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COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Dane County Department of Human Services
Division of Disability & Aging Services

Interim Director – Astra Iheukumere
Division Administrator – Angela Velasquez

National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP)

This program offers respite, supplemental services, information, support, and other resources to family caregivers.

How?

Caregiver support services are available to family caregivers aged 18 or older caring for a frail person aged 60 or older or someone of any age with dementia. Grandparents and older relatives who are primary caregivers for minor children living with them or a severely disabled adult who lives with them may also qualify for the program. If the care recipient is on a Long Term Care Medicaid Program they are not eligible to apply. The caregiver may apply for AFCSP or ILSP in the same calendar year, but may not receive both grants simultaneously.

Program Offerings

Limited short-term respite care is provided in the home, at a day program, or during a short stay in a facility.

Respite services for caregivers include:

- Chore services such as yard work, snow shoveling, or heavy housework
- Personal care such as dressing, bathing, or toileting
- Daily homemaking tasks such as meal preparation, shopping, or light housework
- Companionship and general supervision for safety purposes
- Self-care services for the caregiver

Supplemental services include:

- Transportation and assisted transportation
- Assistive devices (chair lifts, alarms, medication management systems)
- Home modifications (tub to shower conversions, wheelchair ramps, grab bars, etc.)
- Safety equipment (Personal Emergency Response System)

Eligibility

- Primary caregiver aged 18 and over who provides unpaid care to a frail person age 60 or older, or to a person of any age who has Alzheimer's disease or related dementia.
- Grandparents or relatives aged 55 and older who are the primary caregivers for a child under age 18 who live with them or older relatives, including parents, age 55 and older providing care to adults ages 18-59 with severe disabilities who live with them. If the care recipient is on a Long Term Care Medicaid Program they are not eligible to apply. The caregiver may apply for AFCSP or ILSP in the same calendar year, but may not receive both grants simultaneously.

There are no fees or income requirements to enroll in this program.
Contact: Jane De Broux (Caregiver Specialist at AAA) at 608-381-5733 or caregiverspecialist@countyofdane.com for more information

Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program (AFCSP)

This program was created to enhance the lives of informal and family caregivers while helping people with dementia remain living in the community as long as possible.

How?

AFCSP funds are available in each county annually for qualified individuals to receive temporary caregiver respite and/or purchase goods and services needed to help care for someone with irreversible dementia. Upon referral and funds availability for that year, the AFCSP Coordinator will complete screening to determine eligibility and help determine the primary caregiver's needs.

Program Offerings

Typical goods and services commonly purchased with AFCSP funding include:

- Respite care or home care services (personal care assistance, meal prep, medication assistance and monitoring, homemaker services, yard work, snow removal, etc.)
- Emergency response systems
- Transportation expenses
- Incontinence supplies
- Home safety modifications
- Home-delivered meals
- Specialized clothing
- Activities and hobby supplies
- Legal expenses related to guardianship
- Caregiver counseling services
- Caregiver education classes
- Individualized services as approved

Caregiver support groups and caregiver education opportunities are also provided in each community. Contact your local Aging and Disability Resource Center to learn more about events in your area.

Eligibility

Families are eligible if two criteria are met:

1. There is a documented diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia from a healthcare professional.
2. The person with dementia resides in the community or in a residential facility. Though, funds may not be used for room & board in a facility, and are prioritized for persons living in the home with fewer resources.

Contact: Kayla Olson (Dementia Care Specialist at the ADRC) at 608-240-7464 or danedcs@danecounty.gov for more information.