

# Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**Grantee Organization:** Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD)

**State:** Nevada

**Project Period:** September 30, 2021 to September 29, 2026

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### Project Overview:

The Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), in partnership with Nevada Lifespan Respite Coalition (LRC), the Department of Health and Human Services, Grants Management Unit (GMU), caregivers, care recipients, and community partners are striving to coordinate efforts and policies that support, educate, and connect individuals to respite services across the lifespan.

Respite programming that encourages self-direction and provides the choice, control and flexibility necessary to access respite has improved the quality of life of families. Now, caregivers and families are adapting to new concerns due to a global pandemic of COVID19.

The **goal** of this project is to develop a coordinated strategy to recruit respite workers through internship opportunities and expanding volunteers serving in respite.

**Project objectives:** 1) establish an internship program with higher education institutions across Nevada, in collaboration with community partners; 2) increase training for respite workers for infection control and emergency procedures; 3) schedule virtual and in-person events with community partners to bring caregivers and stipend recipients together, both agreeing to a measured approach of mutual support that would reduce fears, remove barriers to respite, apply innovative technology approaches, and create positive outcomes, especially for those most impacted by COVID; and 4) inform policy through strength-based measurements of caregiver outcomes, such as resilience, goal attainment, and social, health, and quality measures of trusting relationships, safety, and acceptance of respite.

**Proposed interventions:** strengthen and coordinate efforts and policies that support, educate, and connect individuals to access respite services across the lifespan; use respite programming

that encourages self-direction and provides choice, control, and flexibility to access respite and improve quality of life; address any needed COVID-19 limitations to provide respite services safely; build a collaborative system of respite worker recruitment, including establishing an internship program; use existing Respite Education Support Tools (REST) statewide training program and augment with COVID-19 pandemic related topics; and establish a stipend program to help families accept and use respite and support from respite workers with local community connections (e.g., neighbors, friends).

### Outcomes and Products:

**Anticipated outcomes:** 1) increase in number of community partners participating in program, number of interns, and number of caregiver referrals; 2) number of completed trainings and number of decision-guided respite plans developed; 3) number of community events, participants (caregivers and stipend applicants), number of matches (Agreements of Mutual Support), and percent satisfaction with events.

**Expected products:** presentations on barriers, collaboration, and opportunities for advocacy; and data collection tools and surveys.

