

# Lifespan Respite Care Program Enhancement Grant

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**Grantee Organization:** Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

**State:** Washington

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

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### Project Overview:

Washington will enhance Lifespan Respite WA (LRW) capacities to deliver respite care and related services and will develop partnerships with Washington Health Care Authority and Washington Cares and continue working with partners PAVE, TBI, DDC to develop new respite opportunities

The **goal** of this project is to enhance Lifespan Respite Washington (LRW) capacities to deliver respite care and related services to all communities of unpaid family caregivers of adults and/or children with disabilities.

**Project objectives:** 1) strengthen services and supports for family caregivers; 2) achieve greater awareness and outreach; 3) advance partnerships and engagement with caregivers; 4) improve financial and workplace security for caregivers; and 5) more data research and evidence-based practices.

**Proposed interventions:** strengthen services and supports for family caregivers with a focus on outreach and training for communities such as Spanish speaking, TBI, LGBTQ2+, American Indian/Alaska Natives and kinship caregivers; increase voucher utilization, expanding access to a broader pool of potential respite providers, strengthening culturally attuned services and stronger coordination with ADRCs; advance partnerships and engagement by including experienced unpaid family caregivers and organizations that are change leaders; improve financial and workplace security for family caregivers by collaborating with WA Cares and introducing the needs and importance of serving unpaid family caregivers; increase and utilize data research and evidence-based practices to support family caregivers with DSHS Research and Data analysis; using analyzed data, create a guide for future services that can be used by state FCSP, MAC/TSOA, Kinship navigator program and ARCH.

### Outcomes and Products:

**Anticipated outcomes:** 1) increase statewide respite options and voucher utilization by 5%; 2) five partnerships with organizations to revitalize LRW coalition; 3) four people with experience as a caregiver or care receiver will participate in LRW coalition; 4) three coalition projects to enhance respite services; 5) add pilot respite program for one tribe; 6) develop training for family caregivers with modules for five diverse population; 7) develop culturally aware outreach with Spanish speaking kinship navigators and AAA case managers; 8) use research and meet with kinship navigators annually to develop respite opportunities for kinship caregivers; 9) partner with Washington Cares Act to develop three tip sheets for family caregivers; and 10) meet with Health Care Authority to outline cost savings of supporting beneficiary's unpaid family caregivers with services including respite.

**Expected products:** LRW on-line internet safety toolkit to support caregivers raising children; toolkit to support caregivers of individuals with intellectual disabilities; best practice Tribal lifespan respite model; increased volunteer participation by 5% each year; increased tracking of unused/unspent funding and reallocating for new voucher awards; and commitment by one public/private partnership for ongoing LRW services support.



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