



# National Caregiver Champion Collaborative (CCC)

## September 2024 Meeting Summary/Resource Recap

Recording: <https://www.viddler.com/v/f9885c5f>

### Meeting Overview

USAging hosted the third National Caregiver Champion Collaborative (CCC) meeting on September 25, 2024. The CCC is an open forum that brings together passionate leaders to share best practices, explore successful strategies, and learn about the latest programs to support family caregivers. Jill Kagan, with ARCH National Respite and Resource Center (ARCH) shared different respite resources for innovation and sustainability. Participants then separated into breakout rooms to discuss best practices for respite that their organization uses, including non-traditional respite models such as volunteer and fee-for-service models or mobile adult care for rural communities. Following the breakout discussion, Arcelia Armstrong, with the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, Inc., provided a program spotlight on their innovative volunteer respite program. Please review the meeting slides and [recording](#) for more information.

### Best Practices for Respite Discussion Highlights

Below are a few best practices shared during the breakout discussions:

Dani Martin

- Private pay list if they don't qualify for funded services or if funded services are not available
- If there is no option to use the private pay list, then refer to informal supports
- Working to be more mindful and intentional about seeking additional funding sources outside of our regular state and federal funding
- Ability to expand services using the guide model

Shannon

- Using AmeriCorps volunteers to provide respite
- Offering virtual support groups
- Contracts with in-home agencies
- Stipends for caregivers to develop their own plans
- Respite certificates for caregivers to trial in-home and community-based models
- Partnerships with villages for respite trials

Laura Jane Ward-Strunin, NC Division of Aging

- Project CARE (state-funded, dementia-specific model in NC)
  - Offers respite through caregiver directed vouchers (reimbursement based)
- Preparing for funding cuts/less flexibility for respite and caregiver self-care options
- Alternatives for waiting list for respite
  - Alternative is costly in-home care or adult day cares; explore volunteer options in the future
- In one of the states represented, most of the respite funds go to AAAs to operationalize as needed (can pay for respite directly)

Morgan Minyo

Last Updated: 10/2024



Leaders in Aging Well at Home

[Innovations in Family Caregiver Services and Supports](#) is a project of USAging, funded by the Administration for Community Living as part of its [National Caregiver Support Collaborative](#).

- Providing examples of caregiver respite programs that respective participant's organizations deliver to client or contract with
- Importance of partnering with other respite service providers to coordinate and navigate respite options
- Experience contracting with CMS GUIDE Participating Site to provide respite and the challenges with finding available respite options in some areas

Carmen Spurling

- Issues with transportation to respite services
- Limited availability (SD primarily rural & adult day services only available in 2 larger communities on opposite sides of the state)

Valerie Rodriguez, CDA

- Importance of partnering with agencies such as Alzheimer's Association to provide respite services and serve more caregivers
- Setting maximum hours for respite allows service providers to serve more caregivers and reduce waitlist numbers
- Exploring vouchered respite services in our States/ agencies considering there is a nationwide shortage of respite providers
- Using Mini-Grants with higher education institution sports programs to offer respite care for the younger side of the lifespan to promote inclusion, increase access to the collegiate experience, and create opportunities for athletes to interact with their community
- Respite expansion to include innovative respite options such as:
  - Assistive technology
  - Home renovations
  - Trualta - online database where training, support, and access to an online community is available at the caregiver's convenience.
- Respite innovations including meeting caregivers where they are, and tailoring respite options to increase socialization, recreation activities, and vacations

## Resources and Upcoming Opportunities

1. ARCH Tools for Sustainability, Financing Strategies for Lifespan Respite Programs and State Respite Coalitions  
[https://archrespite.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Financing\\_Strategies\\_Matrix.pdf](https://archrespite.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Financing_Strategies_Matrix.pdf)
2. State Respite Coalition and Lifespan Respite Grantee Contacts  
<https://archrespite.org/ta-center-for-respite/state-respite-coalition-contacts/>
3. Find a Statewide Voucher Program  
<https://archrespite.org/ta-center-for-respite/respite-voucher-programs/apply-for-state-lifespan-respite-voucher-programs/>
4. Self-Directed Respite Voucher Guide and Readiness Assessment Tool  
Link: <https://archrespite.org/library/participant-directed-respite-guidebook/>
5. National Respite Care Provider Training Replication Toolkit  
<https://archrespite.org/library/national-respite-care-provider-training-and-replication-toolkit>
6. ARCH Innovative and Exemplary Respite Services  
<https://archrespite.org/provider-resources/innovative-and-exemplary-respite-services>
7. Volunteer Respite Manual  
<https://archrespite.org/library/volunteer-respite-manual/>
8. Cultural and Linguistic Competence Assessment for Respite Organizations  
<https://archrespite.org/provider-resources/cultural-and-linguistic-competence/>
9. Call for Presentations for the 2025 National Lifespan Respite Conference  
<https://archrespite.org/2025-national-lifespan-respite-conference/2025-call-for-presentations/>

10. <https://www.wearehfc.org/care-grants>

11. [CCC Participants Directory](#)

## Next Meeting

The next bi-monthly CCC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 2-3 pm (ET).

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