

Employer Engagement Training
ARCH Respite Grantee/Partner Learning Symposium
October 10, 2014

1. Workplan

- a. An estimated 75% of caregivers are employed and many of them face challenges at work while juggling their caregiving responsibilities. The Project plans to partner with ReACT (Respect a Caregiver's Time), a national employer-focused coalition working to provide employers with tools to address challenges faced by employee caregivers. The Project will identify businesses in the Denver metro area to develop a pilot program to assist businesses in changing their workplace culture to be more flexible for caregivers. Based on the results in Denver, the Project will expand its efforts across the state to reach more employers.

2. Timeline

- i. Year I – Planning phase, identify employers
 - 1. Look into training opportunities with ReACT and other groups
 - 2. Contact regional office for national ReACT partners (i.e. Intel, Johnson & Johnson, Microsoft)
- ii. Year 2 – Work with one business in Denver Metro
- iii. Year 3 – Work with three businesses across state and work to engage rural employers

3. Key Partners

- a. Identify national companies partnering with ReACT with local/regional offices
- b. AARP
- c. Chambers of Commerce
- d. Regional coalitions
- e. Easter Seals Employment department (identify businesses with similar programs)

Employer Engagement Resources

- a. ReACT (aarp.org/react and respectcaregivers.org)
 - i. Toolkit – Resources for Employers
 - ii. ReACT Twitter - @ReACTCare - #JointheCaregiverConversation
 - iii. List of caregiving resources - <http://www.aarp.org/react/react-employee-caregiving-resources/>
 - iv. Research – includes stats about caregiving, cost-benefit of respite, etc.- <http://www.aarp.org/react/react-research-topics/>
 - v. Useful infographics illustrating caregiving demands and the need for employer understanding

- b. MetLife
 - i. Research - <https://www.metlife.com/mmi/research/working-caregiver-employer-health-care-costs.html#findings>

- c. Huffington Post – “Caregiving Can Hurt Employee Health and Increase Employer Costs”
 - i. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/stacy-lu/caregiving-can-take-a-tol_b_3908459.html

Shared by Meghan Baskett, CO Easter Seals and CO Lifespan Respite Coalition. For more information, email Meghan at mbaskett@eastersealscolorado.org.