

Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

PROJECT SUMMARY

Grantee Organization: Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability (TCAD)

State: Tennessee

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

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Project Overview:

The Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability (TCAD), in partnership with the Tennessee Respite Coalition (TRC) and key stakeholders will expand and maintain a statewide coordinated lifespan respite system that builds on current infrastructure.

The **goal** of this project is to expand and streamline the statewide Respite Voucher Program and to reduce gaps in services, particularly among underrepresented populations most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

Project objectives: 1) increase availability of respite vouchers for all Tennessee caregivers; 2) digitize the respite voucher submission process; 3) create a Bilingual Respite Coordinator (BRC) position to focus on Latinx/immigrant outreach and care management; and 4) promote current respite services across the state.

Proposed interventions: increase availability of respite services across the state of Tennessee by allocating more funding from the Lifespan Respite State Expansion grant to provide respite vouchers; through work with Bear Pride, LLC develop a digitized respite voucher submission process providing a faster electronic submission process; create and fill Bilingual Respite Coordinator (BRC) position with connections to the Latinx/immigrant community who will engage in at least three respite voucher enrollment outreach events per month; and disseminate information about the Tennessee Respite Coalition's Respite Voucher Program and Respite Helpline across the State of Tennessee by leveraging existing partnerships to share postcards, fliers, and social media content related to the Respite Voucher Program and the Respite Helpline.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated outcomes: 1) respite vouchers provided to 225 caregivers per year of the project (900 total) with 80% of caregivers reporting a reduction in stress and the desire to utilize respite again; 2) calls to the Statewide Respite Helpline increased by 200 per year of the project (800 total). (Baseline 2022: 1,830 calls); 3) respite voucher submission process will be digitized and in-use by the end of year two; 4) TRC will hire a BRC by month six of year one; and 5) BRC will have engaged in at least three outreach events per month, focused on Latinx/immigrant populations, beginning month six of year one and will enroll and provide care management for at least 20 Latinx/immigrant caregivers in years two to four.

Expected products: respite voucher program; Respite Helpline; marketing and outreach materials in English and Spanish; and digitized respite vouchers.



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