

Illinois Department on Aging

1-800-252-8966

1-888-206-1327 (TTY)

Chicago Department of Family and Support Services: Senior Services Division

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

421 East Capitol Ave., #100

Springfield, Illinois 62701-1789

www.state.il.us/aging

Senior HelpLine: 1-800-252-8966,

1-888-206-1327 (TTY)

DCFS.Illinois.gov

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 (TTY).

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Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children



State of Illinois

Department on Aging

Department of Human Services

Chicago Department of Family & Support Services

Who can help in Illinois?

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

DCFS.illinois.gov

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

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

Illinois Department on Aging

www.state.il.us/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
Elder Abuse Hotline
1-866-800-1409
1-888-206-1327 (TTY)

Illinois Department of Public Health

www.dph.illinois.gov
1-800-526-4372
1-888-547-0466 (TTY)
Immunizations:
1-800-526-4372

Chicago Department of Family and Support Services: Senior Services Division

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.illinois.gov/hfs
All Kids
www.abe.illinois.com
1-866-ALLKIDS (5437)
1-877-204-1012 (TTY)

Child Support
www.childsupportillinois.com
1-800-843-6154
1-800-526-5812 (TTY)

Illinois State Board of Education

www.isbe.net
1-866-262-6663
School enrollment and special education issues

