***IF YOU ARE A FULL TIME CARER (KINSHIP CARER) YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO:***

* WELFARE BENEFITS
* SMALL GRANTS
* HOLIDAYS
* Visit our website:
[www.grandparents-association.org.uk](http://www.grandparents-association.org.uk)
(Select - Help & Support - Welfare Benefits)

***FOR OTHER HELP, INFORMATION AND SUPPORT***

* Call our Helpline:
 Monday – Friday 10am -4pm
**0845 4349585**
* Call our Welfare Benefits Service:
Tuesday 10am – 12pm
 Wednesday 10am – 12pm
 Thursday 11am – 1pm
**0844 3571033** or email
wb@grandparents-association.org.uk
* Find a support group near you.Go to

[www.grandparents-association.org.uk](http://www.grandparents-association.org.uk)

Help & Support or phone 01279

428040 for further details.

***DID YOU KNOW?***

* Nearly 3.5 million people provide childcare for their grandchildren?
* The average age of grandparent childcarers is 62 – 63 years
* Grandparents provide between 6 and10.8 hours a week on average

***ARE YOU A GRANDPARENTCHILDCARER?***

* Need benefit advice to see what you may be entitled to?
* Need help with a small grant to replace a broken household item?
* Want to find out tips on everything from fitting car seats to discipline?
* Interested in meeting up with grandparents in a similar situation and giving your grandchildren the chance to play with lots of other children?
* Find out more about holiday childcare, days out, and much more?

Congue nihil imperdiet doming id quod mazim placerat facer minim veni am ut wisi enim ad minimeniam, quis erat nostr uexe

rci tation ullamcorper nostru exerci tation ullam corper et iusto odio dig nissim qui blandit praesent lupta. Tummer delenit

augue duis dolore te feugait nulla facilisi. Con erattis sectetuer adip iscing elit, sed erat diam nonummy nibh magna erat.

For a list of other organisations that can offer help. Ring 01279 428040 and ask for our signposting information called ‘**Help and Information’.**info@grandparents-association.org.uk

**SUPPORT FOR GRANDPARENTS CARING FOR THE CHILDREN OF PRISONERS**

*“You just don’t know how much you have helped me. My washing machine had broken and I was washing everything by hand for a young baby and myself.”****Grandparent Carer***

The Grandparents’ Association is committed to support grandparents who care for children whilst a parent is in prison and try to maintain contact and family ties.
© The Grandparents’ Association2013

**LEEDS OFFICE:** The Grandparents’ Association Third Floor 6-8 The Headrow, Leeds LS1 6PT
**M:**07914787746**T:**0113 2446111**E:** laura.teahan@grandparents-association.org.uk
**HEAD OFFICE TELEPHONE:** 01279 428040

 **Grandparents tell us they are being asked to:**

* + **Care for children fulltime, whilst a parent is in prison. This can be long term or short term.**
	+ **Bring the children into prison for visits.**
	+ **Take on the care of children with physical, educational and psychological problems**
	+ **Give up jobs and other commitments to take on this role
	struggling financially to bring up their grandchildren**
	+ **Many also say their own health and relationships are being affected by this role**

 **For some:**

* + **Grandparents are being denied contact with their grandchildren when a parent is in prison.**

**MEET LAURA TEAHAN
PRISON OUTREACH WORKER**
My name is Laura Teahan and my role is to support grandparents who care for their grandchildren when a parent is in prison.
I am also here to try to help maintain continued contact and family ties, within families when a member is in prison, and to establish strong links with Family Workers and Staff in and around Yorkshire.

**MY AIM IS TO:**

* Establish a referral system for professionals to signpost grandparents and carers to our services.
* Set up and signpost grandparents to support groups to put them in touch with others in a similar situation.
* Hold drop in surgeries on visiting days covering a range of issues.
* Provide welfare benefit information and advice including small grant support, when caring for a grandchild whilst the parent is in prison
* Provide information and support for legal issues and arrangements for care and contact
* Provide a range of courses for grandparents including first aid, I.T courses, parenting together and managing children’s behaviour
* Tools and books to assist telling the children when a parent is in prison

**We are very aware of the increased levels of care and commitment being undertaken by grandparents.**

*“You stepped in and supported me when I felt I had nowhere else to turn. I will be making sure from now one I tell as many people as possible about the Grandparents’ Association and about the excellent work that you do.”****Grandparent Childcarer***

© The Grandparents’ Association 2013

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Grandparents' Association is a national charity which supports all grandparents and their families and works with government, local authorities and campaigns with key charities to raise awareness of the needs of grandparents.