

The Erie County Kinship Caregivers Coalition Presents:

Gerard Wallace, Attorney

Director, NYS Kinship Navigator Program, NYSNavigator.org

Child Welfare and Kinship Care

Marion Hall, St. Stanislaus Church, Corner of Peckham and Fillmore, Buffalo

May 29, 2009 • 9 a.m. - Noon

Gerard Wallace is a nationally known specialist in legal issues regarding relatives caring for children. He will inform us about the latest legislation, policy and procedural issues and activity across New York State regarding kinship care. This program will be of interest to relative caregivers, social services caseworkers, family law attorneys, school social workers, developmental disability and mental health service providers, and aging services providers.

Additional presentations will be given by staff from the Erie County Department of Social Services, the Catholic Charities Kinship Caregiver program, and the Mid-Erie Grandparent Advocacy Program – all of which provide services to kinship caregivers.

Agenda

8:30 a.m. Registration and coffee

9 a.m. Brief presentations by **Kate Hacker**, Ph.D., Catholic Charities, Chairperson, Erie County Kinship Caregiver Coalition; **Dan Dropik**, Erie County Department of Social Services; **Mimi Smith**, Catholic Charities Kinship Caregiver Program; and **Dorothy Hawkins**, Grandparent Advocacy Program.

10 a.m. - Noon Presentation by **Gerard Wallace, Esq.** – questions and discussion

Brochures on services and information for Kinship Caregivers and service providers will be available. To register, please return the form below or call **Pat Mertz** at 856-4494. We have space for up to 100 people, but we need a good count of people to insure we have copies of handouts and enough coffee and food, so reserve your seat today! Questions? Call Mimi Smith at 821-1928, extension 11.

Registration Form for Presentation by Gerard Wallace: May 29, 2009

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address (for follow-up information): _____

Mail this form to: Pat Mertz, Catholic Charities, 525 Washington St., Buffalo, NY 14203