



**Toolkit: Lifespan Respite "101"**  
**Comparative Summary Table:**  
**Characteristics of Original State Lifespan Respite Programs**  
**As Best Practices<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Oregon<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>Oklahoma</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>
<b>Lead Agency</b>	<p><b>State agency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) charged by state law to develop statewide respite coordination.</li> </ul>	<p><b>State Agency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nebraska Lifespan Respite Program Network created by legislation in 1999</li> <li>• Implemented by Nebraska Department of Health &amp; Human Services (DHHS)</li> </ul>	<p><b>State Agency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single state entity, Oklahoma Dept of Human Services (OKDHS) acts as fiscal intermediary for respite voucher program. All funds received from partners placed in interest bearing accounts until used.</li> <li>• Oklahoma Respite Resource Network (ORRN) is a statewide partnership of public and private agencies</li> <li>• Partnering State Agencies include: developmental disabilities, mental health, aging, maternal and child health and others</li> </ul>	<p><b>Private, Non-Profit</b></p> <p>Respite Care Association of Wisconsin</p>
<b>Local Infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 Local Respite Networks (LRNs) serving all 36 counties (no longer funded as of June, 2010)</li> <li>• State Advisory Board</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifespan Respite Network consists of 6 regional entities serving all 93 counties of the state</li> <li>• Regional Advisory Committees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No physical local or regional structure</li> </ul>	<p>Five regional lifespan networks (one in each of the five Department of Health and Family Services regions) serve nine counties.</p>

<sup>1</sup> **Note:** Nebraska, Oklahoma and Wisconsin received federal Lifespan Respite grants in FY 2010 to enhance their efforts. Ongoing changes are being made to program organization and implementation as a result.

<sup>2</sup> **Note:** Despite the fact that the Oregon Lifespan Respite Program was unfunded by the state in 2010 because of serious state budget constraints, the OR Program is included in this table because it still serves as a unique model for Lifespan Respite coordination that successfully demonstrated improved access to respite for over 14 years.

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Oregon<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>Oklahoma</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>
<b>Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information for Caregivers</li> <li>• Assistance in gaining access to respite</li> <li>• Support Groups</li> <li>• Caregiver Training</li> <li>• Respite</li> <li>• Evaluation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information and referral – match family to provider</li> <li>• Recruitment of providers</li> <li>• Training of providers and consumers</li> <li>• Quality assurance and program evaluation</li> <li>• Public awareness</li> <li>• Connecting caregivers with respite funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families, considered the employer, entitled to \$200-\$400 in vouchers/3 months</li> <li>• Encouraged to consider family, friends or coworkers, civic organizations, churches to provide respite</li> <li>• State agencies provide training free of charge to respite provider selected by family if family desires</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide information and referral, technical assistance, and training</li> <li>• Local linkage to existing programs and funding</li> <li>• Local gap funding</li> <li>• Local provider recruitment and training</li> <li>• Advocacy</li> </ul>
<b>Ages Served</b>	<p>All ages served if funding source is available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children 0-12 (30%)</li> <li>• Adolescents 13-17 (6%)</li> <li>• Adults 18-59 (12%)</li> <li>• Seniors 60-75 (17%)</li> <li>• Aging 75+ (35%)</li> </ul>	<p>All ages served if funding source is available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children (0-18): 41%</li> <li>• Adults (19-59): 19%</li> <li>• Aging (60+): 40%</li> </ul>	<p>All ages served if funding source is available, but the largest unserved age group is 18-59.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children 0-18: 37.2%</li> <li>• Adults 18-54: 11.4%</li> <li>• Adults 55-70: 6.8%</li> <li>• Aging 70+: 44.6%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For information and referral, all ages served</li> <li>• For gap funding, individuals who do not qualify for other respite programs.</li> </ul>
<b>Available Funding To Pay for Respite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access specific existing state and federal dollars for which individuals qualify</li> <li>• No vouchers or subsidies for those who do not qualify for any existing program unless raised and administered by local networks</li> </ul> <p>Federal Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DD In-Home Services (children intensive in-home)</li> <li>• DD Brokerage Supports Services (adults 18+)</li> <li>• DD In-Home Services (adults' comprehensive)</li> <li>• DD Crisis/Diversion (children &amp; adults)</li> <li>• MH Services through Oregon Health Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access specific existing state and federal dollars for which individuals qualify</li> </ul> <p>State Sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tobacco Settlement Funds (\$810,000)</li> <li>• Developmental Disabilities</li> <li>• State General Funding</li> </ul> <p>Federal Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicaid Waivers</li> <li>• Social Services Block Grant</li> <li>• Title III of Older Americans Act (Family Caregiver Support)</li> <li>• Medicaid</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lifespan Respite Subsidy program paid for with State Tobacco Settlement Funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access specific existing state and federal dollars for which individuals qualify</li> <li>• \$1.4 million is available for respite vouchers from existing state and federal funding streams and some private foundation/organization funds</li> </ul> <p>Federal Sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Older Americans Act</li> <li>• Maternal Child Health Funds</li> <li>• TANF Maintenance of Effort Funds</li> <li>• Title 4E/Adoptions &amp; Foster Parents</li> <li>• Mental Health Systems of Care Funds</li> </ul> <p>State Sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aging Services Division</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each regional Lifespan network receives \$25,000 in state dollars for infrastructure development and raises money locally for gap funding.</li> <li>• Program does not draw down existing federal funding streams, but will assist caregivers in identifying funding for which they may qualify.</li> </ul>

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Oregon<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Nebraska</b>	<b>Oklahoma</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Caregiver Support Program (OAA)</li> <li>• Community Services Block Grant (ARRA)</li> </ul> <p>State Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DD Family Support Services (children 0-17)</li> <li>• Commission on Children and Families</li> <li>• Oregon Project Independence (adults 60+ or Alzheimer's/dementia &amp; other criteria)</li> <li>• Other non-state funds generated locally: private donations, foundations, cooperative system</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developmental Disabilities Services Division</li> <li>• Family Support</li> </ul>	
<b>Eligibility</b>	<p>Families of Individuals of any age who qualify for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicaid or Oregon's Health Care</li> <li>• SSI</li> <li>• DD Self-Directed</li> <li>• DD Family Support (Ages 0-17)</li> <li>• Family Caregiver Support (OAA)</li> <li>• Safety Net SCF</li> <li>• Mental Health</li> <li>• Head Start</li> <li>• Hospice</li> </ul>	<p>Families of individuals of any age with special needs who qualify for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• existing state or federal funding streams or</li> <li>• the state's Lifespan Respite Subsidy who earn up to 312% of poverty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families must meet eligibility criteria of an existing funding stream</li> <li>• Vouchers issued to families earning under \$60,000 annually</li> </ul>	<p>Families of individuals of any age/special need.</p>
<b>Role of State Respite Coalition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No formalized state respite coalition</li> <li>• Relies on State Advisory Board to represent age and disability interests</li> </ul>	<p><b>Main Activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nebraska Respite Coalition originally formed to advocate for establishment of NE Lifespan Respite Program.</li> <li>• Legislative Advocacy to keep State program funded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No formalized state respite coalition.</li> <li>• State agency representatives voluntarily came together in 1997 to form a Respite Task Force, which became the Oklahoma Respite Resource</li> </ul>	<p><b>Main Activity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respite Care Association of Wisconsin (RCAW), the state respite coalition, organized in 1987; advocated for enactment of state Lifespan Respite legislation in 1999.</li> <li>• RCAW became lead agency</li> </ul>

Characteristics	Oregon <sup>2</sup>	Nebraska	Oklahoma	Wisconsin
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Education and Awareness.</li> </ul> <p><b>Structure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informal, run by co-chairs;</li> <li>Meets every other month.</li> </ul> <p><b>Staff and Funding:</b> All volunteer run. Funding is raised through donations and grants to cover cost of events.</p> <p><b>Membership:</b> Representatives from for-profit, nonprofit and governmental organizations, family caregivers.</p>	<p>Network – OK’s Lifespan Respite program in 1998.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members of ORRN also now include private and public organizations representing various disabilities and age groups.</li> </ul>	<p>for the state’s Lifespan Respite program, but mission remains to promote, support, and expand quality statewide respite care across the lifespan.</p> <p><b>Staff and Funding:</b> Has a Board of Directors and two paid program staff</p>

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