

# Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**Grantee Organization:** South Carolina Department on Aging (SCDOA)

**State:** South Carolina

**Project Period:** September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2027

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### Project Overview:

SCDOA and the South Carolina Respite Coalition (SCRC) will sustain progress and build on the achievements of previous Lifespan Respite Grants, many of which advance state actions identified in the National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers. With this funding, SC will use the Strategy as a roadmap to update its 2018 Lifespan Respite State Plan to address current and emerging critical issues and to guide efforts to enhance SC's Lifespan Respite Care System.

The **goal** of this project is to enhance state systems and capacities to deliver accessible, quality, equitable respite services to SC's family caregivers across age and disability spectrums by expanding and coordinating respite systems and provider workforce.

**Project objectives:** 1) expand, and strengthen partnerships through state/regional advisory committees and update SC's State Plan; 2) increase access to respite providers through recruitment, training, and a public access provider registry; 3) enhance caregivers' awareness of the LR system and ability to access, recruit and hire respite providers; 4) increase respite services for family caregivers (e.g., Breakrooms) within faith- and community-based organizations; and 5) enhance direct respite services and fill gaps by providing vouchers to caregivers using lessons learned from caregivers impacted by COVID-19.

**Proposed interventions:** enhance, expand, and strengthen state and local partnerships across age, disability, geographic and cultural spectrums through state/regional advisory committees to update SC's Lifespan Respite State Plan; increase availability of and

access to respite care providers through workforce development – provider recruitment through partners/networks, provider education and standardized provider training requirement to be registered on the registry; develop an easily accessible interactive public respite provider registry accessed via the SCRC website; increase availability of respite services by working with partners to establish and sustain volunteer respite services (e.g., Respite Breakrooms) within faith- and community-based organizations; and enhance direct respite services and fill identified gaps in respite services by providing vouchers to family caregivers across the state and lifespan, implementing lessons learned to provide information and accommodations for family caregivers impacted by COVID-19.

### Outcomes and Products:

**Anticipated outcomes:** 1) improved statewide collaboration resulting in system and service delivery changes; 2) increased diverse respite care workforce across the state; 3) increased access to a diverse respite care workforce with 90% caregiver satisfaction with the process; 4) increased number of Breakrooms and families receiving respite by 50% percent; 5) increased caregiver knowledge of how to access the LR system by unserved/underserved caregivers who are African American, Hispanic or living in rural areas; and 6) new knowledge on LR that contributes to the field.

**Expected products:** updated Lifespan Respite State Plan; interactive web-based provider directory; provider and caregiver awareness materials; newsletters; presentations; Volunteer handbook; and Lessons Learned.



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