

Since 1998, Cornell Cooperative Extension has been offering the Relatives as Parents Program in Orange County, from its beginnings as a grassroots support group to a network of over 200 kinship families and dozens of program partners.

Kinship families refer to the estimated 3,000 families in Orange County who are headed by a relative caregiver raising a relative child. This includes grandparents raising grandchildren, aunts and uncles raising nieces and nephews, and even family friends raising children.

As household dynamics evolve, we are proud to offer necessary services to kinship caregivers who strengthen their families and, in turn, our communities.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of all our financial contributors.

*The Relatives as Parents Program is generously supported by*

- ◆ Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County
- ◆ NYS Office of Children and Family Services – Kinship Caregiver Grant
- ◆ Orange County Youth Bureau
- ◆ NYS Kinship Navigator
- ◆ The Brookdale Foundation
- ◆ County of Orange

Printed November 2015. Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities. Please contact our office if you have any special needs. Family and Consumer Sciences offers additional parenting, nutrition and financial management programs and resources.

Making a difference for kinship families.

*Program participants say:*

“I found I’m not alone with what’s going on in my family life.”

“I look forward to attending the monthly RAPP program; I get a night out with my wife and I know my grandchild is safe and having fun.”

“You all have enriched our lives by facilitating the monthly support groups and multiple events throughout the year.”

### Support Groups & Youth Groups

**Coffee & Conversation Support Groups plus the RAPP 4-H youth groups** are held monthly in Middletown and New Windsor

**RAPP Chats Support Groups** are held monthly in Port Jervis and Newburgh

### For More Information Contact:

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County**

(845) 344-1234

18 Seward Avenue, Suite 300  
Middletown, NY 10940-1919  
cceorangecounty.org

**NYS Kinship Navigator**

*Statewide Information and Resources*

(877) 454-6463 nysnavigator.org



# RAPP

## Relatives As Parents Program

# of Orange County



**Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County**

18 Seward Ave., Suite 300, Middletown, NY  
cceorangecounty.org (845) 344-1234



**Office of Children and Family Services**





The Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) assists grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the role of primary caregiver for related children.

We provide:

- ◆ Education and training to learn new parenting and coping skills
- ◆ Mutual peer support groups
- ◆ Youth development activities
- ◆ Referral and access to appropriate community-based services and resources

All this is offered in a setting that promotes confidential sharing, caring and mutual respect.

## Relatives as Parents Program Services Available:

***All services are FREE for kinship families:***

**Coffee & Conversation and RAPP Chat Support Groups:** A time to share with and learn from other kinship caregivers raising children. (*Childcare for children 2-5 years old available during evening programs*)

**4-H/Youth Programming:** A fun and informal way for RAPP youth 6 and older to make new friends, develop self understanding and build confidence.

**Parenting Education:** Educational programs designed especially for grandparents and relatives who are “parenting the second time around.”

**Parenting Consultations:** Individual meetings to discuss specific parenting topics and come up with tips to help you and your family.

**Counseling Services:** Short term individual and/or family counseling designed to strengthen your kinship family.

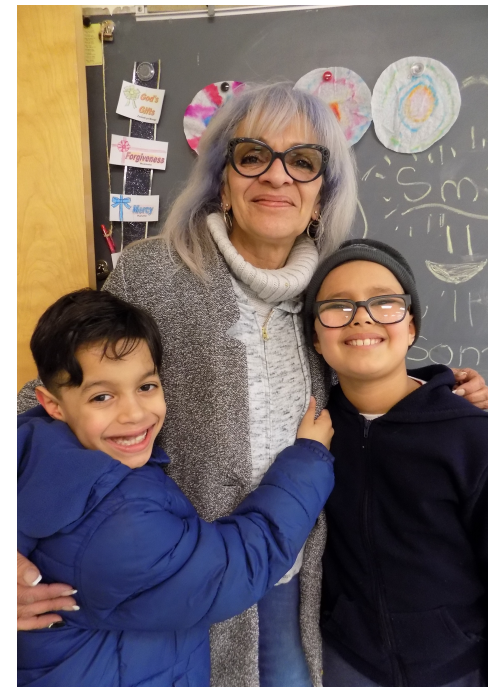
**Legal Information:** Referrals to appropriate legal resources.

**Peer Mentoring:** Trained adult mentors to assist families in navigating education, legal and social services.

**Nutrition Education:** Practical information and hands-on activities to meet your family's nutritional needs.

**Special Events:** Holiday Parties, Summer Picnics, Annual Field Trips and other recreational and intergenerational activities for kinship families to enjoy!

**Caregiver Resource Library:** A collection of resources for relative caregivers are available for review and loan. Open by appointment.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION: 845-344-1234**