

**THE BROOKDALE RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM
2008-2009 FUNDING ALERT FOR LOCAL AGENCIES**

We are pleased to announce the Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) Local Seed Grant Initiative for the year 2008-2009. RAPP is designed to encourage and promote the creation or expansion of services for grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the responsibility of surrogate parenting when the biological parents are unable to do so. The Program is intended to:

- award seed grants to local agencies to provide support groups and at least two other supportive services to relative caregivers and their families;
- encourage cooperation and collaboration among various service systems (such as legal services/legal aid, child welfare, health care, aging, schools, family services, mental health);
- ensure the development, expansion and future continuity of local services; and
- create replicable models of service.

Up to **thirty local agencies** will be chosen from throughout the United States through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process. Each agency will receive a \$10,000 grant over a two-year period [\$6,000 in the first year and \$4,000 in the second year if all grant requirements have been met], as well as training and technical assistance. Matching support in cash or in-kind will be required of all selected agencies. The sponsoring agency must be a 501(c)(3) entity or have equivalent tax-exempt status.

Priority will be given to those agencies that have access to relative caregivers, provide supportive services and demonstrate broad community involvement and support.

Copies of the RFP guidelines and application forms for our Local Initiative may be downloaded directly from the Foundation's website at www.brookdalefoundation.org in September 2008. Information on our Regional and State RAPP Initiatives will also be available on our website.

Requests for RFP packets, **written on agency letterhead**, may also be submitted to:

The Relatives as Parents Program
The Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022
[No faxes or phone calls please]

The deadline for the submission of local proposals to the Brookdale Foundation is **Thursday, December 4, 2008**. Selected applicants will be notified and will be required to attend our National Orientation and Training Conference, to be held May 1-3, in Denver, Colorado.

*Public State Agencies interested in the RAPP **State Seed Grant Initiative** should visit our website:
www.brookdalefoundation.org*

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