

Protect Yourself - Grandparent Scams

The Community Foundation's Preventing Financial Scams Initiative protects our community. Here are some tips on grandparent scams:

Red Flags:

- You get a call from someone who claims to be your grandchild, perhaps your favorite grandchild, but they do not share their name.
- The caller asks for secrecy: "Don't tell Mom and Dad. Let's keep this a secret."
- The caller might cry to hide their voice. They plea that they need help right away – they might be in jail or got in a car accident or ran into trouble on a trip.
- The caller asks you to wire money, send a gift card, or a pre-paid reloadable card.

What to Do:

- Call your grandchild at a phone number you already have or contact them through email or social media.
- Verify with your grandchild if they actually called you.
- Ask family members if they have heard from your grandchild. Get a second opinion on the situation.

Reporting:

- If you have sent money, contact your financial institution immediately.
- If you suspect fraud, file a complaint with the Nevada Attorney General at http://ag.nv.gov/Complaints/File_Complaint/ or by calling 888-434-9989.
- You can also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by calling their Consumer Response Center at (1-877-382-4357) or visit <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/>.

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