

# Lifespan Respite Care Program

## Project Summary

**Grantee Organization:** Minnesota Board on Aging

**State:** Minnesota

**Project Period:** September 1, 2010 to August 31, 2013

**Contact:** Kari Benson ([kari.benson@state.mn.us](mailto:kari.benson@state.mn.us))

### Project Overview:

The Minnesota Board on Aging, in collaboration with the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Minnesota Lifespan Respite Coalition, supports the development of a Lifespan Respite Care Program. The **goal** of the project is to improve access to and availability of lifespan respite services for Minnesota's family caregivers.

Proposed **objectives** are to: 1) jumpstart, train and support Regional Lifespan Respite Collaboratives; 2) enhance the listing of public and private lifespan respite resources on the state's database; 3) expand the online Caregiver Link to provide family caregivers with information, resources and tools regarding respite resources; 4) train community members as "lifespan respite ambassadors" to increase awareness of available respite services; 5) increase coordination among public programs to maximize recruiting, training and funding resources; and 6) increase consumer choice and control of respite services across the lifespan.

### Outcomes and Products:

The expected **outcomes** of this effort are: 1) family caregivers will have increased knowledge of available respite services and how to access them; 2) family caregivers will receive more respite services that better meet their needs; 3) service providers, advocates and community members will have increased knowledge of the needs of caregivers and how they can be a part of a community of care; and 4) state program staff will report increased frequency of sharing resources to recruit and train respite providers and to increase the availability of lifespan respite services.

Project **products** will include the enhanced lifespan respite service listing on the statewide Information and Referral database and evaluation reports on the Regional Lifespan Respite Collaboratives and the success of the project in achieving expected outcomes.