

# Bragging Rights!

## Respite Taskforce



Group of state agencies, statewide organizations, providers, and caregivers who will address caregiver needs and create better coordination and dissemination of statewide respite information and services across the lifespan. Goals of the Taskforce:

- Increase awareness of and outreach to family caregivers
- Strengthen services and supports
- Expand data, research, and evidence-based practices to support family caregivers.

Meets on a quarterly basis (next meeting in June) and work groups will meet in between the regular, quarterly meetings

- Each goal will represent a work group (3), and each work group will be facilitated by IRC staff

Goal of the task force is to establish policies that will support the continuation of lifespan respite care services now and beyond the scope of the task force

# Free Virtual Respite Provider Training



**Illinois was part of a pilot project (between January 1, 2022 and January 1, 2023) headed by the ARCH National Respite Network, the Respite Care Association of Wisconsin (RCAW), and the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP), along with ten other states in the previous fiscal year. This was the first fiscal year, post pilot, where we have been able to successfully offer this lifespan training opportunity.**

**This program is Illinois-specific, completely virtual, and free of charge. Can be completed at one's pace, and upon finishing all the modules, individual will be given a certificate of completion. Those who completed the training have the opportunity to be added to a statewide respite worker database to help address the Respite Care Worker and Personal Support Worker shortage across the state.**

**We are excited to offer this lifespan opportunity to increase knowledge of respite, offer free training, and provide the option to join a directory of potential respite workers in Illinois to help address the national shortage of direct care workers in Illinois.**

