

Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

PROJECT SUMMARY

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

State: Nevada

Project Period: August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2027

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Project Overview:

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for the state to increase supports for children who have mental/behavioral health and intellectual/developmental disabilities (dual diagnosis). Nevada partners are committed to ensuring the development of a network for families of children with dual diagnosis to have access to respite services.

The **goal** of the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) project is to build upon previous and current efforts to effectively support family caregivers of children with dual diagnosis.

Project objectives: 1) increase collaboration among public programs to overcome policy and resource constraints for families accessing services; 2) assess opportunities for family support within existing provider networks; 3) build educational and training for existing provider networks to overcome the stigma related to disability and mental health and recruit professional providers of respite; and 4) pilot innovative respite strategies for families of children with dual diagnosis utilizing informal or non-traditional networks.

Proposed interventions: seek additional collaboration with the Division of Child and Family (DCFS) Services and the Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy (DHFP) to overcome barriers for this target population; contract with the Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities' Family Navigation Network and the Nevada PEP parent organization to help families explore options for respite, advocate for more respite, and ensure provider networks are equipped to serve

children with dual diagnosis and their families; explore professional and non-professional partners who are not currently being utilized to enhance access to respite – such as Community Health Workers, college interns, and faith-based organizations; collaborate with partners to provide training and support to providers to increase capacity for respite services; and provide emergency respite vouchers to support emergent needs for families of children with dual diagnosis.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes: 1) increased collaboration among state and community partners to address the needs of the target population; 2) increased resources to meet the needs of the target population; 3) reduced stigma related to dual diagnosis; 4) increased knowledge and capacity to serve children with dual diagnosis; 5) increased access to respite services for families; and 6) increased caregiver well-being.

Expected products: establish *Annual Caregiving in Nevada* report, training materials, flyers, website dissemination.

