

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 352 136

PS 020 907

TITLE Adopt-a-Grandchild Program: Volunteer Handbook.
 INSTITUTION Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services, Inc., Clearwater, FL.
 PUB DATE Oct 91
 NOTE 21p.
 PUB TYPE Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
 DESCRIPTORS *At Risk Persons; *Children; Child Welfare; Community Influence; *Grandparents; *Intergenerational Programs; *Older Adults; Program Descriptions; Recreational Activities; Volunteers; *Volunteer Training

IDENTIFIERS *Adopt a Grandchild Program FL; Adult Child Relationship

ABSTRACT

Developed by the Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service, this handbook describes the Adopt-a-Grandchild Program, which matches older volunteers with children in need of adult guidance. The handbook is divided into the following sections: (1) program description; (2) guidelines for professional volunteers; (3) a job description for volunteers; (4) documentation of volunteer hours; (5) samples of blank and completed receipt voucher forms; (6) training and confidentiality guidelines; (7) safety restraints and seat belt laws, including a selection from Florida Statutes; (8) commonly asked questions and answers concerning the program; and (9) a list of addresses and phone numbers of museums, parks, and skating rinks in the Gulf Coast area. (MM)

 * Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
 * from the original document. *

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
 Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

ED352136

ADOPT · A · GRANDCHILD PROGRAM

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS
MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

H. Sheila
Lopez

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service, Inc.

OCTOBER 1991



Volunteer Handbook

PS 020907

HANDBOOK INDEX

Welcome Letter

Program Description

Guidelines

Job Description

Documentation of Volunteer Hours

Example and Receipt Voucher Form

Training and Confidentiality

Safety Restraints and Seat Belt Laws Letter

1986 Supplement to Florida Statutes 1985

Commonly Asked Questions and Answers

Things To Do



GULF COAST JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE, INC.

SERVING PASCO, PINELLAS AND HILLSBOROUGH COUNTIES

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: 11401-A BELCHER ROAD SOUTH, LARGO, FLORIDA 34643 - PHONE 813/541-7441
HARRY GREEN, HACIENDA HOME: 5621 MAIN STREET, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA 34652 - 813/841-4155
BRANCH OFFICE: 11701 BELCHER ROAD SOUTH, SUITE 130, LARGO, FLORIDA 34643 - PHONE 813/530-5017
BRANCH OFFICE: 5313 LOCUST PLACE, NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA 34652 - 813/848-5174
BRANCH OFFICE: 1721 RAINBOW DRIVE, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 34615 - PHONE 813/446-1005
BRANCH OFFICE: 7421 114th AVENUE NORTH #201, LARGO, FLORIDA 34643 - 813/545-2880
BRANCH OFFICE: 612 MERIDIAN, DADE CITY, FLORIDA 34297
BRANCH OFFICE: 1044 WEST HILLSBOROUGH AVENUE, TAMPA, FLORIDA 33603 - 813/238-4019

OFFICERS

JACQUELINE JACOBS, PRESIDENT
DAVID BERNSTEIN, M.D., VICE PRESIDENT
HAROLD RIVKIND, Ed.D., VICE PRESIDENT
FLORENCE FAYER, SECRETARY
DAVID BOWMAN, TREASURER

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

JAMES B. SOBLE, ESQUIRE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LEONARD APTER
LOUIS BELINSON, M.D.
GERALD COLEN, ESQ.
SUSAN DINER
RUTH DIKMAN
MARJORIE ESKENAS
MICHAEL FRYE
ELLEN GLASSMAN
STANLEY IGEL
WILLIAM ISRAEL
JACK JENKINS
ANNE KAHANA
MORRIS KAHANA
SOPHIE GLASGOW-KINGSON
JENNY KLEINFELD
JOSEPH KREPLICK, M.D.
MYRON MENSCH, ESQ.
SIDNEY MITCHELL
TODD PRESSMAN
STEVEN RAYMUND
SEYMOUR RIPPES
BRENT SEMBLER
JAN SHER
FRIEDA SOHDN
JAMES WALKER, JR.
OTTO WEITZENKORN
EMORY WRIGHT

PAST PRESIDENT

HARRY GREEN
MURRAY M. JACOBS, PRESIDENT EMERITUS
JACK LEVY
EDWARD ROGALL
ALLEN SAMUELS
ROLAND FOX
STANLEY HUNTER

MICHAEL A. BERNSTEIN, A.C.S.W.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Volunteers,

On behalf of Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service, Inc., I would like to thank you for volunteering your time to become an adoptive grandparent and to welcome you to our program.

Our goal is not only that the child benefit from this relationship but that you find great rewards in donating your time as an advocate for a child.

We have developed this handbook to answer some of the most common questions asked in the years we have been operating this program. Please remember the staff is here to support you in your work with your child. Feel free to call at any time with questions or concerns.

Again, welcome and thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Andrea S. Whidden
Director

Intergenerational Programming

ASW/jsb



Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service, Inc., is a Beneficiary Agency of Jewish Federation of Pinellas County, Inc. Funding also received from "Action," Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Florida Department of Health & Rehabilitative Services, United Way of Pasco County, United Way of Pinellas County, County of Pinellas County, County of Pasco County, City of St. Petersburg, Religious Community Services, Mott Foundation, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council—Area Agency on Aging.

Member of National Conference of Jewish Communal Service and Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services, National Rehabilitation Association, Florida Council for Community Mental Health.



ADOPT-A-GRANDCHILD PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Adopt-A-Grandchild is the name of a program matching older volunteers with children in need of adult stimulation. Since 1980 the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County has been the principle support in conjunction with Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service, Inc. in providing this special service to area children.

Children matched are typically from low income, single parent families. The children very often have behavioral problems, poor school performance and low self-esteem. Through additional adult support, each child is guided and motivated to reach certain short and long range goals, established in conjunction with the program staff and parent(s).

Additionally, very young children are also accepted into the program to target their need for positive adult support and thus prevent the developmental neglect that causes behavioral and learning problems in them.

Referrals to the program come from a variety of sources. Typically they include Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS), County Social Services, the Pinellas County School System and other community agencies. Many referrals come from friends acquainted with the program. Frequent media coverage assures that the community is aware of this valuable service.

After initial contact is made with the program staff, potential matches are accessed for eligibility, suitability and acceptance by parent or guardian and child. The program staff then proceeds to find an appropriate senior volunteer for the child.

When a match is made, the volunteer and child are made aware of particular goals and expectations. Adult and child usually spend a few hours each week engaged in any number of assorted activities - usually of a social nature. The Adopt-A-Grandchild program staff make regular contact with volunteer and child to assure that the match is going well. Regular evaluations by Adopt-A-Grandchild staff assure that client and program goals/objectives are adhered to and that the service rendered is qualified.

Supportive service is also available to children and members of their family. Individual and family counseling is possible. Further, each school-aged child is administered the Piers-Harris Self Concept Test to obtain further data that enables program staff to access progress.

GUIDELINES FOR PROFESSIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Our goal is to enable each child an opportunity to have a meaningful relationship with older adults. Establishing a trusting relationship between you and your child is the primary goal of Adopt-A-Grandchild. All other goals are obtainable only after a solid friendship has been created.

1. Please be consistent, timely and dependable. Avoid making promises you are not able to keep.
2. In the beginning of the match, establish a schedule of seeing your child at least once a week for 2-4 hours. If you later decide you have more time, contact the project director/caseworker and family directly to discuss what can be arranged to increase visitation hours. It is best to begin with minimum visitation than by starting with frequent visits and needing to decrease them, which could disappoint your child.
3. Call your child in advance of the visit to assure parental/guardian approval. Have them home at the agreed time. If you cannot do this, notify the parent/guardian and inform them of any time change.
4. Ask your child to share in making decisions about your activities. He/she will appreciate the opportunity to help as it allows him/her to feel important and needed.
5. Remember any goals established for your child, and make working on them fun. The most important goal is to be their friend!
6. Be supportive of the parent or guardian whenever possible. Your role is not to replace a grandparent or become a substitute for the parent or guardian. Encourage your child to follow family or house rules. Make an effort to get to know your child's parent or guardian, however, the principal relationship is between you and your child.
7. Establish limits and norms of proper conduct for your child. He/she will feel more comfortable if he/she knows exactly where you stand and what your values are. Remember never be physically or verbally abusive in an attempt to reprimand.

GUIDELINES CONTINUED.....

PAGE TWO

8. Feel free to say no to any unreasonable requests: e.g. parent/guardian asks you to provide transportation for family member; child asks you to spend money on him/her. If this occurs, contact this office.
9. Regular contact with the caseworker is necessary. Please respond to phone calls or letters received from this office. If you have any questions or problems, call us. Please don't wait for us to contact you. Our telephone number is 446-1005.
10. Relax, be yourself, and most importantly, have fun and enjoy your child.

JOB DESCRIPTION - ADOPT-A-GRANDCHILD PROGRAM

PROFESSIONAL VOLUNTEER

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Serve as a friend, coach and listener.
2. Provide a loving non-threatening supportive role model.
3. Meet a minimum of 2-4 hours a week with youth.
4. Work on individual goals.
5. Provide support and direction on school-related goals.
6. Participate in group and individual activities.
7. Participate in staffings to monitor progress.
8. Advocate for at-risk children and families.
9. Complete project forms.
10. Participate in evaluation efforts.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Age 55 or older or a natural grandparent.
2. A desire to work with and be accessible to youth.
3. Warmth, openness and patience.
4. Willingness to listen.
5. Ability to set limits and respond to supervision.
6. Ability to travel to and from site of activities.

COMPENSATION:

1. Giving and sharing your lifetimes of experience.
2. Complementary attendance to select community cultural, sport and events.
3. Greater awareness of the needs of today's youth through agency training and field experience.
4. Meet with other volunteers involved in the program and share experiences.
5. Knowing that you made a difference in a child's life.

Volunteer Signature

Date

DOCUMENTATION OF VOLUNTEER HOURS

The time that you spend with your assigned child(ren) is very important to the Adopt-A-Grandchild Program. Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service, Inc. receives funding for the Adopt-A-Grandchild Program from the Juvenile Welfare Board. The Juvenile Welfare Board uses the figures you send us to assess the success and impact of the program and to determine if the program should continue to receive funding. It is estimated that volunteers last year donated over 8,500 total hours of service.

The Juvenile Welfare Board is allowing the Adopt-A-Grandchild Program to count volunteer hours as long as we can document actual time spent with the children, hence the Receipt Voucher form. We will be sending a new form out to you every three months along with an envelope to send it back to us. A hasty return at the end of the quarter would be a big help to our bookkeepers. There is an example form included to help you fill out the form. The different categories for description of services include:

1. 1:1 - This is the actual time you spend with the child(ren) including travel time needed to pick up and drop off the child. If the child spends the night, only count the waking hours the child is with you.
2. Telephone - This is time spent on the telephone talking to the child or parents. In this category report only calls 15 minutes or longer and in 15 minute increments. An example would be if your child or parent called you or your contacted them and they wanted to discuss a problem.
3. Indirect - This is when you do something for the program which doesn't involve your child.

If you have any questions, please call your caseworker.

Thank you for your cooperation.

GULF COAST JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES, INC.

RECEIPT VOUCHER
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Voucher #

VOLUNTEERS NAME: JOHN DOE
 ADDRESS: 1 Main Street
 CITY: St. Petersburg
 STATE: Fl. ZIP: 33711

SAMPLE

NAME OF PROJECT: ADOPT-A-GRANDCHILD PROGRAM

MONTHS REPORTED: APRIL/MAY/JUNE

DATE OF SERVICE	SERVICE HOURS	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES
<u>4-1-89</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>4-7-89</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
<u>4-8-89</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>4-15-89</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>4-29-89</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>5-6-89</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>5-12-89</u>	<u>.5</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
<u>5-20-89</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>5-27-89</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>6-10-89</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>6-17-89</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1:1</u>
<u>6-24-89</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1:1</u>

Total Hours 39.5

Description of Services

1:1 - Actual time spent with child, travel time including pick up and dropping child off.

Telephone - Time spent on the phone with child/parent. Report calls 15 minutes or longer in 15 minute increments.

Indirect - Involvement in program that does not involve your grandchild.

VOLUNTEER SIGNATURE

AUTHORIZED PROJECT SIGNATURE

**Additional dates/service hours, use back of page.

GULF COAST JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES, INC.

RECEIPT VOUCHER
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Voucher # _____

VOLUNTEERS NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

NAME OF PROJECT: ADOPT--A--GRANDCHILD PROGRAM
MONTHS REPORTED: _____

DATE OF SERVICE	SERVICE HOURS	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Total Hours _____

Description of Services

- 1:1 - Actual time spent with child, travel time including pick up and dropping child off.
- Telephone - Time spent on the phone with child/parent. Report calls 15 minutes or longer in 15 minute increments.
- Indirect - Involvement in program that does not involve your grandchild.

VOLUNTEER SIGNATURE _____

AUTHORIZED PROJECT SIGNATURE _____

**Additional dates/service hours, use back of page.

TRAINING

The program provides quarterly trainings to all Adopt-A-Grandchild volunteers. The sessions are held at varying times and days of the week. Notice of the training is sent out in advance. All volunteers are encouraged to attend. Program staff welcome suggestions on topics, meeting dates, times and locations.

CONFIDENTIALITY

You must maintain confidentiality. You are required by law to respect and maintain confidentiality in regards to all personal information obtained regarding your child and family. During your association with the Adopt-A-Grandchild Program, you will have access to confidential and sensitive information regarding your child and family. It is very important that this information is not shared with persons outside the program. A misspoken word could cause embarrassment and humiliation to your family. This does not mean you cannot share your child's accomplishments. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact your child's caseworker.

SAFETY RESTRAINTS AND SEAT BELT LAWS

The following is a copy of the law as it is written pertaining to seat belts and child safety restraints in the 1986 Supplement to Florida Statutes 1985.

It states, that children through the age of three years must be transported in a "crash-tested, federally approved carrier". Children "4 years through 5 years" must be in either a separate carrier or a seat belt.

Any child riding in the front seat of a vehicle must wear a seat belt.

It is recommended that anyone riding in a car wear a seat belt when the vehicle is in motion.

If you are matched with a young child and do not have access to a car seat, please contact program staff.

of the vehicle in such manner as to prevent the plates from swinging, with all letters, numerals, printing, writing, and other identification marks upon the plates clear and distinct and free from defacement, mutilation, grease, and other obscuring matter, so that they will be plainly visible and legible at all times 100 feet from the rear or front. Nothing shall be placed upon the face of a Florida plate except as permitted by law or by rule or regulation of a governmental agency. No license plates other than those furnished by the state shall be used. However, if the vehicle is not required to be licensed in this state, the license plates on such vehicle issued by another state, by a territory, possession, or district of the United States, or by a foreign country, substantially complying with the provisions hereof, shall be considered as complying with this chapter.

(2) Any commercial motor vehicle, as defined in s. 316.003(67), operating over the highways of this state with an expired registration, with no registration from this or any other jurisdiction, or with no registration under the applicable provisions of chapter 320 shall be in violation of s. 320.07(3) and shall subject the owner or operator of such vehicle to the penalty provided in s. 318.18. In addition, a commercial motor vehicle found in violation of this section may be detained by any law enforcement officer until the owner or operator produces evidence that the vehicle has been properly registered and that any applicable delinquent penalties have been paid:

History.—s. 1, ch. 71-135; s. 1, ch. 76-51; s. 1, ch. 78-55; s. 6, ch. 84-260; s. 50, ch. 05-100; s. 10, ch. 06-243.
Note.—Former s. 316.204.

316.6105 Violations involving operation of motor vehicle in unsafe condition or without required equipment; procedure for disposition.—

(1) In the event that a law enforcement officer issues a traffic citation for the operation of a motor vehicle which is in an unsafe condition or which is not properly equipped as required pursuant to s. 316.610, the law enforcement officer shall also issue an affidavit-of-compliance form.

(2) The person to whom the citation has been issued may mitigate the civil penalty by making the necessary repair and presenting the vehicle to any local police department or sheriff's department in this state for inspection within 10 days from the issuance of the citation.

(3) The police or sheriff's department shall make available a person or persons to confirm that the defect has been corrected. If the correction has been made, such employee shall complete the affidavit-of-compliance form in a manner established by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and return it to the person who received the citation. The affidavit of compliance shall not be construed by the courts as a warranty of the mechanical condition of the motor vehicle. Neither the person who confirms that a defect has been corrected nor the department by which he is employed shall be liable in damages for any defect, failure, or improper functioning of any item of equipment on such motor vehicle.

(4) The person to whom the citation was issued shall mail or present the traffic citation and the affidavit-of-compliance form to the clerk of the court where the traf-

fic citation was issued and shall thereupon pay the appropriate fine.

(5) In the event that the person to whom the traffic citation has been issued chooses not to correct the defect, the procedure for the collection of the fine and any other penalties shall proceed as provided by law.

(6) This section does not apply to commercial motor vehicles as defined in s. 316.003(67) or transit buses owned or operated by a governmental entity.

History.—s. 5, ch. 06-260.

* **316.613 Child restraint requirements.—**

(1)(a) Every operator of a motor vehicle as defined herein, while transporting a child in a passenger car, van, or pickup truck operated on the roadways, streets, or highways of this state, shall, if the child is 5 years of age or younger, provide for protection of the child by properly using a crash-tested, federally approved child restraint device. For children aged through 3 years, such restraint device must be a separate carrier. For children aged 4 through 5 years, a separate carrier or a seat belt may be used.

(b) The Division of Motor Vehicles shall provide notice of the requirement for child restraint devices, which notice shall accompany the delivery of each motor vehicle license tag.

(2) The failure to provide and use a child passenger restraint shall not be considered comparative negligence, nor shall such failure be admissible as evidence in the trial of any civil action with regard to negligence.

(3) It is the legislative intent that all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies, and safety councils, in recognition of the problems with child death and injury from unrestrained occupancy in motor vehicles, conduct a continuing safety and public awareness campaign as to the magnitude of the problem.

History.—s. 1, ch. 02-50; s. 1, ch. 06-49.

* **316.614 Safety belt usage.—**

(1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Safety Belt Law."

(2) It is the policy of this state that enactment of this section is intended to be compatible with the continued support by the state for federal safety standards requiring automatic crash protection, and the enactment of this section should not be used in any manner to rescind or delay the implementation of the federal automatic crash protection system requirements of Federal Motor Safety Standard 208 as set forth in S4.1.2.1 thereof, as entered on July 17, 1984, for new cars.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined in s. 316.003 that is operated on the roadways, streets, and highways of this state. The term does not include:

1. A school bus.

2. A bus used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

3. A farm tractor or implement of husbandry.

4. A truck of a net weight of more than 5,000 pounds.

5. A motorcycle, moped, or bicycle.

(b) "Safety belt" means a seat belt assembly that meets the requirements established under Federal Mo-

lor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208, 49 C.F.R. s. 571.208.

(c) "Restrained by a safety belt" means being restricted by an appropriately adjusted safety belt which is properly fastened at all times when a motor vehicle is in motion.

(4) It is unlawful for any person:

(a) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless each front seat passenger of the vehicle under the age of 16 years is restrained by a safety belt or by a child restraint device pursuant to s. 316.613, if applicable; or

(b) To operate a motor vehicle in this state unless the person is restrained by a safety belt.

(5) It is unlawful for any person 16 years of age or older to be a passenger in the front seat of a motor vehicle unless such person is restrained by a safety belt when the vehicle is in motion.

(6)(a) Neither a person who is certified by a physician as having a medical condition that causes the use of a safety belt to be inappropriate or dangerous nor an employee of a newspaper home delivery service while in the course of his employment delivering newspapers on home delivery routes is required to be restrained by a safety belt.

(b) The number of front seat passengers of a pick-up truck required to wear a safety belt pursuant to this section shall not exceed the number of safety belts which were installed in the front seat of such pick-up truck by the manufacturer.

(7)(a) After January 1, 1987, any person who violates subsection (4) or subsection (5) shall be fined \$20, including court costs, for each separate offense.

(b) For the purposes of informing and educating persons who are affected by the provisions of this act, any officer as defined in s. 318.13(5) may, during the period of July 1, 1986, through December 31, 1986, temporarily stop and detain motor vehicles for the purpose of issuing verbal warnings to persons who may be in violation of this section.

(8) It is the intent of the Legislature that all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies, safety councils, and public school systems, in recognition of the fatalities and injuries attributed to unrestrained occupancy of motor vehicles, shall conduct a continuing safety and public awareness campaign as to the magnitude of the problem and adopt programs designed to encourage compliance with the safety belt usage requirements of this section.

(9) Enforcement of this section by state or local law enforcement agencies shall be accomplished only as a secondary action when a driver of a motor vehicle has been detained for a suspected violation of another section of this chapter, chapter 320, or chapter 322.

(10) A violation of the provisions of this section shall not constitute negligence per se, nor shall such violation be used as prima facie evidence of negligence in any civil action.

History.—s. 2, ch. 86-49.

316.615 Inspection of school buses; physical requirements of drivers.—

(1)(a) All motor vehicles, other than private passenger automobiles and school buses with a seating capacity

of less than 24 pupils, which are used primarily for the transportation of pupils to school, but which are not operated by or under the purview of the state or a political subdivision thereof or under a franchise issued by a municipality or the Public Service Commission, shall comply with the requirements for school buses of chapter 234.

(b) For the purposes of this section the term "school" includes all public and private nursery, preelementary, elementary, secondary, and college level schools.

(2)(a) Every bus with a seating capacity of less than 24 pupils shall be equipped with the following:

1. Nonleaking exhaust system;
2. First-aid kit;
3. Fire extinguisher;
4. Unbroken safety glass on all windows;
5. Inside rear view mirror capable of giving the driver a clear view of motor vehicles approaching from the rear; and
6. Seats securely anchored.

(b) Such vehicles shall be covered by liability insurance to protect pupils being transported.

(c) Such vehicles shall transport no more passengers than they are equipped to seat.

(3)(a) No person shall operate or cause to be operated a motor vehicle covered by subsection (1) unless the operator has met the physical examination requirements established by law and by rule adopted by the State Board of Education.

(b) Every school bus driver shall pass an annual physical examination and have posted in the bus a certificate to drive same.

(4) All school buses and all motor vehicles covered by subsection (1) shall be inspected annually by the department and, when found satisfactory for safe operation, shall display on the vehicle a current certificate of inspection. The department is authorized to conduct a pilot program utilizing qualified private contractors selected in accordance with chapter 287 for inspections required for nonpublic school buses by this subsection.

(5) Nonpublic school buses shall be allowed to deliver and pick up students either in the same areas as public school buses or in other areas adjacent to the public school bus delivery and pick-up zones, as determined by the appropriate government entities.

(6) The department shall promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary to effect the purposes of this section.

History.—s. 1, ch. 71-135; s. 1, ch. 76-31; s. 20, ch. 83-215; s. 9, ch. 86-146, s. 13, ch. 86-173.

Note.—Former s. 316.208.
cl.—s. 234.091 School bus driver; qualifications.

316.646 Security required; proof of security and display thereof; dismissal of cases.—

(1) Any person required by s. 627.733 to maintain personal injury protection security on a motor vehicle shall have in his immediate possession at all times while operating such motor vehicle proper proof of maintenance of the security required by s. 627.733. Such proof shall be either a uniform proof-of-insurance card in a form prescribed by the department, a valid insurance policy, an insurance policy binder, a certificate of insur-

MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is the major contribution that I can make to this program.

To form a close, meaningful and supportive relationship with your child.

2. What kind of activities should I engage in?

Do those things which are of interest to both you and the child. Depending on the age and interests of the child, the activities could consist of any or all of the following: go to the park or the beach, go to the movies, take them shopping, help them with homework, take them fishing or take them to your home for a few hours of companionship. (Also see "Things To Do").

3. How much time should I spend with them?

We ask that you try and spend a minimum of 2-4 hours each week. However, you can spend as much time as you and the child's parent agree on. Our best advise is to begin a match with short visits to give the child an opportunity to get to know you. After your friendship develops, you can lengthen the visit to include overnight stays, weekend visits, or any other period of time that is acceptable to you and the parent.

4. What if the parent asks me to take the child when I am busy?

In order to make this program work successfully, both you and the parent must agree on both the amount of time and the specific time to be spent with the child. Therefore, you should feel free to tell the parent you are busy or it is otherwise inconvenient for you.

5. What if I feel like I am being used solely as a babysitter?

Should this occur, we feel it best that you call your caseworker and permit her to act as an intermediary between yourself and the child's parent. We will discuss the matter with you and then discuss your concerns with the child's parent to help him/her realize that your purpose in this program is to provide guidance and companionship by spending "quality" time with their child.

MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONTINUED

PAGE TWO

6. What if I suspect the child is being abused?

If you should suspect the child is being abused, please report your suspicions to your caseworker immediately. Every citizen has a moral responsibility and obligation to report suspected abuse to the HRS Abuse Hotline (1-800-96-ABUSE). These calls are totally confidential and can also be made anonymous.

7. Can the times of my visit with the child vary or should they be same every week?

Your times to visit depend entirely upon your schedule and can vary to suit your particular situation.

8. Are there any required reporting procedures?

We do ask you to fill out a brief, simple form which documents the time spent with your child. These forms cover a quarterly period and will be sent to you every three months. The forms are a brief compilation of hours and the days spent with your child. An example of this form is included in this booklet.

9. What purpose is served by this form?

Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service, Inc. receives funding for the Adopt-A-Grandchild Program from the Juvenile Welfare Board. The Juvenile Welfare Board uses the figures you send us to assess the success and impact of the program and to determine if the program should continue to receive funding.

10. What if I fail to return this form?

This is a volunteer program and we can do no more than ask for your cooperation. Should you forget to send in this form, a secretary from our office will contact you just as a reminder.

11. Are there any goals which I need to be aware of when seeing my child?

MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONTINUED

PAGE THREE

11. Answer:

The caseworker and the parent develop an initial work plan which consists of both short term and long term goals for the child. This plan is reviewed every six months and updated. We welcome and encourage input on goal development from volunteers. The caseworker discusses these goals with the volunteer, and it is hoped that with the volunteer's help, these goals will be realized.

12. What do I do if I am unable to establish a meaningful relationship with the child?

We ask that you call our office and give your caseworker an opportunity to work with you and the child and the child's parents to see if we can improve the relationship. However, since this is entirely a voluntary effort on your part, the decision as to whether the relationship should be sustained is entirely yours. Should you desire, we will make every effort to match you with another child.

13. Can I pick up a child directly from school or a day care program?

We have no objection to this but you will have to get prior permission in writing from the parent and file it in the school or day care center before you attempt to pick up a child directly.

14. If an emergency occurs and I am unable to reach the child's parents, what should I do?

Whenever you pick up the child, you should determine from the parent where he/she will be during the period you plan to be with the child. Obtain all appropriate phone numbers so you can reach the parent. In addition, we suggest you obtain the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two close relatives, neighbors and/or friends whom the parent designates you to call in case of an emergency. Of course, it is essential that you maintain and keep the parent's home and work telephone numbers and addresses readily available. In case of an extreme emergency, the child should, of course, be taken to the nearest hospital, and let the hospital attempt to contact the parent to get permission for any necessary procedures.

MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONTINUED

PAGE FOUR

15. What do I do if the child acts cold or appears to lack affection for me?

We ask you to please understand that these are children. One of the purposes of this program is to help these children relate to adults and to learn to become affectionate with adults. Depending upon the child, this may take a longer period than you would like. In most cases, we have found that given sufficient time and genuine interest from the volunteer, a meaningful relationship will develop. In those cases where this does not come about, you should discuss this with your caseworker and, if appropriate, a new match will be tried.

"THINGS TO DO"

MUSEUMS

Great Explorations 1120 4th Street South	821-8885
Haas Museum of St. Petersburg Historical Society 3511 2nd Avenue South	327-1437
Museum of Fine Arts 255 Beach Drive N.E.	896-2667
Salvator Dali Museum 1000 3rd Street South	823-3767
London Wax Museum	Opens 1991
St. Petersburg Historical Society Museum 335 2nd Avenue N.E.	894-1052
Heritage Park 11909 125th Street North Largo	462-3474

PARKS

Boyd Hill Nature Center 1101 Country Club Way South	893-7326
Fort DeSoto Park/Fishing Pier Tierra Verde	866-2662
Northshore Park & Pool 901 North Shore Drive N.E.	893-7727
Lowry Park Rides & Zoo Tampa	932-0245 (Information)
Busch Gardens Tampa	987-5082 (Information)

SKATING RINKS

Rainbow Roller Land 2005 Ulmerton Road S.E. Largo	585-5987
Southland Roller Palace 10001 66th Street North Pinellas Park	546-0018

SKATING RINKS CONTINUED

Sun Blades Ice Skating 536-5843
Rubin Icot Center
13940 Icot Blvd.
Clearwater

"Behind the Scenes" (back stage) 791-7060
Ruth Eckerd Hall Tours
1111 McMullen Booth Road North
Clearwater

Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary 391-6211
18328 Gulf Blvd.
Redington Shores