

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

A workshop presented by the NASW NH Committee on Aging & presented by Chelsey Helmke, LICSW and Christina Shepard, BSW on June 12, 2019

OVERVIEW

This workshop covered the Commission to Study Grandfamilies, what specific regions in New Hampshire are doing to address this phenomenon, and the unique clinical challenges clinicians may face in working with grandfamilies.

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE:

- An estimated 8,000 grandparents are raising around 10,000 grandchildren
- 49% are living at twice the poverty level or below
- More than 50% are currently in the workforce
- 28% of these children were victims of abuse, abandonment or neglect by their parents
- The number of children placed with relatives between 2012-2016 rose by 10% (23-33%)

WHO IS DOING WHAT?

NH Family Caregiver Support Program provides grants up to \$2,000 per family for camps, school supplies, clothing, and other needs

Family Resource Centers www.fsnh.org

Commission to Study Grandfamilies (this commission has been approved and is awaiting appointment of a Representative). A Resource Guide for New Hampshire's Relative Caregivers was updated by the Commission in 2018 and will be ready for release in the Summer of 2019

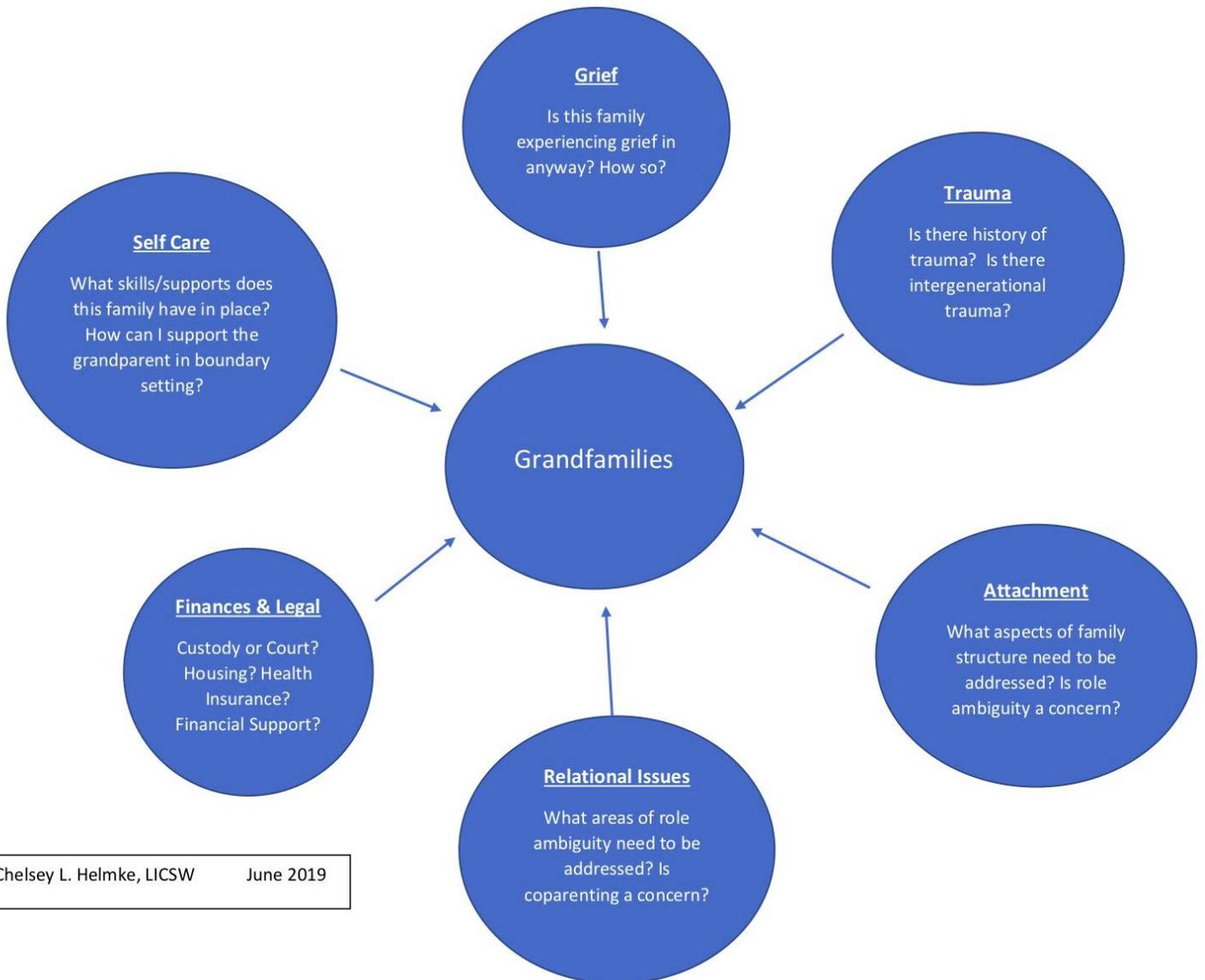
PASTA (Parenting a Second Time Around): a parenting course designed for relative caregivers who are not the biological parents of the children in their care offered at many Community Mental Health Centers and Family Resource Centers

NATIONAL RESOURCES:

Grandfamilies State Law and Policy Center compiles free and online legal resources in support of grandfamilies within and outside the child welfare system www.grandfamilies.org

Generations United's National Center on Grandfamilies works to enact policies and promote programs to help grandfamilies address challenges www.gu.org

GRANDFAMILIES ASSESSMENT TOOL



Chelsey L. Helmke, LICSW June 2019