

Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

PROJECT SUMMARY

Grantee Organization: Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Office of Healthy Aging (OHA)

State: Rhode Island

Project Period: August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2027

Contact: Aleatha Dickerson, aleatha.dickerson@oha.ri.gov

Project Overview:

The Rhode Island Department of Human Services, Office of Healthy Aging (OHA), in partnership with the Family Caregiver Alliance of Rhode Island, United Way of Rhode Island (UWRI) which houses the statewide Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) known as the POINT, and other key stakeholders, will work to enhance and improve equity and accessibility of our statewide Lifespan respite care system of services,

The **goal** of this project is to streamline, further integrate, and enhance an equitable, accessible, and sustainable statewide system of Lifespan Respite services

Project objectives: 1) continue to enhance the framework and impact of the State's respite system through the Family Caregiver Alliance; 2) enhance and expand the *CareBreaks* respite program, including the Rhode Island Student Nursing Volunteer Workforce Initiative among higher education nursing programs in the state; and 3) improve awareness about the benefits of and access to respite services and resources to reach all families and caregivers, with a focus on underserved populations.

Proposed interventions: enhance the framework and impact of the state's respite system through the Caregiver Alliance and growth of diverse representation on the advisory committee; annual family caregivers training and resource conference, website updates, and caregiver outreach; enhance and expand the *CareBreaks* respite program, including the Rhode Island Student Nursing Volunteer Workforce Initiative; and improve awareness about the benefits of and access to respite services and resources to reach all families and caregivers, with focus on reaching diverse and underserved populations.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes: 1) a strengthened Caregiver Alliance that will advocate for expansion and sustainability of equitable respite services in the state; 2) expanded *CareBreaks* respite program and the Rhode Island Student Nursing Volunteer Workforce Initiative; and 3) improved access and awareness for all populations of available statewide respite supports and services.

Expected products: development of a RI volunteer respite training for replication; a statewide Caregivers Conference and recognition event; culturally relevant marketing materials; and access to an updated equitable and accessible caregiver assessment tool on the Caregiver Alliance website.



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