# COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

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| Department: | Commissioners | Presenter(s): | Commissioner David Barlow |
| Meeting Date: | Tuesday, July 9, 2013 | Type of Request: | Presentation/Recognition |

Wording for the Agenda:

Recognition of Grandparents and Kin Raising Children, Inc.

Background/History/Details:

Please see attached.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Recognize of Grandparents and Kin Raising Children, Inc.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

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| Has this request been considered within the past two years? | No | If so, when? | |
| Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?* | No | Backup Provided with Request? | Yes |

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

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| Approved by Finance | Not Applicable | Reviewed by Legal | |
| Approved by Purchasing | Not Applicable | County Clerk's Approval | Yes |
| Administrator's Approval | | | |

Staff Notes:

# Recognition

## Grandparents and Kin Raising Children, Inc.

**WHEREAS,** There are 4.9 million children across the United States who live with their grandparents and other relatives; and

**WHEREAS,** In Georgia, 13,000 grandparents assume the sole responsibility for raising their grandchildren, and in Fayette County over 1,000 grandparents have made the life-changing decision to raise a child;

**WHEREAS,** Increasingly, grandparents and relatives are providing stable and secure homes due to the challenges over the past years attributed to the housing and foreclosure crisis, the loss of jobs, and the economic recession; and

**WHEREAS,** The grandchildren often face physical and mental problems as a result of parental drug and alcohol abuse, emotional problems resulting from the separation from parents, confusion when parents come in and out of their lives, embarrassment and teasing from other children, and academic hardships as they worry about their parents and possible abandonment; and

**WHEREAS,** Grandparents and other relatives also bear burdens such as the inability not to retire, isolation from their friends who no longer have children at home, guilt or resentment toward their own children, and significant burdens as approximately 20% of these families are in poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2006, Fayette FACTOR partners, recognizing the special needs of caregivers who have chosen to parent again, established the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren initiative by offering support groups, newsletters, training seminars, and assistance in navigating the local and state agencies; and

**WHEREAS** In 2011, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren became their own 501(c)3, a non-profit organization with a new name: Grandparents and Kin Raising Grandchildren;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the Fayette County Board of Commissioners, recognize

## GRANDPARENTS AND KIN RAISING CHILDREN, INC.

and in so doing we thank Fayette FACTOR, the volunteers and staff, including Coordinator Queen Gordy, and the families throughout Fayette County and Georgia who provide loving homes to their children and relatives in difficult circumstances. We further call upon the Fayette community to support Grandparents and Kin Raising Children, Inc. monetarily and through volunteer efforts.

So Recognized this 9th Day of July 2013

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

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Steve Brown, Chairman