

My name is Pearl. I am with the Ohio Family Center,

and I am raising five grandchildren

and my grandchildren have school problems.

They have 504 plans and they are on medications.

But we are working very hard with the school

to make sure that everything is going smoothly.

And it is. We have no problems too much.

The school is very helpful with whatever the children need,

and that also helps the children. It also helps me.

It's a struggle. It's a very big struggle.

But through it all, we are making it.

We are going through step by step and every day it gets a little better.

And what I like to do to encourage some of the grandparents out there

because I never thought that I'll be raising grandchildren, I thought after my two were grown,

that was it.

But unfortunately, life give us something different that we don't want.

Just be encouraged to to stick with it.

You know, the kids want you to love you, or hate you, but it's OK.

But you know what you have done for them.

You know what you are doing for them.

And in the long run, when they get older.

They are appreciated.

They appreciate, you know, there are resources out here for us parents plus grandparents on websites or whatever that we can go to to get even extra help that we need.

There are other kinship care grandparents meetings that they are holding now.

And you can get involved in that and don't feel that you are alone with it because at this age you're not.

This is something new for everyone.

So I would just like to say that kind of be strong and just keep pushing on as much as you can push on.

Take a step back, take a breather and go back for.

Thank you.