

Financial

Raising children is expensive. Programs available to assist with these expenses are:

- * TAF
- * Grandparents as Caregivers Program (starting January 2007)
- * Food Assistance
- * Child Support
- * Child Care

Information on these services and an application may be obtained by contacting the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) at 1-888-369-4777, or visit the internet at www.srskansas.org

Support Group

As a result of the increasing number of grandparents and other relative caregivers, grandparents/kinship support groups are being formed throughout the state. These groups provide information and encouragement. For information on available support groups in Kansas, please contact the Kansas Department on Aging at 1-800-432-3535 or visit their website at www.agingkansas.org

Grandparents as Caregivers Program

The Grandparents as Caregivers program gives financial assistance to grandparents or other relatives raising children if certain eligibility requirements are met including legal custody and income guidelines.

Monthly cash benefits are \$200 for one child, \$400 for two children, \$600 for three or more children.

Applications are taken on a first come first serve basis and funding is limited.

Start date is January 2007. Contact your closest SRS office to see if you qualify.

Medical/Dental

Preventative health care for children is very important and can be costly. The children in your care may be eligible for free or low-cost health insurance! Information and applications may be obtained by calling HealthWave at 1-800-792-4884 or visit their website at www.kansashealthwave.org

Nutrition

A Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, the WIC program is available to children ages birth to 5 years. WIC provides specific supplemental food for healthy nutrition. For further information, contact the Kansas Department of Health & Environment at 1-800-332-6262, or your local health department.

SRS offers food assistance (also known as food stamps) to low income individuals and families to buy food from a local grocery store. The cost is electronically subtracted from the Vision card account. The Vision card looks and acts like a debit card. Simply present the card to the store clerk when purchasing food. Contact your closest SRS office to see if you qualify.

Child Development

Kansas Early Head Start is available in some areas for children ages birth to 4 years. A map showing program locations in Kansas is provided at www.srs.ks.org.

Head Start is available in many Kansas communities. Head Start provides free full or half-day programs for eligible three to five year old children. For information on Head Start locations visit the Kansas Head Start Association website at www.ksheadstart.org

Education

To enroll a grandchild/relative child in school, call the school district office listed in your local phone book.

Child Care

Child Care assistance may be provided when the grandparent or legal guardian is working, attending school or job training. To find child care providers in your area contact your Child Care Resource & Referral Agency (R&R) at 1-877-768-2548.

Kansas Department of
Social and Rehabilitation Services

Kansas Department on Aging

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Grandparents/ Relatives Caregivers



Starting Points Resource Overview