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# Foster Grandparent Program: Frequently Asked Questions

**Do I take children into my home?**
No. You will volunteer in a supervised classroom setting. Foster Grandparents do not take children into their homes, and the Program is not associated with the Foster Care system.

**How old are the children I would help?**
You can help children from the ages of 0 to 21 years old. However, the average age of children served are between 3 and 5 years of age.

**When and where would I volunteer?**
Schedules vary per individual. We try to accommodate the needs of all parties involved. We match volunteers to a location close to home.

*The Foster Grandparent Program is federally funded by AmeriCorps, an AmeriCorps Seniors program that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering.*

*Serving Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene and Washington Counties in Southwestern Pennsylvania.*

## Empowering People. Strengthening Communities. Transforming the Future.

Every day, the caring, highly trained staff of Wesley Family Services empowers children, adults and families to overcome challenges so that they can be part of a stronger community with a brighter future. When you or a loved one needs help, we'll be there.

*Empowering Lives, Transforming Futures™*

**To get involved, call today!**

**412-660-6841**
**412-660-7303**

**fostergrandparents.wfspa.org**

# Foster Grandparent Program

Proving an opportunity for individuals aged 55 and over to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities.

Wesley Family Services®
*Empowering Lives, Transforming Futures™*

AmeriCorps Seniors

Foster Grandparent Program

Foster Grandparents are volunteers who act as positive role models, sharing their time, talents, and love with society's most precious commodity... our children.

FGP provides an opportunity for individuals 55 and over to become classroom grandparents. They help, guide, and assist children by developing skills in literacy, language, math, and cognitive development, as well as improving essential social and emotional intelligence.

Our volunteers serve in local, non-profit agencies such as Head Start, childcare centers, schools, after-school programs, and other child-based programming. Classroom grandparents help children achieve their personal goals for a brighter future.

## Benefits of Becoming a Foster Grandparent

- Non-taxable, non-reportable hourly stipend
- Travel reimbursement
- PAID time off, birthday, and holidays
- Supplemental accident and liability insurance
- Ongoing training, development, and recognition
- Remain physically and mentally active
- Make new connections and friends
- Enhance self-esteem through community service
- Use your lifetime experiences, talents, and skills
- Leave your legacy with some awesome kids!

**According to a recent AmeriCorps study, those who volunteer have better overall health.**

**76%** felt better

**96%** felt a sense of purpose in life

**95%** felt they helped to make their community a better place.

*"I love to read. I believe that providing consistent, positive reinforcement to children who are struggling will boost their confidence and ultimately encourage them to read more."*

*- Grandma Phylis*

***"Anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me"...Mister Rogers***

## Eligibility Requirements

- Must be 55 years of age or older
- Must meet income guidelines (200% federal poverty level)
- Must pass all required background checks
- Must complete the orientation process
- Must be able to serve on a consistent schedule of at least 15 hours per week
- Must be comfortable around and helping children

## For Additional Information

Join to give the kind of comfort and love that sets a child on the path towards a successful future.

Contact us today!

**Rebecca Maletto-Cornell**
**Program Director/Manager**
412-660-6841

or

**Shelby Parisse**
**Coordinator**
412-660-7303