ARKANSAS LIFESPAN RESPITE RESPITE IS AMONG THE MOST CRITICALLY NECESSARY & BENEFICIAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

ARKANSAS LIFESPAN RESPITE COALITION VISION

Improve the awareness and access of respite information and services available to families across age and disability spectrums by expanding and coordinating existing respite systems in Arkansas. This coalition partners with the Department of Human Services-Arkansas "Take the Time" Lifespan Respite program.

WHAT IS LIFESPAN RESPITE CARE **?**

A short-term break for primary caregivers, ranging from a few hours in the day to a few days.

Respite care can be provided in-home or out-of-home in camps, a health care facility, or day center.

Lifespan respite includes care for recipients of any age or diagnosis.

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380M hours of unpaid care is provided each year. do not receive any respite services.

\$4.7B is the total economic value of unpaid caregiving.

KEY GOALS FOR THE NEXT 5 YEARS:

- Implement a robust centralized Arkansas Lifespan Respite locator.
- Strengthen partnerships and collaborations through the Coalition.
- Update Arkansas-related caregiving data.
- Increase opportunity for caregiver input and feedback.
- Provide informational and educational caregiver outreach, particularly to underserved areas.
- Direct service opportunities and training events.
- Create legislative involvement and actions around caregivers and respite.

IMPORTANCE OF THE COALITION AND RESPITE CARE

RESPITE BARRIERS



Lack of lifespan respite programs available in community, and especially rural, settings



Lack of awareness of the respite services that are available

Lack of a state infrastructure to coordinate and provide awareness of available respite services

There are four kinds of people in this world: those who have been caregivers, those who currently are caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.

- First Lady Rosalynn Carter



Respite care can delay or prevent admissions to nursing homes and Human Development Centers and save the state millions.



20% of caregivers reported they "never got help or information" that they needed to support themselves or their loved one.



When family caregivers experience a decline in their own physical or emotional health, the person they have been caring for is at increased risk for hospitalization and institutionalization.



No more than 25 percent of working caregivers have access to support groups, ask-a-nurse type services, financial/legal advisors, and assisted living counselors through their respective workplaces.





