



ARCH Three-Part Webinar Series

Sustaining Respite

This three-part series is designed to educate, inspire, and support sustainability planning activities by Lifespan Respite Grantees and Partners.

Presenters from Oklahoma, New York, and Alabama will share practical guidance and wisdom gained from their personal experience creating and sustaining strong, diverse Lifespan Respite services and systems.

February 27, 2025

Part One: The Foundation for Sustainability: Empowering Leaders, Cultivating Partnerships, and Nurturing Mentorships

- Talena Ford, Programs Administrator, Community Engagement & Coalitions, Community Living, Aging and Protective Services (CAP), Oklahoma Department of Human Services

This session offers guidance in forming and nurturing strong partnerships, the importance of shared leadership within and across organizations, and ways to mentor and support strong respite leaders over time.

April 17, 2025

Part Two: The Evolution of Sustainability: Planning, Measuring, and Pivoting

- Abbey Derepentigny, Caregiver Support Program Assistant Director, Division of Policy, Planning, Program and Outcomes, New York State Office for the Aging
- Doris Green, Director, New York State Caregiving and Respite Coalition
- Dana Prest, Caregiver Support Program Director, Division of Policy, Planning, Program and Outcomes, New York State Office for the Aging

This session offers practical guidance in respite systems planning — including who, when, where, how, and why; finding and working with a facilitator; and the importance of circling back and revising plans based on data that informs wise decisions.

June 12, 2025

Part Three: *The Art of Sustainability: Developing and Maintaining Resources*

- Tracy Cieniewicz, Lifespan Services Director, Alabama Lifespan Respite, a Project of UCP of Huntsville and Tennessee Valley

This session offers practical guidance in developing and diversifying resources from the ground up, ways to reduce risks and threats to sustainability, and strategies for securing funding and using it to build lasting respite infrastructure.

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