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Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Forum to Explain Helpful Services

Cincinnati (March 11, 2008) Hamilton County's Department of Job and Family Services will host a forum March 19 to provide information to grandparents who are raising their grandchildren.

Approximately 4.5 million children in the United States live in grandparent-headed households. Ohio has about 150,000 children living with their grandparents.

Hamilton County's Job and Family Services Department considers care by grandparents or other relatives to be a desirable option for abused and neglected children who can no longer live with their parents because staying with a grandparent allows the children to maintain their sense of belonging, culture and traditions. Kinship care also reduces the financial burden of foster care.

The Children's Home of Cincinnati and the Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio will also participate in the forum. Among the topics to be discussed: an overview of kinship care, financial aide and other support available for grandparents, adopting and fostering grandchildren and much more. A question and answer session will also be held.

The free event takes place from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sycamore Senior Center in Blue Ash, 4455 Carver Woods Drive.

Call 782-2775 to register.

About Hamilton County's Department of Job and Family Services

The Department of Job and Family Services administers federal, state and local programs for those in need. The Department helps with local child protection, adult protection, child care, tuberculosis control, child support enforcement, workforce development, cash assistance, food stamp disbursement and Medicaid disbursement. Servicing Hamilton County since 1947, the Department helps hundreds of thousands of residents each year. The Department of Job and Family Services is accredited by the Council on Accreditation, an international, independent, not-for-profit child and family service accrediting organization.