

In this issue:

New ISDD Staff

COVID-19 Vaccines for children

Support Groups & Classes

Member Corner

Resource Corner: Grandfamilies.org

Project GRANDDD

*(Grandparents Raising And Nurturing
Dependents with Disabilities)*

A program of:



NEWS

December 2021

Volume 16 Issue 12



Welcome ISDD's Newest Case Managers

Laquena Craig is excited to be joining the ISDD staff in December. She has a BA in Psychology from the University of West Georgia and three years of case management



experience working with seniors, families and persons with disabilities. She worked with foster families at DFCS and comes to ISDD from Professional Case Management Services of America where she assisted persons with developmental disabilities and their families. LaQuena spent much of her childhood living with her grandmother, so she knows firsthand what it is like to live in a grandfamily. She loves reading and animals - her two dogs most of all! Welcome to ISDD, Laquena!

Katrina James, also joining ISDD's staff in December, is an Atlanta native with 19 years of case management experience working with families, seniors with chronic illnesses and persons with disabilities. She can't



wait to start working with Project GRANDDD families. Katrina holds a BA of Social Work from Georgia State University and started her career at DFCS. Her passion is in supporting others in making changes that lead to a more fulfilling and happier life. Katrina is married to her high school sweetheart and they have one very adventurous and creative daughter. They enjoy family road trips, movie nights, going for walks and amusement parks. Welcome to ISDD, Katrina!

COVID-19 Vaccines for children ages 5-11 now authorized

Scientists have conducted clinical trials with about 3,000 children, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined that the [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](#) is safe and effective for children ages 5 through 11 years old. The dose for children is one-third of the dosage of the vaccine for adolescents and adults. In clinical trials, vaccination was nearly 91 percent effective in preventing COVID-19 among younger children. Vaccine side effects were mild and temporary. The most common side effect was a sore arm. COVID-19 vaccines are FREE!

To find a COVID vaccination location near you do one of the following:

- 1). Visit [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)
- 2). Text your ZIP code to 438829 or call 1-800-232-0233
- 3). Check your local pharmacy's website to see if vaccination appointments are available.

Support Groups & Classes >>>



Joining Virtual Groups & Classes!

Due to COVID-19, all of our group programming is offered virtually via Google Meet. Use the links below to join by computer, tablet or smart phone. You can also dial in to participate by phone.

USE VIDEO IF YOU CAN TO SEE EVERYONE IN THE GROUP AND ENJOY THE PRESENTATIONS!

Child Support
6p.m. - 7p.m.

12/1 Sharing &
Holiday Games

Google Meet: <https://bit.ly/ISDDChild>
Phone: 617-675-4444, PIN: 730 691 702 0287#

Adult Support
10a.m. - 12p.m.

12/7 Preventative
Care - ARC
Empowerline

Google Meet: <https://bit.ly/ISDDAdult>
Phone: 414-600-9528, PIN: 888 104 633#

Teen Support
6p.m. - 7p.m.

12/8 Sharing &
Games

Google Meet: <https://bit.ly/ISDDTeen>
Phone: 929- 226-1946, PIN: 508 364 396#

Adult Support
10a.m. - 12p.m.

12/14 Power of
Positivity-Humana

Google Meet: <https://bit.ly/ISDDAdult>
Phone: 414-600-9528, PIN: 888 104 633#

*** There will be no support group 12/21 & 12/28**
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!
See you in 2022!

Member Corner: Christine Owens

Each month we select a Project GRANDD caregiver to highlight so we can get to know each other.

Age: I am 50 yrs. young for God's grace & mercy.

Currently Raising:

Kayden Heaven Owens 6, and Angel Maria Owens 4

Favorite Activity: We enjoy participating together in the YMCA sports programs for youth.



Favorite quote: GOD GOT THIS, YEAH!!!

Favorite TV show or hobby: Our favorite hobby as a family is coloring with easel paint and drawing pictures.

Member of Project GRANDD since: Blessed to be since 2019.

Advice for other caregivers: Never give up, God is in control, and you are NOT ALONE! Stay involved with the Grandparents Support Group. No matter how challenging it may be to start all over again raising grandchildren and putting our senior dreams on hold, they're a gift from God. We're here to make a difference in their lives. We're the hand of God and are here to WIN by making a change, and breaking any vicious cycle. Now give yourself a great big hug and always remember you're not alone, we're here together raising our grandchildren. I love you!!!

Why she was chosen: Ms. Owens is a pleasure to work with. She participates in support group whenever her work schedule allows and maintains regular contact with her case manager. She brings a positive attitude and laughter to our group, even when she is having a hard time. She is dedicated to doing everything she can provide a loving home and get the support and service her grandchildren need. She is always open to learning how to be her best for herself and her grandchildren.



Funded in Part By:



Resource Corner: *Grandfamilies.org*

Do you have questions and want more information about state laws, legislation and policy supports for grand or kinship families? Grandfamilies.org is a national legal resource for grandfamilies within and outside of the child welfare system. This extensive website contains information about adoption, care & custody, education, federal laws, financial assistance, healthcare, housing and much more.

Visit www.grandfamilies.org to find online resources, publications and a searchable database of laws and legislation affecting grandfamilies. Grandfamilies.org is a collaboration among The American Bar Association, Center on Children and the Law; Generations United and Casey Family Programs.

Visit us on the Web: www.isdd-home.org

Like and Follow Us on Facebook: Projectgrandd and Isddhome

Contact us:

Rainie B. Jueschke, CFRE

Executive Director

404-600-3332 ext. 101

404-551-5258 (direct line)

rainiej@isdd-home.org

Sherri Felicia

Case Manager

404-600-3332 ext.103

470-310-3459 (direct line)

sherrif@isdd-home.org

4282 Memorial Dr. STE B
Decatur, GA 30032

