

**JERRY-ANN** I think it's a wonderful time to be a preschool child in this century, because

**HARREL-SMITH:** grandparents, due to increased longevity, are going to likely be in their life for many decades. So it's not only those important formative years before school, but also throughout college that grandparents and their values, their belief in their grandchild as someone really special really can be a lifetime gift that travels across the lifespan for that child.

We see grandparent involvement here at the center right from the beginning. Often it's the grandparent that hears about our school, that has time to start the investigation, and then they will often come and visit with their grandchild and their own adult child. So sometimes when I conduct a visit, I do actually have three generations at one time, which is a pretty exciting thing to happen.

I know that about 30% of preschool children are, in fact, have primary care with their grandparents and family care. We offer two short day enrichment programs that are only 2 and 1/2 hours. So that can be a really nice supplement for family care. Then the child, often accompanied by a grandparent or another relative, has that social time with other children, but then they go home into the comfort of their family.

So I think it's a real win-win situation for both the youngest and the oldest. Grandparents talk about how special it is to be in a young child's life, and they want to see cultural values and identities going forward with that child.