FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT & RESPITE VOUCHER PROGRAM

The goal of the Caregiver Support Program is to lessen the strain experienced by family caregivers by providing individual consultations, respite assistance, and connection to support groups, counseling and classes.

Caregiver respite vouchers may be available to provide support for persons involved in an ongoing caregiving relationship with a person 60 years of age or older; or younger with a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease or a related dementia.

Respite services give caregivers a much needed break from the demands of caring for a loved one and household management. Respite care will help both the caregiver and the person receiving care. These services can be provided in the caregiver/care receiver’s home, at an adult day program, or for a short-term stay in a long-term care community.

Respite Voucher Steps:

1. A Caregiver Assessment form needs to be filled out by the primary caregiver and returned to the Caregiver Coordinator.
2. An initial Caregiver Consultation to discuss services and support is scheduled in either the caregiver’s home, the home of the person receiving care, or at a mutually acceptable location and a time convenient for everyone.
3. The completed Assessment will determine if the person receiving care needs assistance in at least two (2) Activities of Daily Living categories: bathing/showering, dressing, use of the toilet, walking and transferring, managing personal care needs and/or needs supervision due to memory or behavioral concerns. If so, a respite plan can be discussed.
4. Respite care can be provided by a family member (one not living in the same home as the care receiver), by a friend or a service provider.
5. The Caregiver Coordinator approves the respite services; which are based on the respite plan developed during the consultation process.
6. Services are to be paid for in advance by the caregiver who in turn completes the Request for Payment form provided by the Caregiver Coordinator. This form is returned to the program coordinator and a check for the requested amount will be sent.
7. The respite voucher amounts will vary for a six-month approval period. These approval periods are 7/1 - 12/31 & 1/1 - 6/30.
8. Each caregiver is required to track their own respite expenses.
9. Care receivers currently participating in the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid program are not eligible for Respite Services with the Family Caregiver Voucher Program.

Referrals and inquiries may be made by contacting the Larimer County Office on Aging Caregiver Program Coordinator, Lynette McGowan, lmcgowan@larimer.org, 970-498-7758.