

Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

PROJECT SUMMARY

Grantee Organization: New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA)

State: New York

Project Period: September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2023

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Project Overview:

New York's Lifespan Respite Core Team – New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA), Monroe County Office for the Aging (MCOFA), New York State Caregiving and Respite Coalition (NYSCRC), and NY Connects/NWD will build capacity through collaboration and coordination, with input from caregivers and other key stakeholders to meet the goal and objectives.

The **goal** is to strengthen New York's Lifespan Respite Care System through expanded respite services, new partnerships, and targeted outreach statewide to provide a sustainable, coordinated respite care system to support caregivers across the age and disability spectrum.

Project objectives: 1) increase the number and types of partnerships to strengthen New York's Lifespan Respite Care System; 2) expand volunteer respite care services, training, and oversight across the age and disability spectrum; 3) expand outreach strategies to address underserved populations with respite care and build emergency respite capacity; and 4) expand workforce initiative with businesses in supporting working caregivers.

Proposed interventions: expand collaboration and coordination with new partners as part of sustainability planning and for additional respite service delivery; expand volunteer respite model; develop a respite voucher model, including emergency respite for underserved populations; increase training and technical assistance; develop additional support materials, such as information brochures for businesses to disseminate to employees who are working caregivers; and focus on special target populations and organizations to help address barriers to and gaps in services.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes: 1) enhanced policy framework to strengthen the network of caregiving and respite supports; 2) improved well-being for caregivers receiving volunteer respite services; 3) improved delivery of respite services for identified underserved populations; 4) improved standardization of respite resources in the NY Connects Resource Directory; and 5) enhanced knowledge of businesses about working caregivers.

Expected products: Volunteer Respite train-the-trainer curriculum; online module and respite provider monitoring tool; supplemental materials to NYS Caregiver Guide for Businesses; outreach materials for volunteer recruitment, caregivers in the workforce, and National Family Caregiver Support Program; preparing for emergencies program for caregivers; respite resources tool for the NY Connects Resource Directory; Caregiver Simulation manual; and final report, including program evaluation.

