

Lifespan Respite Care Program



Lifespan Respite Grantee Lead Agency: **South Dakota Department of Human Services, Division of Long Term Services and Supports**

Funding Period: September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2021

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Primary Goal: **Improve overall access to respite services for families and other caregivers through provider development and training within the State of South Dakota**

Key Performance Measures	Notable Achievements
<p>Evaluation measures used by the grantee included the following products (marketing materials; website development with training resources for caregivers; and a searchable respite provider directory); survey data (Lifespan Respite Survey). The evaluation also included performance outcomes documented through the enumeration of caregiver referrals and emergency services provided.</p>	<p>The Lifespan Respite grant positively impacted the legion of caregivers around the State of South Dakota. The South Dakota Respite Coalition increased public awareness of respite needs and strengthened caregiver advocacy; increased statewide awareness of respite services; provided better responsiveness to the needs of caregivers; and expanded access to respite services by more efficiently directing caregivers to support and services that best suited their specialized needs through a variety of funding options. As a frontier state, special emphasis was placed on better reaching rural and tribal populations.</p>

Key Objectives, Activities and Outcomes	Coalition, ADRC and Community Partners
<p>Objective 1. Develop and administer a Lifespan Respite Survey</p> <p>Notable Products and Performance Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve access to respite care for families and caregivers, and to inform the Coalition of the respite needs of family caregivers across populations, the grantee created a Lifespan Respite Survey. The grantee drafted a postcard and disseminated it to individuals receiving services through the Title-III National Family Caregiver Support Program. The postcard instructed caregivers to visit a website that linked to the survey. A paper copy of the survey was offered to caregivers with limited access to the internet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey responses totaled 139 and indicated that most caregivers were not receiving as much formal and informal respite care as they would like, which contributed to high levels of stress and anxiety. Some caregivers also identified a lack of knowledge about available resources in their community. Survey data were used by the South Dakota Respite Coalition to guide the creation of a website that would educate caregivers and offer more options for respite assistance. 	<p>State and Community Partners</p> <p>Key partners involved in activities for each grant objective included: the Title-III National Family Caregiver Support Program; the South Dakota Respite Coalition; South Dakota Division of Developmental Disability Respite Care Program and Division of Long Term Services and Supports Respite Care Program, and the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs Respite Care Program.</p> <p>State Respite Coalition/Organization Role</p> <p>The foundation of the Lifespan Respite grant was the creation of the South Dakota Lifespan Respite Coalition. Stakeholders</p>

Objective 2: Create a Lifespan Respite Website

Notable Activities and Performance Outcomes

- In November, 2018, the Lifespan Respite website was created. The website provides:
 - a brief overview of what Lifespan Respite is, who it is intended for, and information about the Lifespan Respite grant, the South Dakota Respite Coalition, Dakota at Home (South Dakota's ADRC), and a Lifespan Respite brochure;
 - respite care options in South Dakota: Division of Developmental Disability Respite Care Program, Division of Long- Term Services and Supports Respite Care Program, U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs Respite Care Program;
 - a link to a respite care certification program for caregivers;
 - a link to the respite provider registry – the database housing a list of providers (both agency and individual); and
 - resources for caregivers: a complete learning library and more information about caregiver support programs around the state.
- During the three years since its inception, the Lifespan Respite website was visited 972 times, over 8,000 pages were viewed; 398 downloads were made; and 248 out-links to other resources were navigated.

Objective 3: Construct a Respite Provider Registry

Notable Activities and Performance Outcomes

- To expand and enhance respite availability for caregivers in South Dakota, a respite provider registry was constructed on the Lifespan Respite website. The registry offers information about things caregivers might consider and questions to ask before hiring an agency or independent provider, and contains a link to the State of South Dakota Unified Judicial System for background checks and fair labor standards guide for families. For those looking to become a provider, an application is available on the site.
 - At the end of the project cycle, the registry contained 103 agency and 31 individual providers. Long-Term Services and Supports Service Coordinators that provide social work to individuals on the Title III National Family Caregiver Support Program offer the registry as an option for unmet respite needs.

were recruited from organizations at state and federal levels, business establishments, community partnerships, non-profits, and public caregivers. Coalition members met monthly in order to sustain open communication, inform members of proceedings with the Lifespan Respite Grant, gather thoughts on enhancing respite care services to families and caregivers, and encourage stakeholders to continue personal and professional outreach on behalf of the Coalition. To enhance membership sustainability, Coalition members were directly involved in planning and implementing ongoing activities, including the Lifespan Respite Survey, Lifespan Respite website, Respite Provider Directory, respite provider recruitment, and training development initiatives.

Aging and Disability Resource Center Role

The Lifespan Respite Website links with Dakota at Home, South Dakota's ADRC, making information about ADRC services available and accessible to South Dakota caregivers.



For more information, contact ARCH at (703) 256-2084