Bringing Emergency Respite Care to Maryland

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Lifespan Emergency Respite Grant

- Funded through a grant from the Administration for Community Living in 2016
- Launched late 2017
- Annual grant of $225 to provide a short break to caregivers so that they may attend to an unavoidable, unplanned event that requires the primary caregiver's absence from the care recipient
Emergency Respite Needs Assessment

**MD Commission on Caregiving Survey**
- Conducted 2014 to 2015
- 1,800 caregivers across lifespan
- Respite care = #1 need
- Need for information about services
- Difficult to qualify for services
- Reduced wait time for services

**State Respite Program Review**
- Medicaid waivers target specific populations and/or disabilities and have lengthy wait times
- Three State-funded respite programs often have waitlists

**Emergency Respite**
- Universal program
- No income/asset limits
- Across the lifespan
- No wait time
Emergency Respite: Program Elements

- Universality
- Easy Access
- Flexibility
- Customer Service
Emergency Respite: Program Development

• Ease of Access
  – Short application process
  – No documentation required
  – Caregivers can pre-register or apply retroactively

• Universality
  – No income or asset limits
  – Serves caregivers across the lifespan
  – No restrictions on disability or condition
Emergency Respite: Program Development

• Flexibility
  – Multiple options: in-home, facility, camps, transportation, friendly check-ins
  – Caregiver chooses respite provider

• Customer Service
  – Partnered with Elizabeth Cooney Agency
    • Six decades of statewide experience
    • 24/7 support in 12 languages
How Has Emergency Respite Been Used?

- Illness or surgery
- Unexpected gap in care
- Court appearance
- Funeral
Challenges and Opportunities: Sustainability

- Increasing Usage of Grant
- Identifying Future Funding Sources
Sustainability: Increasing Grant Usage

• Raising Awareness and Increasing Usage of Grant
  • 2014-2015 Maryland Family Caregiver Survey: caregivers want the State to raise awareness of services

• Outreach Activities
  – Maryland Commission on Caregiving
  – Monthly conference calls
  – Individual outreach with agencies serving caregivers
Sustainability: Increasing Grant Usage

Maryland Commission on Caregiving

alzheimer's association®

MedStar Health

WCPS
Washington County Public Schools

AARP

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
CHEDIRSH THE DIVINE WITHIN ALL

easterseals

JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICINE

VA MARYLAND HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Worcester Health

Maryland Department of Human Services

The Arc Maryland

MARYLAND FAMILY NETWORK

Department of Aging and Disabilities
Anne Arundel County
Making life better
Sustainability: Increasing Grant Usage

• Evaluation Research
  – Assess caregivers’ satisfaction with emergency respite
  – Identify opportunities for outreach
Sustainability: New Funding Opportunities

- Identifying Future Funding Sources
- Submitting grant applications
Questions
Emergency Respite Care Service Use in Maryland

Christine Schoenberger
Kennedy Krieger Institute
Broad Service Use Across the Lifespan

Age Range

1-9: 14
10-17: 4
18-24: 8
25-34: 2
45-54: 3
55-64: 6
65-74: 6
75 and older: 27
Most Needed Assistance with ADLs
Wide Range of Medical Needs

Among those needing assistance with ADLs
Medical was the #1 Emergency

Among those needing assistance with ADLs