

Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

PROJECT SUMMARY

Grantee Organization: South Carolina Department on Aging (SCDOA)

State: South Carolina

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

Contact: Josh Houben, jhouben@aging.sc.gov

Project Overview:

The South Carolina Department on Aging, in partnership with the SC Respite Coalition (SCRC) and key stakeholders, will build on achievements of its Lifespan Respite (LR) grants to implement SC's Lifespan Respite State Plan to advance state systems and capacities to deliver respite options to family caregivers.

The **goal** is to improve the delivery and quality of respite services available to families across age and disability spectrums by expanding and coordinating existing respite systems as part of SC's Lifespan Respite System for future sustainability.

Project objectives: 1) expand and strengthen the involvement of key state and local public and private stakeholders from underserved populations across the age and disability spectrum as full partners; 2) enhance caregiver access to respite services by increasing outreach and caregiver education about respite, available services and how to develop and access respite; 3) develop respite services, recruit and train respite providers, paid and unpaid, in faith communities; and 4) enhance direct respite services, including emergency respite, by providing vouchers to fill identified gaps in service and target underserved populations.

Proposed interventions: expand partnerships and services targeting underserved populations focusing on underserved rural, minority, and non-English speaking communities; expand recruitment and training of paid and unpaid respite providers; expand education for family caregivers to increase access to respite services; create a SC Lifespan Respite Training portal for delivering on-line training for respite providers and family caregivers; widely disseminate caregiver resources via targeted caregiver outreach and education; and develop regular respite programs in churches building on the Breakroom model's success.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes: 1) expanded statewide public/private partnerships supporting caregivers and sustaining SC's Lifespan Respite System; 2) enhanced caregiver access to respite services; 3) increased number of trained respite providers; 4) increased respite services through faith-based and community collaboration; 5) increased number of families from underserved populations receiving respite; and 6) enhanced direct emergency respite services.

Expected products: new caregiver training and respite provider training modules; online training portal; "How To" booklet on expanding the Breakroom respite model to community providers; procedures/protocols for providing/awarding emergency respite vouchers; and report of lessons learned.

