Caregiver Respite Grant Program

Family caregivers of individuals, who have long term care needs and supports with personal care, supervision, and monitoring, and find themselves in need of respite (short breaks) from their caregiving responsibilities. The purpose of this Caregiver Respite Grant Program is to meet planned and/or emergency respite care. It is important to read Items #1 thru #7 on back of this page.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to qualify for this program, the applicant must be the primary family caregiver or care recipient where the care recipient lives in Wisconsin AND: (check all boxes that apply)

- Is unable to perform, without substantial assistance from another person, at least two activities of daily living for an expected period of at least 90 days due to a loss of functional capacity; AND/OR
- Requires substantial supervision due to your severe cognitive impairment.
- Has applied for and been denied long term care waiver supports or other program* that provides respite services; OR
- Has applied for long-term care waiver supports and are not expecting to receive services and/or approval within 30 days of this application.

Additionally, the eligible care recipient must meet one of the following set of criteria: (check one of the following):

- An adult, 18 years of age or older who requires long term care or supervision to include:
  - Meet the person’s basic needs;
  - Prevent physical self-injury or injury to others; or
  - Avoid placement in an out-of-home, long-term care setting.

- A child, less than 18 years of age who requires long term care or supervision beyond that required of children generally to:
  - Meet the child’s basic needs; or
  - Prevent physical self-injury, or injury to others.

*Long Term Care Support Programs. Is the care recipient enrolled in, or on wait list for: (check one)

- Family Care
- I.R.I.S.
- Children’s Long-Term Care Support (CLTS)
- Children’s Community Options Program (CCOP)
- National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP)
- Alzheimer’s Family Caregiver Support Program (AFCSP)
- Foster Care Support Services

If deemed not eligible for any of the above programs – must furnish a copy of the Denial Letter for Long Term Care Waiver, NFCSP or AFCSP programs. If you can’t find, then contact referring agency for a copy or have the referring agency send an email to info@respitecarewi.org.

If application for long term care waiver supports is still in the review process - must provide proof application is in review process by providing contact info of agency reviewing application.

Note: If you have not heard or inquired about any of these programs, please contact:
- For adult long term care supports, click here to find and contact your local ADRC staff.
- For children long term care supports, click here to find and contact your local county staff.
Important information about the Caregiver Respite Grant Program:

1. **Planned Respite:** if you are or have been approved for respite grant funding from RCAW, you can’t apply for funding for 90 days after prior funded respite services were performed, unless it’s an emergency. Funding requests will only be considered up to a maximum up to 5 consecutive days, but funding requests will be subject to the availability of funds.

2. **Respite grant requests are typically filled on a first-come, first-served basis.** However, some applications may not be awarded due to extenuating circumstances.

3. **Emergency Respite:** Emergency needs will be assessed as they come in at the discretion of RCAW staff. Examples of emergency respite include accidents, surgery or death in the family.

4. **There is no minimum or maximum amount of awarded.** Each respite grant request is reviewed on a first come first serve basis along with maintaining equitable distribution of respite grant requests geographically. Requests will, however, will take into consideration market rates for respite care. Caregivers do not have to live with the care recipient.

5. **Respite grant requests will be based on actual hours requested at pre-approved rate.** The number of hours provided cannot exceed the amount approved but can be less. Or caregiver can pay the difference. No funding request will be made to pay for respite incurred prior to award notification.

6. **Caregivers are responsible for respite scheduling, supervision, and reviewing the credentials and safety training of respite care worker(s) or provider(s)/agency(ies).** Caregivers are encouraged to consider the kinds of help they or their care recipient are looking for in a respite care worker or provider/agency.

7. **The following questions may be helpful when reviewing respite options:**
   - What sort of help does the caregiver or care recipient need?
   - How much time will the respite care worker be providing care per session? (Hint: It is easier to find in-home workers if they are scheduled for four-to-eight-hour blocks of time.)
   - What are the basic qualifications a respite care worker or provider/agency must have in order to safely provide care?
   - Are there special skills required to work with the care recipient?
   - Ask if the respite care worker has a recent copy of a criminal and caregiver background check they can provide you, or ask how the provider/agency verifies respite care worker’s caregiver and criminal background history?
   - For additional information on how to interview paid workers, please refer to our free on-line training course called ‘How to Hire a Respite Care Worker’

I have reviewed the Eligibility Criteria on the front page of this form, and the Important Information Items #1 thru #7 above regarding the Caregiver Respite Grant Program, and believe my application meets the standards for the caregiver respite grant program.

Printed Name ______________________ Phone ______________________

Signature ______________________ Date ______________________

Submit this signed and completed Eligibility Criteria form along with the Letter from the Long Term Care Support Program Offices to:

RCAW via email at info@respitewi.org, fax at 608-222-2034 or
Mail To: P.O. Box 702, Portage, WI 53901