Sustaining Respite Collaborations with the Help of Technology

Nebraska Experiences
... a workspace for Respite Coordinators and other authorized partners to connect and collaborate in a secure web-based environment. This online system is the primary source for statewide respite infrastructure data collection and analysis.
Provider approval, communications, training, retention efforts, and recordkeeping

Public access to reports: improve data integrity, advocate single source for demonstrating statewide lifespan respite need and utilization across agencies / funding sources

Quality Assurance, Technical Assistance and Project Management/Evaluation

Peer Mentoring and Respite Coordinator Training

Statewide Caregiver Coalition and six Regional Advisory Committees ensuring broad representation and involvement
Provider Approval & Payment (program-specific)

Participant directed
- Providers are not employees of the Department
- Family caregivers have the responsibility for hiring and firing providers
- Deciding where respite services will be provided

Aligning provider approval requirements when possible

Most programs have transitioned to online claims payment processes
NRSS/respitesearch on-line database

- Interfaces Nightly with eLifespan Respite and ADRC
- 24/7 access to Network-approved providers and respite resources
- Program Information and Applications
- Additional community resource information
- Referrals directly to local Respite Coordinator from site
- Data collection
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<th>Program</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
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<th>Website</th>
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| Developmental Disabilities HCBS Medicaid Waiver | Adults, age 21 years or older, and their families as appropriate, with intellectual or developmental disabilities (DD). Respite included in available services. Income eligibility requirements. | Pam Hovis  
Waiver Manager, Division of Developmental Disabilities  
(402) 471-8717  
pam.hovis@nebraska.gov | http://dhhs.ne.gov/developmental_disabilities/Pages/developmental_disabilities_ddwaivervideos.aspx |
| Aged & Disabled Medicaid Waiver                 | Individuals of all ages who are eligible for Medicaid and have needs at nursing facility level of care. Want to live at home rather than a nursing facility and can be served safely at home. | Children ages birth to three: Early Childhood Planning Regions  
Children ages 3 to 17: Local DHHS offices  
Adults 18-64: Independent Living Centers  
Adult over 65: Area Agencies on Aging | http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/hcs.aspx |
| Title III of Older Americans Act                 | Provides support services to informal family caregivers of individuals 60 years of age and older. The Caregiver can receive support in the form of care management, respite, education and training, information and assistance and various supplemental services. A service can be approved if it allows the caregiver to successfully maintain their caregiving role. Another aspect of the NFCSP is support for grandparents or relative caregivers who are the primary caregiver for a grandchild who is eighteen years of age or younger. | Local Area Agency on Aging office  
OR  
Department of Health & Human Services  
State Unit on Aging  
(402) 471-2307  
1-800-942-7830 (Nebraska only) | http://dhhsemployees/sites/mltc/Pages/MLTCHome.aspx |
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| Lifespan Respite Subsidy | Individual of any age with a special need who lives with an unpaid caregiver in a non-institutional setting, and meets financial criteria. Special needs include, but are not limited to, developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, chronic illness, physical, mental or emotional conditions, special health care needs, cognitive impairments that require on-going supervision, or situations in which there is a high risk of abuse or neglect for the individual with special needs. Crisis respite available. | Linda Lehde  
Social Services Worker  
(402) 471-9188  
dhss.respite@nebraska.gov | http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/hcs_programs_lifespan-respite.aspx |
| SSI/DCP (Disabled Children’s) Program | Children age birth to 16 who receive SSI (Social Security Insurance) benefits. | Western Nebraska--Gering (800) 477-6393  
Central Nebraska--Grand Island (800) 892-7922  
Southeast Nebraska--Lincoln (877) 213-4754  
Northern Nebraska--Norfolk (888) 704-0180  
Southwest Nebraska--North Platte (800) 778-1600  
Omaha area-- (402) 595-2120 | http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/hcs_programs_dcp.aspx |
| Subsidized Adoption | Adoption subsidy approved by DHHS prior to the finalization of an adoption. Adoptive parent(s) may request an increase in the subsidy rate if your child encounters an unusual expense not generally incurred by a family and which is based on the child’s special needs. Note: Private or out-of-state subsidized adoptions have unique considerations and may qualify for Lifespan Respite Subsidy. | Deanna Brakhage  
Sub-Adopt Program Specialist  
(402) 417-9331 or  
deanna.brakhage@nebraska.gov | |
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<td>Nebraska Western Iowa Veterans Administration Caregiver Support Program: General Caregiver Support Services and Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers</td>
<td>If the veteran is not connected to the VA, visit their local county Veteran Service Officer&lt;br&gt; If the veteran goes to the VA contact their PACT team social worker for services&lt;br&gt; Caregiver may contact the Caregiver Support Coordinator</td>
<td>Caregiver Support Coordinator at each VA medical center&lt;br&gt; 1-855-260-3274 to reach VA’s Caregiver Support Line&lt;br&gt; Joni S Morin MSW, LCSW&lt;br&gt; Caregiver Support Coordinator&lt;br&gt; Nebraska Western Iowa VA Health Care System&lt;br&gt; 402-995-4618&lt;br&gt; VA Caregiver Support Line&lt;br&gt; 1-855-260-3274&lt;br&gt; Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 11:00 pm ET&lt;br&gt; Saturday, 10:30 am – 6:00 pm ET&lt;br&gt; VA Caregiver Support website&lt;br&gt; <a href="http://www.caregiver.va.gov">www.caregiver.va.gov</a></td>
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<td>Medicaid through Personal Assistance Services, Skilled Nursing Care Services and temporary Nursing Home Care</td>
<td>Active Medicaid and program-specific eligibility. Applicant must request respite resource from Access Nebraska Medicaid &amp; Long-Term Care staff who determines eligibility.</td>
<td>Medical Eligibility Customer Service Contact: Call (855) 632-7633 In Lincoln (402) 473-7000 In Omaha (402) 595-1178 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday</td>
<td><a href="http://dhhs.ne.gov/Children_Family_Services/AccessNebraska/Pages/accessnebraska_index.aspx">http://dhhs.ne.gov/Children_Family_Services/AccessNebraska/Pages/accessnebraska_index.aspx</a></td>
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<td>Adult Protective Services (Title XX)</td>
<td>Persons who are 18 years of age or older and have a substantial functional or mental impairment OR 18 years of age or older and have a guardian that was appointed by the Nebraska probate code AND there are allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, including self-neglect.</td>
<td>Call the 24-hour toll-free hotline at 1-800-652-1999 OR local law enforcement</td>
<td><a href="http://dhhs.ne.gov/children_family_services/Pages/nea_aps_apsindex.aspx#Eligibility">http://dhhs.ne.gov/children_family_services/Pages/nea_aps_apsindex.aspx#Eligibility</a></td>
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Sharon Johnson, DHHS
Statewide Respite Network Program Coordinator
(402) 471-1764
dhhs.respite@nebraska.gov
https://nrrs.ne.gov/respiresearch/