

# Lifespan Respite Care Program

## Project Summary

**Grantee Organization:** New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities

**State:** New Jersey

**Project Period:** August 1, 2011 to July 31, 2014

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### Project Overview:

The New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Aging and Community Services and the New Jersey Lifespan Respite Coalition will implement a Lifespan Respite Care Program in the State. The **goal** of the project is to enhance and expand the quality and availability of lifespan respite services for all families across the age and disability spectrum and enhance access to services and supports for caregivers throughout New Jersey.

The following **objectives** will be achieved: (1) inventory current offerings in New Jersey, including resources, programs, expertise and training; (2) use existing consumer entry points to develop respite information gateways; and (3) establish a Respite Roundtable to strengthen collaborative efforts of stakeholders.

### Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated **outcomes** include: (1) increase access to and knowledge of existing respite services; (2) increase quality of respite services through access to coordinated training and best practices; (3) increase availability of a better trained respite workforce; (4) establish an inclusive, coordinated infrastructure of stakeholders prepared to meet the needs of families across the age and disability spectrums; and (5) the delivery of additional respite services through more efficient use of current resources.

**Products** from the project will include an inventory of current respite resources in the state; culturally competent outreach materials and approaches; enhancements to existing web sites to make respite services easier to locate; and satisfaction surveys and knowledge assessments designed to measure infrastructure development.