



## Department of Aging and Disabilities

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For Immediate Release

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### **Kinship Caregivers Support Group**

Annapolis, MD (June 20, 2011) – The public can attend a Kinship Caregiver Support Group and express their concerns during a meeting from 6:30 to 8 p.m. July 12 at the Pascal Senior Activity Center, 125 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, just off I-97. The meeting is free and is for those who are providing Kinship Care. Participants are encouraged to ask questions about raising a relative's child, such as a grandchild, niece or nephew. They can request information on handling financial concerns and receiving guidance about a variety of county services.

Kinship Care is commonly defined as the full-time care, nurturing, and protection of children by relatives or other adults who have a family relationship to the child. It is a growing phenomenon in this country, with about 1 in 10 children living with their grandparents.

The Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services established a Kinship Navigator program to assist family members on a short-term basis to access information and obtain a resource manual. The program is a joint effort of the DSS, the Department of Aging and Disabilities, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Board of Education. The Navigator will guide participants to resources available to them.

For information or to request services, call Chere Torsiello, Kinship Navigator, at 410-897-3933 or e-mail [ctorsiel@dhr.state.md.us](mailto:ctorsiel@dhr.state.md.us). TTY users can call via Maryland Relay at 7-1-1.

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