



National Caregiving Fact

In 2009, about 42.1 million family caregivers in the United States provided care to an adult with limitations in daily activities at any given point in time, and about 61.6 million provided care at some time during the year. The estimated economic value of their unpaid contributions was approximately \$450 billion in 2009, up from an estimated \$375 billion in 2007. This amount (\$450 billion) is more than total Medicaid spending in 2009, including both federal and state contributions for both health care and long-term services and supports (\$361 billion), and as much as the total sales of the world's largest companies, including Wal-Mart (\$408 billion in 2009, the most of any company) and the three largest publicly held auto companies combined (Toyota, Ford, Daimler: total \$439 billion). Including caregiving for children with special needs in the total would add 4 to 8 million additional caregivers and another \$50 to \$100 billion to the economic value of family caregiving (Lynn Feinberg, Susan C. Reinhard, Ari Houser, and Rita Choula, *Valuing the Invaluable: 2011 Update The Growing Contributions and Costs of Family Caregiving*, AARP Public Policy Institute, 2011).

Respite (RESS' – pit)

Respite is simply a way of giving a temporary or short-term break to caregivers.

Arkansas Lifespan Respite Coalition

For More Information

Phone: 1-866-801-3435



Arkansas Lifespan Respite Coalition (ALRC)

Goal

To improve the awareness and access of respite information and services available to families across age and disability spectrums by expanding and coordinating existing respite systems in Arkansas.

Mission

To support and promote the development of a comprehensive, statewide respite and crisis care system that is responsive to the needs of caregivers and their families, and enhances the quality of life for all individuals.



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