

Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

PROJECT SUMMARY

Grantee Organization: Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS)

State: Wisconsin

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

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Project Overview:

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services, in partnership with Respite Care Association of Wisconsin (RCAW) and other stakeholders will build a sustainable system, increasing the reach of respite programs statewide, expanding on existing programs that were enhanced by the 2020 Lifespan Grant.

The **goal** of this project is for the Wisconsin Lifespan Respite System to expand and strengthen the availability and accessibility of high-quality, person-centered respite services for caregivers, regardless of the age, race/ethnicity, or special needs of the care recipient.

Project objectives: 1) develop the Wisconsin Emergency Respite System; 2) expand the RCAW Caregiver Respite Grant Program (CRGP); 3) develop and implement Train-the-Trainer model for the Bringing Respite to Your Community (BRYC) Workshop; 4) implement regional BRYC Workshops; 5) provide funding for new respite programs; and 6) provide tools and resources for communities to determine interest and feasibility of direct support professional co-op model with a focus on respite in their community.

Proposed interventions: build on progress made during the previous Lifespan grants by focusing on enhancing key components of the Wisconsin respite system; create partnerships with respite stakeholders such as ADRCs and other long-term care providers; create new respite agencies and programs and set up the groundwork to explore a respite co-op model to help address the need for more respite providers; provide new funding for direct respite care for underserved populations; and look at building an emergency respite system, including funding for emergency respite situations.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes: 1) increased number of direct respite hours provided to underserved populations and in emergency situations; 2) the creation of new respite agencies and programs throughout the state; and 3) a framework and financial support to explore the need and feasibility of establishing respite worker co-ops in the state.

Expected products: Wisconsin Emergency Respite System; Emergency Caregiver Respite Grant Program Funds Process; Bringing Respite to Your Community (BRYC) Train the Trainer Program; Bringing Respite to Your Community (BRYC) Seed Grant Program; new respite programs throughout the state; and a comprehensive toolkit for communities to explore a respite worker co-op model.

