

# Family Support News Brief



## Together We Win

Over the last five years, there has been an upward trend of families deciding to live as a multigenerational household. The United States Department of Commerce's Census Bureau defines multigenerational households as consisting of "three or more generations of parents and their families."

According to the Pew Research Center analysis of census data, as of 2008 a record 49 million Americans (or 16.1 percent) of the total U.S. population, lived in a family household that contained at least two adult generations or a grandparent, and at least one other generation.

Generations United, an organization that focuses on improving the lives of children, youth and older adults through intergenerational collaboration, reports that the number of multigenerational households jumped from 46.5 million in 2007 to 51.4 million by the end of 2009 – a 10.5 percent increase in just three years.



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As these types of living scenarios are becoming more customary, family support professionals have to consider ways to successfully work with these families.

Living in a home with multiple generations has many benefits and contributes to the overall wellbeing of the family by bolstering the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors. According to Zero to Three, parents under the age of 25 who have children ages 0-3 are more likely to seek and accept parenting advice from their child's grandparents. Grandparents and other adults who may share the caretaking role, provide a source of knowledge of parenting and child development, as well as a concrete support in times of need. Having supportive additional caretakers, such as grandparents, can also help build resilience for both parents and their children. However, there are times when the parenting styles may differ between generations, and families need support in acquiring communication skills needed to co-parent within the same household.

Family support programs can be supportive in this process by adopting an intergenerational approach to servicing families. A professional commitment to support all members of the family includes co-identifying concrete supports in the community and making appropriate

referrals for all family members within the home. If services are conducted in the home, it is important to engage all family members as an acknowledgement that all family members influence each other's development. When multiple generations interact in a healthy way, it benefits all participants. Such benefits include increased social-emotional development and reading scores for children and decreased rates of depression and isolation for older family members.

Programs may also support multigenerational households by offering intergenerational programs. Intergenerational programs purposefully bring together older adults, children and youth in ongoing, mutually beneficial, planned, activities designed to achieve specified program goals. Generations United, suggests programs should be designed to be mutually beneficial to all participants, focus on developing positive relationships, and provide opportunities for older and younger participants to communicate with each other. This approach to program planning echoes the strength based approach to supporting families because it focuses on what works in these relationships. When all members of the family system are supported, it is a win for the family, organization and the community.

## Resource

Multigenerational Households

## Source

<sup>1</sup> Intergenerational Shared Sites: Making the Case. Generations United; 2006. <https://s3.amazonaws.com/pushbullet-uploads/ujzNDwQrsR2-6SbXP6DymyHqaYQyP7SqMWFbi7IVwTO/06-SharedSites-Report-MakingTheCase.pdf>. Accessed April 10, 2018.



# 2018 Parents as Teachers International Conference: YOUUnited

October 8-11, 2018, Phoenix Ariz. Learn more about: diversity, equity and inclusion; program implementation; community collaborations; partnerships and engagement; research, evaluation and CQI; health and wellness; innovative program approaches; parenting and child development; advocacy, policy and coalitions.

Register now for the [PAT International Conference](#).

During the conference, the Parents as Teachers National Center will recognize two affiliates – Losos Prize for Excellence, and Innovation. Also three to five parent educators will be recognized – Parent Educator of the Year Award. [Award applications](#) will be available this summer. Who will you nominate?

## Measuring Outcomes: Preparing for the Parents as Teachers New Outcomes Essential Requirement, Part 3

This PAT national webinar was held April 20. [View Measuring Outcomes](#)

## PAT Can Prevent Child Maltreatment

The [study of Connecticut's PAT statewide home visiting program](#), found that participation in the program reduced the likelihood of a substantiated neglect report by 22 percent.

## Pennsylvania PAT Affiliates Awarded Home Visiting Expansion Grant

Congratulations to several Pennsylvania PAT affiliates who were awarded the Home Visiting Expansion grant, a result of the 2017-18 Governor's budget proposal and Legislator's approval of more funds devoted to evidence based home visiting. Looking to the 2018-19 state budget discussion and decisions, the Governor has proposed \$6.5 million in funding for evidence based home visiting. The Early Learning Pennsylvania Home Visiting Campaign is using the theme of Childhood Begins at Home, to share information about evidence based home visiting and its impact in our communities.

Share your good work with your local champions and legislators.

## Affiliate Performance Report

It will soon be time to complete the annual APR. The link to complete the report can be found on the portal page. Note that the 2018-19 draft APR should be announced prior to the end of June so that you can make plans for data collection beginning July 1, 2018.

## Using Penelope? Need Help?

Penelope Q&A sessions are available upon request for all PAT Affiliate programs in Pennsylvania. Contact [Wenda Deardorff](#) for more information or to schedule a session.



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## The Sharing Corner

The Sharing Corner is for you, by you. Share your expertise, celebrations, testimonies and news. Send an email with the information you would like to share to [Wenda Deardorff](#).

Center for Schools and Communities reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of the information.





## Safe Kids Corner

### Bike Safety

Every hour nearly 50 children are injured due to bikes, scooters, skates or skateboard. The proper type and fit of a helmet can reduce the risk of head injuries by at least 45 percent.

#### Bike Safety Tips

- Wear a helmet. Make sure your child has the right size helmet and wears it every time when riding, skating or scooting.
- Proper equipment is important. Ensure proper bike fit by bringing the child along when shopping for a bike. Select one that is the right size for the child, not one he or she will grow into.
- Maintenance is important. Before the ride, make sure the reflectors are secure, brakes work properly, gears shift smoothly, and tires are tightly secured and properly inflated.
- Keep an eye out. Actively supervise children until you're comfortable that they are responsible to ride on their own.
- Model and teach good behavior. You would be surprised how much kids learn from watching you, so it is important for parents to model

proper behavior. Wear a helmet, even if you did not when you were a kid.

- Be bright, use lights. When riding at dusk, dawn or in the evening, be bright and use lights – and make sure your bike has reflectors as well. It is also smart to wear clothes and accessories that have retro-reflective materials to improve biker visibility to motorists.

#### Additional Bike Safety Tips

#### Source

Bike Safety Tips. Safe Kids Worldwide. <https://www.safekids.org/tip/bike-safety-tips>. Accessed May 4, 2018.



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KIDS**  
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Family Support at the Center for Schools and Communities provides training and technical assistance to Parents as Teachers providers, Children's Trust Fund grantees and the Strengthening Families Leadership Team.

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## Family Support

31  
2018

### Family Support Webinars

First Wednesday of the month

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

June 6, School Readiness

Aug 1, TBA

### Developmental Parenting and HOVRS

June 22, Camp Hill, Pa.

## Parents as Teachers

Until one month prior to the event, registration will only be open to Pennsylvania participants. If you have a new hire in the month before the event, contact [Wenda Deardorff](#).

### PAT Foundational & Model Implementation

For new parent educators & supervisors of affiliate programs

June 25-29, Homestead, Pa.

Aug 20-24, Camp Hill, Pa.

Sep 10-14, Homestead, Pa.

### PAT Foundational

For new approved users

June 25-27, 2018, Homestead, Pa.

Aug 20-22, Camp Hill, Pa.

Sep 10-12, Homestead, Pa.

### PA Foundational 2: 3 Years through Kindergarten

July 16-17, Camp Hill, Pa.

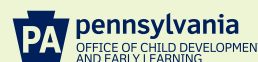
Sep 24-25, Homestead, Pa.

Pennsylvania Parents as Teachers is based at the Center for Schools and Communities.

Learn more at the following sites:

[Children's Trust Fund](#)

[Strengthening Families](#)



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OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
AND EARLY LEARNING