

KIDS CENTRAL KINSHIP CARE SUPPORT GROUPS

Everyone who is raising a grandchild or other relative child is invited to participate in “Second Time Around,” a free educational support program offered by Kids Central, Inc., the lead agency for child welfare in Florida’s 5th Circuit (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion & Sumter counties).

In Circuit 5, fewer than five percent of the nearly 14,000 children who are being raised by relatives other than their parents are under Kids Central’s supervision, which means the overwhelming majority of the families are not receiving adequate services.

In Marion County, grandparents and other relatives are the primary caregivers for nearly 5,300 children. These relative caregivers have stepped in to rescue children from faltering families, physical abuse, substance abuse and violent crime while, in most cases, preventing the children from entering the child welfare system.

Many of these caregivers have already raised their children, and they find that the stress of parenting *the second time around* is quite different from the stress they experienced raising children the first time, and they are struggling. Kids Central wants to help them.

The “Second Time Around” program is designed to inform and support relative caregivers in their unique role as primary caregivers for relative children. It consists of eight two-hour educational sessions that help address their special needs by providing valuable information in a safe and supportive environment. It also provides them an opportunity to network and share experiences with other relative caregivers.

Please Join Us

Dates-

Mondays 6-8pm

Jan 11- March 8- 2010-

Off due to holiday on 1/18/10 date

Address-

Ocala Housing Authority

1629 NW 4th Street

Ocala, FL 34475

Contact:-

Free **child care** for children as well as **mileage reimbursement** for attending the groups.

MUST RSVP if attending with children to ensure adequate child care coverage

Melissa Casto- 352-387-3458 or Melissa.casto@kidscentralinc.org