

Research Study for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Are you currently raising a grandchild under 18 years old?

Does your grandchild have a history of abuse, neglect, or household challenges?

Have you worked with a medical, legal, government, or social services professional to help a grandchild you are raising?

Would you like to share your experiences about the help you received?



WHY: The purpose of this research is to better understand processes of seeking services by grandparents raising a grandchild with a history of adverse childhood experiences.

WHO: Grandparents raising a grandchild with past abuse, neglect, or household challenges, also known as adverse childhood experiences or ACEs, are needed for a Virginia Tech Human Development and Family Science research study (IRB # 20-444).

WHAT: Grandparents qualify for this research if they are:

- Currently raising (e.g., providing basic needs, parenting, full-time care) to at least one grandchild under the age of 18
- Raising a grandchild with at least **one past ACE** such as:
 - Household challenges (e.g., Parent abandonment, parent death, parent separation/divorce, Family member mental health condition, family member substance use, domestic violence, having a parent in jail or prison, seeing another adult be emotionally abused)
 - Abuse: Physical, emotional, or sexual abuse
 - Neglect: Physical or emotional neglect
- Living in a home without the grandchild's parents present
- Live in a county or city that is part of Southwest Virginia
- Have a grandchild who has received or currently receives professional services in Southwest Virginia
- Over age 18
- Willing to complete a 19-minute survey and do a 60-90 minute audio-recorded phone interview

HOW: Eligible participants will complete a 19-minute online survey and then be interviewed for 60 to 90 minutes. Curious about learning more? Please contact Bradford Stucki, Doctoral Candidate in Marriage and Family Therapy, Virginia Tech, at stuckib@vt.edu or (540) 358-0064.

OTHER: Participants will be compensated with a \$20 Amazon gift card via email or text message for their time and effort upon survey and interview completion. Participation is voluntary. You can stop your participation at any time.

Risks are minimal and may include discomfort in sharing past experiences. Your information will be confidential, except if sharing current or suspected abuse or neglect about yourself or your grandchild will result in a required report to the appropriate authorities. Study results may be published or presented. Study was reviewed by Virginia Tech HRPP; irb@vt.edu; 540-231-3732).