

# Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**Grantee Organization:** South Dakota Department of Human Services (DHS)

**State:** South Dakota

**Project Period:** July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2026

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### Project Overview:

The South Dakota Department of Human Services, Division of Long-Term Services and Supports, will expand and enhance a statewide respite system in partnership with the South Dakota Lifespan Respite Coalition and other key stakeholders.

The **goal** of this project is to improve and broaden access to respite care services to family caregivers across the lifespan.

**Project objectives:** 1) expand and enhance the South Dakota Lifespan Respite Coalition; 2) enrich statewide awareness about respite services available; 3) develop a plan to recruit and train respite providers; 4) utilize the Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRC) as a "No Wrong Door" for caregiver access to lifespan respite (to include new and planned emergency respite); and 5) improve support systems to our caregivers and increase to their quality of life.

**Proposed interventions:** build on recent adjustments to the allocation of funds for more flexibility to provide improved respite services across the lifespan and for differing disabilities; leverage enhancement grant as a gateway to other state and community provided support services to enhance outreach to caregivers and improve accessibility; develop plan for the administration, collaboration, and coordination with other related services or programs offered by different entities; and continue to utilize the Dakota at Home Intake (South Dakota's ADRC) multimedia campaign as a primary way to increase awareness.

In addition, South Dakota received **lifespan respite supplemental funds in 2023** to support goals and activities that are in alignment with 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers. This

will include advancing partnerships and engagement with family caregivers, strengthening services and supports for family caregivers, and ensuring financial and workplace security for family caregivers. New activities include expanding and enhancing the South Dakota Lifespan Respite Coalition; utilizing ADRC Connections for caregiver access to new and planned emergency respite; expanding the maximum award limit for respite; establishing faith-based connections in rural areas to provide support groups, Memory Cafes, peer counseling or building youth and volunteer respite providers using the Trualta Platform; and respite provider training through CareAcademy.

### Outcomes and Products:

**Anticipated outcomes:** 1) expanded South Dakota Respite Coalition that will increase public awareness of respite needs and strengthen caregiver advocacy; 2) enriched statewide awareness of respite services that will provide better responsiveness to the needs of caregivers; 3) expanded access to respite services to more efficiently direct caregivers to support and services that will best suit their specialized needs; 4) improved quality of life because of respite services that are readily accessed through a variety of funding options; and 5) improved support system for caregivers that will provide greater satisfaction with respite services and general well-being.

**Expected products:** outreach materials for marketing purposes; training for caregivers and respite providers; searchable database of respite providers on the South Dakota Lifespan Respite Website; an annual Respite Summit; and an expanded respite voucher system.



[archrespite.org](http://archrespite.org)