Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors

Arizona Grandparent Ambassadors (AZGA) is a statewide coalition of aunts, uncles, fictive kin and grandparents who stepped up to care for children who for a variety of reasons could no longer remain in their own home. We are the reason children are not in foster care, group homes, or other non-familial settings.

Our mission is to support, mobilize, educate, and advocate for better laws and policies to help us care for and raise strong, resilient children.

Join caregivers across the state on Saturday, Sept. 8 from 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m. in Phoenix, AZ. for AZGA’s Annual Statewide Summit. Our annual summit is the time when we network and share information with one another, sharpen our skills through training and workshops, and plan for next advocacy steps.

Keynote Remarks by the Honorable Leah Landrum Taylor.

LLT was a key early champion for Kinship Caregivers and instrumental in shepherding through AZGA’s first policy victories in the legislature. Always an inspiring voice of motivation she will offer her thoughts on next steps and where Kinship Caregivers go forward from here!

Workshop: Childhood Trauma and Attachment Disorders.

Kenny Miller specializes in treatment services for children and adults, who have suffered attachment trauma and catastrophic loss in the early years of life, including foster and adoptive children. He will discuss transforming the way we understand and support children who missed significant developmental experiences in life and offer a roadmap for healing trauma and attachment disorders.

Policymakers Panel: Representatives from Legislature, Governor’s Office and Department of Child Safety (DCS).

What are the opportunities to improve support for kinship families in Arizona? Please come ready to share your personal stories, ask the tough questions and offer your suggestions for systematic change.

Kids ages 6 months to 15 years old can take part in the Kroc Center Kids Day Camp while family members attend the AZGA Summit. Kids activities include swimming (for kids over age 6 yrs), crafts, games, and watching movies on the big screen.

NOTE: Have a personal story to share? We are creating video clips of AZGA members’ struggles with the system. Contact AZGA State Chair Ann Nichols at (520) 312-8067 or annwnichols@gmail.com to sign up and participate.