

# Leveraging Grandparents' Labor: A Consideration of Contributions Within and Outside of the Family

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The Role of Family Science in Sustainable Development

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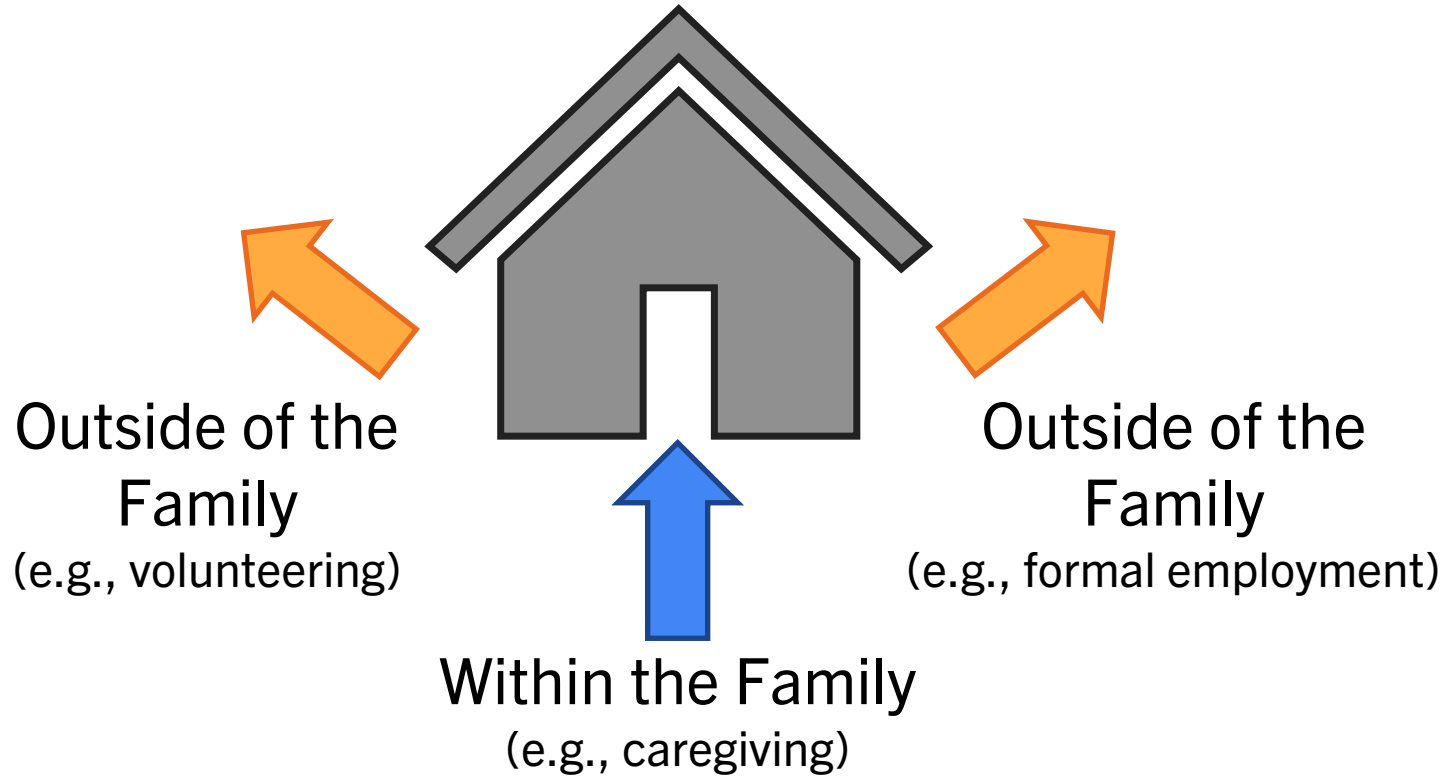
United Nations Headquarters, NYC, NY  
February 9, 2023



Intergenerational relationships are  
“a **valuable new resource** for families  
in the 21st century.”

(Bengtson, 2001)

# Grandparent Labor



# Factors Influencing Grandparent Labor



Residential



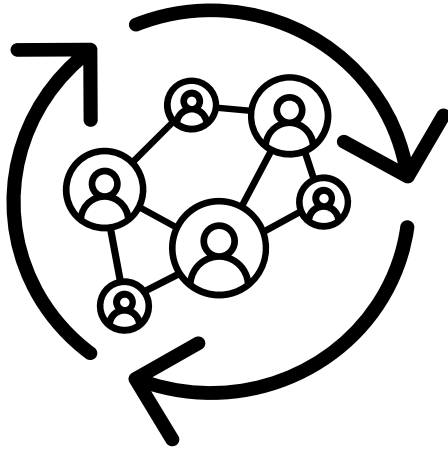
Geographically  
Proximate



Geographically  
Distant

**How do we determine what  
grandparents need to  
reach their full potential?**

# Applying a Family Science Lens



Relational Role

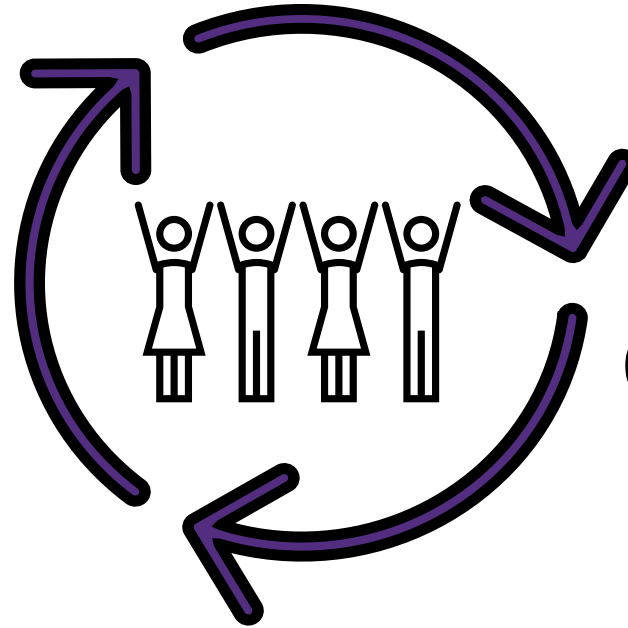
# Applying a Family Science Lens



Balancing Across Systems Within and Outside  
of the Family Improves Health & Well-Being

Healthy Families

Healthy  
Family  
Members



Healthy  
Communities

Healthy Societies



Considering the **family system** and the **intergenerational relationships** within in allows for a more **holistic, integrative** view for improving practices and policies related to grandparents and their labor contributions.

# Considerations Moving Forward

How is grandparent labor is recognized and rewarded in your nation?

# Recommendations

1

Opportunities to continue formal labor participation as desired

2

Flexibility in formal employment to accommodate family obligations

3

Compensation for informal labor within the family  
(e.g., financial support, education, etc.)