

# Grand H.E.L.P.

## Health, Education, Legal, and Parenting Information for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

**Colorado State University**  
**Extension**

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Department of Human Development and Family Studies

### New Court Resource Available in Larimer County

**By Rikke M. Liska, Esq.**  
**Procter and Callahan, LLC**

As a local attorney in Larimer County practicing in the areas of estate planning, probate, and elder law, it is not unusual for me to hear people say they do not understand how to perform tasks at the courthouse. If you have ever had to file anything at the courthouse, you probably know that the courthouse staff is not allowed to give legal advice, a fact that is often frustrating to someone who needs limited information about forms. Larimer County will soon have a solution for those frustrations.

In September of 2013 Larimer County officially hired a "Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator" to work at the Larimer County Justice Center. An office has been built on the first floor of the Larimer County Justice Center for the "Self Help Center" where the coordinator will be stationed. The coordinator cannot provide legal advice. However, the coordinator can provide educational materials,

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### Upcoming Monthly Topics on the Resource Website

#### December

Learn how to communicate with your teenage grandchildren more effectively in our feature of intergenerational communication.

#### January

National Mentoring Month: Read about the benefits of a mentoring program.

#### February

National LGBT History Month: Read about helping your grandchildren understand and accept changing families in our society.

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Find helpful tips for grandfamilies navigating through tough legal decisions by clicking on the *Exploring Legal Options* tab  
[www.ext.colostate.edu/grg](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/grg)

Tips include appropriate courtroom behavior, issues to consider when selecting legal assistance, and glossary explaining legal terms.

**Larimer County Justice Center  
201 Laporte Ave, Fort Collins**



procedural information, explanations about the legal process and information about other legal resources and programs when necessary. The coordinator will be ready to help the public navigate the progression of legal cases and can help individuals locate the proper forms. In some cases, the coordinator can assist individuals with actually filling information into the proper forms. Currently, several counties in Colorado have Self Help Centers with coordinators who can provide similar information.

The Self Help Center officially opened as a free service to the public on December 4, 2013. Initially, hours will be Mondays and Fridays from 9:00am to 4:00pm and Wednesdays from noon to 4:00pm for walk-in appointments. The Self Help Station will be holding appointment only consultations on Thursdays.

For more information about the where to find a self help center in your area, visit the state website at <http://www.courts.state.co.us/Index.cfm>.

Grand H.E.L.P. is a supplementary newsletter to the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resource Website. Each season features articles on important topics for grandparents:

Summer: **Health**

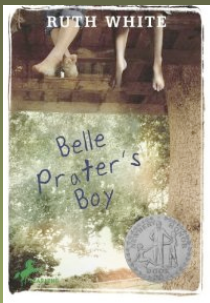
Fall: **Education**

Winter: **Legal**

Spring: **Parenting**

**Call (970) 491-6281 to find a  
Colorado State University  
Extension office  
near you!**

## Book Corner



In this book, Woodrow Prater goes to live with his grandparents after his mother disappears. Readers follow Woodrow as he finds friendship and support from his cousin Gypsy. **Belle Prater's Boy** by Ruth White is great for pre-teens and teens that can relate to the emotions, challenges, and rewards that come with being raised by grandparents instead of parents.

In this inspirational story, **Grandparents Winning Custody of Grandchildren**, Gail Gallagher tells her story of the struggles she faced to gain custody of her grandchildren. Gail also provides important how-to information that can be helpful for any grandparent experiencing challenges surrounding custody issues. Gail's courage and wisdom is a great way for grandparents to not only gain valuable information, but hope from a successful custody story as well.

