



University of North Texas Project COPE- Helping Grandparent Caregivers

Project COPE (Caring for Others as a Positive Experience) is being conducted beginning this Spring by Dr. Bert Hayslip at the University of North Texas. This project will compare different ways of helping grandmothers who are raising a grandchild between ages of 4 to 12 in the absence of the grandchild's birth parents. This study is funded by the National Institutes of Health and it involves four geographic locations: Northeast Ohio; the Greater Washington, DC – Baltimore, MD Metropolitan Area; Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas; and Southern California.

Participation in this study will involve being interviewed over the phone and at home. In so doing, participants will be asked to complete a total of six assessments over a two year period, where grandmothers will complete a brief interview and also complete a simple task with their grandchild that will be videotaped. Each grandmother will attend 10 weekly group meetings with other grandmother caregivers at a safe and convenient location in the community. Grandmothers will be assigned randomly to participate in one of 3 different programs that are designed to help grandmothers cope better with the role of raising a grandchild. A light meal will be served at each session and a supervised child care area for grandchildren will be available adjacent to the group meeting.

Grandparents who come to a study site in their community for this purpose will receive a \$35 check after each assessment. At the end of the study, all participants will receive additional information about how to cope with raising a grandchild as well as information about parenting a grandchild. All information gathered from those who attend the study will be held in the strictest confidence.

Please call Dr. Hayslip at 940-565-2675 or email him at hayslipb@unt.edu to find out more about the study or to enroll.