

CHECKING-IN to SUSTAIN our WORK

Revisit Your Original Purpose

When we submit an application for funding, we take great care to make sure we address and fulfill the funder's goals through our state-specific goals and objectives.

The **Lifespan Respite Care Program** has five objectives:

1. Expand and enhance respite services in the states;
2. Improve coordination and dissemination of respite services;
3. Streamline access to programs;
4. Fill gaps in service where necessary; and
5. Improve the overall quality of respite services currently available.

Convene a Leadership/Stakeholder Team

As we implement activities to meet our goals and objectives, it is good to gather a group of stakeholder/leaders periodically, and review and reflect upon the extent to which your state specific goals and objectives still hold true, or need revision.

Nevada conducts periodic, outside facilitated strategic planning and review meetings. During a recent meeting, they visited the following questions:

- What are the urgent questions you are facing and need to address?
- What are the expected changes coming up that will affect operations?
- What relationships are central to sustaining a coordinated and cohesive approach and system to fulfill our mission and achieve our priorities, goals and objectives?
- Can you sustain your work (or survive) without a Lifespan Respite Grant?

As the leadership/stakeholder team reviews each question, make sure you have your mission, goals, objectives and related initiatives in writing before you. As you review and discuss your work:

- ⇒ Strive to understand all members' and partners' needs.
- ⇒ Identify competing interests and work to resolve these --(especially important in the time of Covid-19).
- ⇒ Pay attention to how communication works in and outside of the review meeting.

Make an Action Plan and Timeline

Based upon your leadership/stakeholder team's response to these questions (and there will be lots of discussion and ideas generated by the questions), your team can identify the way forward through action planning (on the spot), establishing timeliness to facilitate progress, and scheduling further review at intervals that work to keep you on track in the near and long term.

Prepared by Susan Janko Summers, PhD, for the Sustainability Planning Work Group, July 2020