Voices of Kinship Caregivers

2023 2nd Annual
Voices of Kinship Caregivers Contest
Tell us ... Your Positive Experiences as a Kinship Caregiver

What is the Contest?
Voices of Kinship Caregivers is a contest for Kinship Caregivers in Washington State, who are raising (now or in the past) a relative child not their own. This contest honors the unique experiences of more than 47,000 grandparents & relative caregivers in Washington state who are Kinship Caregivers.

How Do You Enter the Contest?
Write a poem or short essay that describes your positive experiences as a Kinship Caregiver.

What are the Rules?
- All participating caregivers must live in Washington State.
- Poems should be 21 lines or less.
- Essays should be 500 words or less.
- Do not include any last names within the body of your writing.
- Winners will be notified in early May and the decisions of the judges are final.
- The Award’s Ceremony, due to COVID restrictions, will be held via Zoom. Time & Date TBD.
- We reserve the right of first publication and use of the writings submitted.
- All entries may be published as an added section within a 2023 book entitled, “Voices of Children – Raised by Grandparents & Other Relatives”

Three Winners will each be awarded a $50 Amazon Gift Card
Submit your entries in either an email or PDF/Word attachment to: Tammara@famess.org. Questions? Call Tammara Newbill @ 360.754.7629

*Include within the body of the email: Your full name and age, County of residence, mailing address, and current telephone contact number*
One of the grandmothers brought her 7 year old grandson with her when she came to our drive through gift pick-up before Christmas. He asked her why their family was getting these gifts. She took the time to explain our program. She explained that there are people in our community that want to help families like theirs and children like him. They have a pretty large group of family living together right now and I know they received a lot of what was donated as well as items from the Jubilee Giving Tree. After Christmas she decided to give her grandson the gift card from Walmart that the Giving Tree had provided. He asked if he could buy gifts for other “kids like him” - other kinship children. He checked out all the clearance sales and bought stickers and other small toys for us to have on hand to give to other kids. At just seven years old he is already trying to pay it forward! Way to go Axel!