

NAFGPD UPDATE:
November, 2009

Greetings to members of the National Association of Foster Grandparent Program Directors. I hope all of you are doing well and are staying healthy&Flu season is going to be challenging for our volunteers and for our programs. To help you to stay abreast of program changes and opportunities, we hope the information provided below will be beneficial to you.

Appropriations □ President Obama has signed a continuing resolution effective through December 18. Congress has sent the President five of the 12 annual appropriations bills. Work on the FY 2010 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill has not been completed. The Foster Grandparent Program is funded in the Senate Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill at \$111,269,000 and is funded at \$110,996,000 in the House FY2010 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill. The Administration's FY 2010 Budget Request for FGP is 110,996,000. Please support the Senate funding level.

Reauthorization □ The Serve America Act now authorizes FGP to serve children □having special or exceptional needs or with conditions or circumstances identified as limiting their academic, social, or economic development.□ (Previously, only authorized to serve children □having special or exceptional needs.□)

White House Conference Call on Seniors and Health Reform- NAFGPD participated on the White House conference call regarding seniors and Health Reform. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius urged participants to encourage senior citizens to visit www.healthreform.gov or www.whitehouse.gov to learn more about health reform policy and how it will affect them. The healthreform.gov site has easy to access information and even a brief quiz that individuals can take to find out how health reform will effect them. Please share through your in-service meetings.

2010 Membership □NAFGPD is THE national association for Foster Grandparent Program Directors and supporters. We are membership driven, your issues and concerns are our priority! Since 1971 NAFGPD has worked to preserve the integrity of FGP and seek adequate funding. We are focused, we set our strategic plans in motion until they are achieved. We are successful, we have a professional Board of Directors and a well respected and high profile representative in Washington, DC. Just over the past 10 years alone, we successfully increased FGP appropriations by \$43.579 million for stipend and administrative cost increases. Go to www.nafgpd.org and download your membership form today. Dues are still \$100.00 annually, a bargain compared to the benefits received.

Board Elections - New NAFGPD Officers will take office at the Feb/March 2010 Board meeting: Sherry Black □ President (final term) ; Denise Nelsen □ Vice President; Kristen Tracy □ Secretary and Connie Stewart □ Treasurer.

January 1, 2010 □ December 31, 2011 Cluster Representative and Alternate nominations/elections have closed in the Atlantic, Southern, and Pacific Clusters□Nominations

are still open in North Central and Southwest Clusters. Results will be provided in the December Update.

FGP's 45th Anniversary Nationwide Art Contest - is underway, this contest will enable your foster grandparents and the children and youth they serve the opportunity to capture the essence of their relationship in a colorful work of art (contest is not open to the general public and void where prohibited). Entries must be received by January 30, 2010. Three (3) prizes will be awarded and the art work displayed on www.nafgpd.org. We plan to highlight the art work on various forms of display in celebration of the 45th Anniversary of the Foster Grandparent Program.

Opportunities:

- Through the Serve America Act, FGP's will be eligible to apply through the State Commissions for Encore Service Program Funds and Disability Grants when funding becomes available.
- On Grants.gov learn how nonprofit organizations can find and apply for federal grants through 26 agencies. Participate in an on-line webinar orientation about the process. 787 billion dollars were appropriated for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, only 47.6% of funds have been awarded.
- Are your foster grandparents mentoring children of prisoners in a federal, state or tribal prison? Sign-up to be a provider to receive \$900 per volunteer match lasting 12 months. Contact Malsoonsauerman@yahoo.com.
- Provide your input, CNCS Office of Public Affairs will announce the opportunity for public comment on Senior Corps rulemaking in the near future on issues such as the 80/20 rule, education awards, and Trust funds; let your voice be heard.
- New project directors may contact their CNCS State office and request a mentor through the Peer to Peer Mentoring Program or contact the program manager Mary Louise Schweikert at gschweik@sunlink.net, and receive the professional guidance of a trained seasoned director.

On behalf of the NAFGPD Board of Directors, we wish everyone a very
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!