



Sharon Morton
Executive Director,
Grandparents for Social Action

- Grandmother of 5 grandchildren, ages 8-19 years.
- Founder of *Grandparents for Social Action and Social Action Resource Center and Network.*
- *Participated in social action trips to Poland, Israel, Cuba, and Russia.*
- *Served on boards of Avenue of Righteous, American Jewish Committee Interfaith Education, and National Commission on Social Action.*
- *Worked for 32 years as Director of Religious Education with a specialty in social action work*

Testimonials

“Sharon Morton is a most motivating speaker. She inspires every group to whom she speaks with her words and her ideas.”

-Harold, Illinois

“I am grateful to Sharon Morton for suggesting that I get involved in GSA. As a result of ongoing conversations with my grandchildren, the three of us continue to work together to collect books for a local children’s hospital. To date, my grandchildren have donated more than 10,000 books.”

-Ilene, New Jersey

“*Grandparents for Social Action* provides a common goal and purpose for my grandson and his Bubbe. We strive together to make the world a better place and both are creating common memories that will last a lifetime.”

-Jodi, Illinois



Grandparents for Social Action

Mission:

Educating and engaging seniors to do social action;
Empowering grandchildren to improve our world;
Creating a legacy from one generation to another.

To advance the mission of Grandparents for Social Action, the organization is focused on several critical elements:

- Establishing philanthropy funds so our children learn to be lifelong philanthropists.
- Writing social action life histories to share our hopes and dreams to our grandchildren and for the world, and creating legacies for our families.
- Emphasizing that individual people can transform lives, solve problems and change the world.
- Discussing the social action messages in literature that we can teach to our grandchildren
- Developing activities and programs that will create lifelong memories and goals for grandchildren.
- Distributing a free monthly e-newsletter with ideas and opportunities for intergenerational social action.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

www.grandparentsforsocialaction.org

and sign up for our FREE monthly e-Newsletter!

What concepts can Sharon Morton highlight in her presentation to your organization or group?

Sharon Morton has spoken successfully to large and small audiences about the following topics:

- seven basic rules for successful grandparenting and parenting
- practicing social action in your home, your school, your community
- legacy we received and want to pass down to our children and grandchildren
- the power of “one”: how one person can change the world
- the cornerstones of social action: philanthropy, service and kindness
- random acts of kindness and obligations of each person
- transforming the world, one action at a time
- seven guideposts to a successful life
- social action activities for grandparents and grandchild to do together



What kind of social action activities can grandparents and grandchildren do together?

Young Grandchildren with Grandparents

- Call weekly (even daily!) to discuss and share what you've done
- Shabbat Service Club - get together once a month, have challah and juice together, and make something to give to the needy (food baskets, flower pots, stuffed animals, etc.)
- Do grocery shopping or cooking for an elderly or sick neighbor
- Share your stories! Story time can be a great time for instilling philanthropic values!



Middle Grade Grandchildren with Grandparents

- Visit a shelter
- Visit a nursing home, and develop a relationship with someone who lives there
- Take seniors or children to concerts, a botanic garden, the zoo — a ball game!
- Set up a regular volunteer time to help with a local social action group or charity
- Shovel snow for senior citizens



Older Children with Grandparents

- Help out at an animal shelter
- Make books on tape for a children's hospital
- Sing/recite prayer for healing for someone in the hospital and bring them a teddy bear or a pretty blanket
- Make a contribution to a “charity of the month” in honor of Grandparents or Grandchildren — or do it together in honor of Mom & Dad!

Long-Distance Grandparents and Grandchildren

- Send “gifts of giving” once a month and share what you've done. (See examples of "gifts of giving" by visiting heifer.org.)
- E-mail “Kindness Act” of the week. Send letters to others asking them to join.
- Have an annual “helping others” visit/trip together. Is there a cause you'd like to march for together?
- Adopt a child long-distance in another country