Oklahoma’s Lifespan Respite Grant

and

The Importance of Statistics

Oklahoma Department of Human Services
Aging Services Division

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The Oklahoma Respite Resource Network (ORRN) is a collaboration of public and private agencies working to support families and caregivers by increasing the availability of respite services in Oklahoma. The first voucher programs were begun as a result of this collaboration.
Oklahoma’s Respite Voucher Programs

• Several respite voucher programs exist under the umbrella of the Department of Human Services. They include, but are not limited to, the:

  – Older Americans Act Title III Respite Voucher Program (Aging Services Division). This program also includes two local community respite voucher programs which are funded directly through their local Area Agency on Aging.
  – Lifespan Respite Grant Voucher Program (exceptions-people not eligible for other voucher programs).
  – Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD): State funded respite voucher program (for people under the age of 18 with developmental disabilities).
  – Family Support Services Division SSI/DCP: State funded respite voucher program for foster parents raising children with special needs.
OASIS
Oklahoma Areawide Services Information System

- Each respite voucher program within OKDHS contributes funding for some portion of an FTE at OASIS. This program:
  - receives calls for respite services
  - mails applications to the public
  - collects the completed applications, and
  - distributes the applications to the appropriate respite voucher program.

*This program also provides training and outreach for caregivers statewide with their own funding.*
Voucher process

• Once the application is received by the individual respite voucher program, data is entered and transmitted to the OKDHS Finance Division.

• Vouchers are printed by Finance and mailed to the applicant/care-giver. Vouchers range from $200.-$400 a set. The amount of the set of vouchers varies based on funds allocated by the Area Agencies on Aging to the Respite Voucher Program to serve Grandparents raising grandchildren and for people 60 years of age and older.

• Once the vouchers are received, the caregiver may hire a person of their own choosing to provide them a temporary break from full time care giving duties.
Voucher Process Continued

• The amount of each voucher is negotiated between the full time caregiver and the respite provider (i.e. $20.00 for one hour)

• Once the service has been provided, the respite provider and the full-time caregiver both sign the voucher (assuring that the service was provided) and then the voucher/claim is then returned to the Finance Division for payment.

• Payment is mailed to the respite provider.

• An applicant may apply for vouchers each 3 months.
Lifespan Respite Grant Voucher Process

In addition to the steps mentioned above:

• When an application for the Lifespan Respite Grant is received, the Project Manager contacts the individual applicant and notifies them of their approval for receipt of the grant voucher. Grant vouchers are for $400. a set.

• At that time, an interview is conducted and a survey completed. This data will be analyzed for statistical information that can be used in measuring outcomes and successes of the program, for grant reporting, for future funding requests and advocating for expanded respite services.

• After the grant ends, an additional survey will be conducted for quality assurance and to collect and analyze statistical information.
# Data Collected

## Caregiver

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID NUMBER</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
<th>County of residence</th>
<th>Date of birth</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Relationship to the care receiver</th>
<th>Number of Caregivers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## Household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of adults</th>
<th>Number of children</th>
<th>Annual household income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## Care Receiver

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County of residence</th>
<th>Date of birth</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Health condition</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>PA #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Figure 20

Age of the person receiving care

- 18-55: 54.55%
- Under 18: 31.82%
- 56-70: 13.64%
Figure 13

Age of the Caregiver

- Under 18: 0.00%
- 18-55: 86.36%
- 56-70: 20.66%
- Over 70: 9.09%
Figure 14

Gender of the Caregiver

- 77% Female
- 23% Male
Caregiver self-report of current stress level

- Extremely stressed: 35.00%
- Very stressed: 20.00%
- Moderately stressed: 30.00%
- Somewhat stressed: 15.00%
- Not at all stressed: 0.00%
Questions?
Please feel free to contact me:

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