

Volunteer with AmeriCorps Idaho Kinship Project -- 211/Navigation

In Idaho, over 18,000 children live in kinship households. In 2006, grandparents headed nearly 10,000 Idaho kinship households, and increase of 20.7% since 2000. Over the same time period, an increase of 1.2% was seen nationally.

Idaho kinship providers need support and assistance from their communities. In the summer of 2009, the Department of Health & Welfare teamed up the AmeriCorps VISTA to strengthen existing supports and identify new resources for kinship families. The mission of the project is to enhance the lives of kinship families in Idaho by creating a safety net of resources and support.

The project is currently looking to recruit new volunteers to carry on the work. VISTA members commit to serve full-time for a year, working to enhance the ability of kinship families to find relevant information, connect with available resources and services, and create opportunities for peer support. With passion, commitment, and hard work, VISTA's create and expand programs designed to bring kinship families out of poverty.

By serving through VISTA, you'll gain new skills, friends, and experiences – plus you'll get the satisfaction that comes from helping others. During your service, you'll also receive a modest living allowance, health care, child care (must meet income guidelines), and other benefits. And, upon completing your service, you can choose to receive either a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award or a post-service stipend. The position starts in August and the applications will close in mid July, so if you're interested don't

If you would like further information please contact Scott Burlingame at 208-332-7385 or burlings@dhw.idaho.gov. More information, including qualifications and requirements, may also be found and applications can be made at, <https://my.americorps.gov>.



Assistance. Advocacy. Answers on Aging.

This newsletter is brought to you by the Area Agency on Aging. For more information on services and resources offered at the AAA contact: Sandy at 233-4032 ext. 16

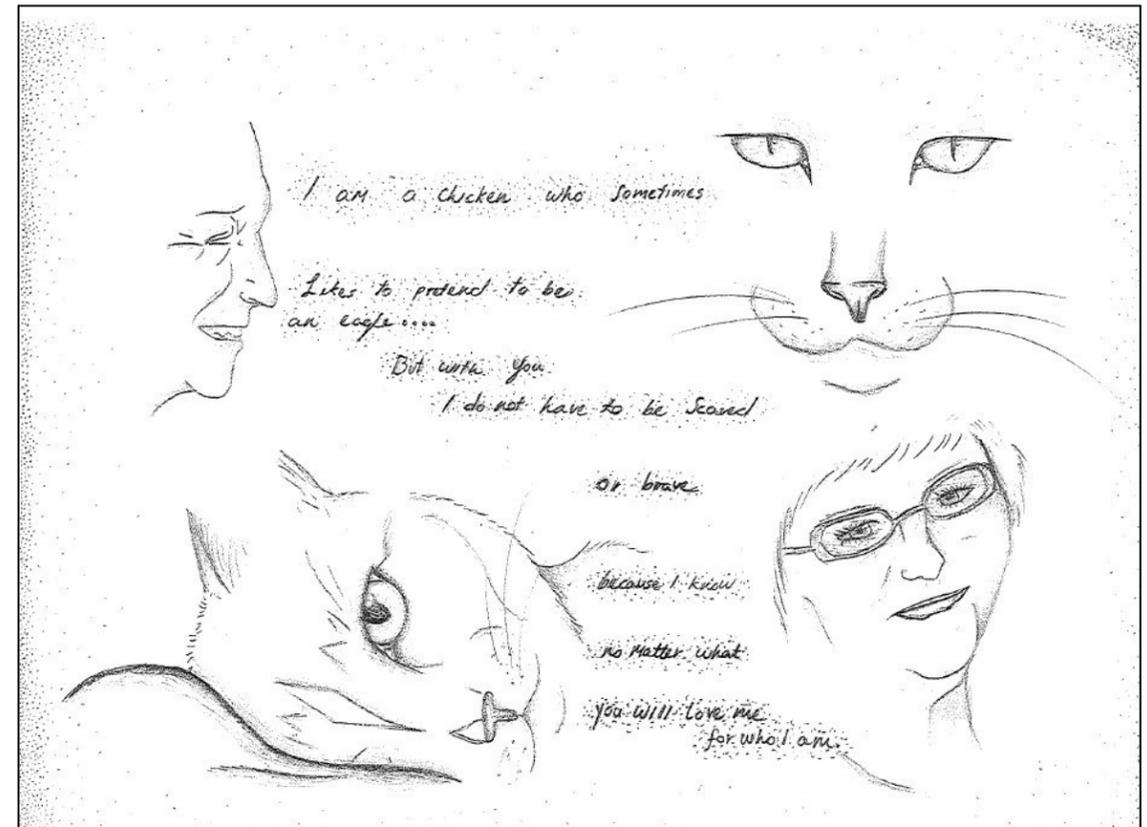
Area Agency on Aging
214 E. Center
Pocatello, ID 83201



Kincare Connection

Southeast Idaho Relatives/Grandparents as Parents Newsletter

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I am a chicken who sometimes likes to pretend to be an eagle... But with you I do not have to be scared or brave, Because I know no matter what you will love me for who I am. ~ Shaela's winning entry.

Support Groups:

Kincare Support Group, Pocatello

Meets: 403 N. Hayes
Date: 1st Thursday,
Monthly
When: 5:30 pm
Discussion: Legal
Presentation
Contact: Jenn, 235-2809

Kincare Eat and Educate Sessions, Fort Hall

Meets: Elderly Nutrition
Dining Room
Date: **BREAK** for July
When: 5:30 pm
Discussion: Grief & Loss
Contact: Jami, 478-3858

Relatives Raising
Relatives Family Group,
Blackfoot
Contact: Jodi, 684-3345

My Family. My Story. Art Contest.

The first annual My Family. My Story. Art Contest is officially over. The art contest celebrates the relatives and significant adults who open their hearts and homes to kin children. Children from across the state sent in their poems, short essays, and drawings that described how living with someone other than their parents has made a positive difference in their lives.

And the winners are...

Shaela, age 16, from Pocatello
Kelvilynn, age 15, from
Samirah, edad 10
Cassidy, edad 12
Mary, edad 7
Hailey, edad 8

Congratulations to all the winners. Each winner receives a \$100 from D.L. Evans Banks. All entries will receive a special gift from the 2-1-1 Idaho Careline and a booklet containing all the entries.

Kincare Connection

Community Calendar

- 4 Independence Day**
- 5 Free Skin Cancer Screening**
1st Tuesday Monthly, 5-7 pm
Idaho Skin Institued, Dr. Stoddard
147 W. Chubbuck Rd, No appt. necessary
- 9 Woofstock Flashback to Fun Festival**
Bannock Humane Society, 850 Barton, 12-9 pm
Live Bands, Pet 60's Costumes, Food, and more
- 15 Idaho Kincare Family Day**
- 15-16 Blackfoot Pride Days**
Contact: 785-0510
- 18 3rd Annual Military Family Appreciation Day**
Upper Ross Park, 11am – 4 pm
Contact: Hiedi Young, 604-0400
- 16-23 Southeast Idaho Senior Games**
- 23 Dog Day at the Farmers Market**
Old Town Pavilion, 420 N. Main St, 9 – 1 pm
Enjoy dog friendly activities and events including agility demo, dog races, micro-chipping, raffle, and exciting dog park details.
- Free Shakespeare Performances at ISU Quad**
- 27 Much Ado About Nothing**
- 28 The Merchant of Venice**
ISU Quad, 6:30 pm
Inclement weather: Pond Student Union Ballroom
Picnics welcome, bring your own blankets and chairs. Contact: John Gribas, 282-2695
- 29-31 11th Annual POW MIA Awareness Rally & Motorcycle Rodeo**
Bannock County Fairgrounds
<http://www.powmiarodeo.org>

Agency Highlight:

Community Resources for Families Program

The Community Resources for Families Program is designed to assist elementary school children and their families. Community Resource Workers join with families to develop a plan for self-sufficiency. The Community Resources for Families Program is funded through a partnership between the Department of Health and Welfare and participating school districts. The Department of Health and Welfare and school districts are partners in providing help to children and families to locate services and resources available in the community. Services may be accessed during the summer months and for families that do not have a Community Resource Worker in their schools, through the Navigation Program at the Department of Health and Welfare's building at 1090 Hiline in Pocatello.

School-based Community Resource Workers work with selected school districts to help children and families find services and resources available in the community. Parents, teachers, school nurses, school psychologists, counselors, and school principals can refer children and their families to the program. A Community Resource Worker will contact the family to offer services, needs are identified at this time, and a plan for assistance is developed.

The Community Resources for Families Program provides special services, such as: Strength-based family needs assessments; recommendations and treatment referrals; chemical dependency education and referrals; linkage to community resources; and development of the self-sufficiency goals, to name a few. Family

participation is voluntary; a family can receive services once within a 12-month period for up to 90 days.

Service Navigation

Navigation is a Health and Welfare program that supports the Department's mission to promote the health and safety of Idahoans. The program is designed around short term intervention to help families in need. The goal is that with this



assistance, families will become self-sustaining in the future.

Health and Welfare employees, also known as Navigators, help individuals and families through problem solving and case managing. There are no income-based eligibility requirements for Navigation services; rather, the program focuses on assisting target populations. These can include kincare providers, refugees, victims of human trafficking, children aging out of foster care, and individuals involved in the Criminal Justice System.

The Service Navigation program provides special services, such as: Information about Health & Welfare programs and services; work with participants to determine a plan to achieve self-sufficiency, health, safety, and stability; link people to appropriate resources and services; and may provide financial assistance to families with children who are in crisis or an emergency situation.

For more information about either of these programs contact the 211 CareLine or your local H&W Office.



Southeast Idaho Senior Games

The Southeast Idaho Senior Games are once again coming to Pocatello. With more events offered in our local games than are offered in the National Senior Games it is bound to be a good time for all. This is an event for all to participate in. You don't have to be the best competitor... you just have to come and have fun.

"Not everyone is fast, some people might have problems. They might finish last, but they have won. We have a lot of people in that category." comments Jody Olson, founder of the SEI Senior Games.

They are inviting seniors to participate in the games. They have 29 venues and 221 events. There is something for everyone to participate in. The events are: archery, basketball, billiards, bowling, bridge, chess, croquet, cycling, dance, disc golf, Fun Run/Walk (every age can compete!), golf, various cards, horseshoes, mountain bike, pentathlon, pickle ball, racquetball, shuffleboard, softball, swimming, table tennis, triathlon, tennis, and track and field.

The games will be held the 16th through the 23rd of July. For more information visit seidahoseniorgames.org or contact the Senior Games Office at 233-2034.



Picture taken from, seidahoseniorgames.org. From the 2008 SEI Senior Games.