



LEGAL AID  
OF THE  
BLUEGRASS

## COVID-19: KENTUCKY KIDS RISE--ASSISTING CHILD VICTIMS OF THE OPIOID CRISIS

### **Are any current custody orders impacted by the current status of the courts?**

- No. Any custody order you have received prior to the COVID-19 crisis remains in effect. The Supreme Court has issued some guidance on how parents operating according to a court ordered parenting or timesharing should respond if exposed to COVID-19 here: ([https://kycourts.gov/courts/supreme/Rules\\_Procedures/202014.pdf](https://kycourts.gov/courts/supreme/Rules_Procedures/202014.pdf)).

### **Is there anything I can do if I believe my grandchild or other minor loved one is in danger with the person they are currently living with?**

- Although regular court hearings have been delayed, courts are still hearing emergency cases. If you believe a child is in serious and imminent danger of dependency, neglect, or abuse, you can report the situation to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services by calling 1-877-597-2331. The Cabinet will initiate an investigation and can bring the matter before the court on an emergency basis if they find that the child is in danger. Regular, non-emergency custody matters will resume after April 24th.

### **I am a grandparent who is the primary caregiver for my grandchild. How can I make sure that my grandchild's needs are met if I become hospitalized or incapacitated due to the virus?**

- You may obtain a power of attorney to designate a person who can care for your child if you become hospitalized or incapacitated due to the virus. If you live in the Kentucky counties served by Legal Aid of the Bluegrass, you may call (859) 431-8200 to see if we may assist you.
- If you are unable to execute a power of attorney before being hospitalized or incapacitated, you may have another individual provide for your grandchild's medical or educational needs by executing the Caregiver Affidavit found [here](http://kyyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/CaregiverAffidavit_Model_10.28.14.pdf): [http://kyyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/CaregiverAffidavit\\_Model\\_10.28.14.pdf](http://kyyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/CaregiverAffidavit_Model_10.28.14.pdf) and instructions can be found at <https://kyyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Instructions.FAQformSB176.pdf>

- When you select an individual to provide care for your grandchild in the event of your hospitalization or incapacitation, make sure you:
  - Discuss daily routines, your expectations, and any special needs of the child with the selected individual beforehand;
  - Select someone who is responsible, makes good decisions, is trustworthy, and who lives near you.

**Are resources available to assist my family with obtaining enough food and other items during this pandemic?**

- Yes. For a list of general resources in the counties served by Legal Aid of the Bluegrass you may contact your local Community Action Council, or see our resource list here: <https://lablaw.org/sites/default/files/Resource%20list%20for%20LABG%20counties.pdf>.

***IF THIS DID NOT FULLY ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS. PLEASE CONTACT US BY CALLING 859-431-8200 DURING OUR LIVE HOURS MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-3:30PM OR VISIT [www.lablaw.org/apply-here](http://www.lablaw.org/apply-here) ANYTIME.***