

Lifespan Respite Care Program

Project Summary

Grantee Organization: Virginia Department for the Aging

State: Virginia

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

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Project Overview:

The Virginia Department for the Aging in partnership with the Virginia Caregiver Coalition, the Aging and Disability Resource Center and other key partners will implement a Lifespan Respite Care Program in the state. The **goal** of the project is to build a statewide coordinated caregiver respite system for families providing support to individuals of any age, and/or with any disability or chronic condition.

The following **objectives** will be achieved: (1) build an integrated and sustainable lifespan respite infrastructure with the Coalition at the core; (2) strengthen the ID and DD voice, embedding it into the Code of VA and fully integrating it with the ADRCs; (3) assist caregivers in obtaining information about and access to respite care services; (4) expand the ADRC database with respite services for all ages and disabilities; (5) develop the “Family Caregiver Solution Center,” with web based tools and webinars; (6) train and recruit respite workers/volunteers with a statewide campaign, webinars and specialized trainings; and (7) develop and secure funding for an Emergency Family Respite Care Voucher Program for caregivers unable to afford respite in an emergency.

Outcomes and Products:

Anticipated **outcomes** include (1) increases in respite care listings and referrals by ADRC partners; (2) increases in caregiver knowledge and preparedness to use respite; and (3) increases in volunteer preparedness to provide respite services.

Products from the project will include a survey of respite services and funding sources; “Ask an Expert” columns in statewide publications; E-Quicktips; educational/promotional flyers; caregiver and respite worker/volunteer webinars; an implementation plan, donor report and budget for emergency family respite care voucher program; and conference presentations and abstracts.