

Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

PROJECT SUMMARY

Grantee Organization: New York State Office for the Aging

State: New York

Project Period: July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2026

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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, coordination, and input from caregivers and other key stakeholders to meet the goal and objectives.

The **goal** of this project is to strengthen New York's Lifespan Respite Care System by piloting a NYSCRC regional satellite to build capacity for expanded information, education, respite, and other caregiver supports to underserved groups; as well as statewide development of new partnerships, targeted outreach, and advocacy to provide a sustainable, coordinated respite care system to support caregivers across the age and disability spectrum.

Project objectives: 1) pilot a NYSCRC satellite Regional Caregiver Wellness and Respite Center (CWRC); 2) engage, assess, and provide services to family caregivers in the region; 3) add LifeCourse Tools for Respite for NY Connects/NWD trained counselors' caregiver toolbox for improved access to respite statewide; 4) develop and implement a respite worker training program; and 5) increase family caregivers' self-identification and awareness of their role.

Proposed interventions: pilot a Regional Caregiver Wellness and Respite Center to extend NYSCRC's reach; implement the LifeCourse Tools for Respite for NY Connects/NWD trained counselors as a caregiver tool to improve access to respite statewide across all age and disability groups; create a self-paced online respite worker training program to teach skills required for success in respite delivery; develop a New York Respite Care Certificate Program (RCCP), modeled after Wisconsin; increase family caregiver's self-identification and awareness of their role by working with other state agencies and partners to coordinate and provide outreach and technical assistance.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes: 1) enhanced structural framework to strengthen the network of caregiving and respite supports through the CWRC; 2) improved well-being for caregivers receiving respite services through the CWRC; 3) improved delivery of respite and other caregiver services for underserved populations within CWRC's region; 4) increased inventory of respite providers; and 5) improved access to caregiver-centered programs, supports, and services.

Expected products: on-line training curriculum for respite workers; respite policy for CWRC; readiness review tool for future expansion of CWRCs; caregiver campaign; TCARE assessment mini-evaluation report; and final report, including program evaluation.

