



NATIONAL LIFESPAN RESPITE
CONFERENCE
September 13-15, 2022

The Madison Concourse Hotel
Madison, WI

Call for Presentations

Deadline for Proposal Submissions: March 11, 2022

The Respite Care Association of Wisconsin, in collaboration with the ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center, will host the 2022 National Lifespan Respite Conference in Madison, WI, on September 14-15, 2022. The conference will be preceded by the Lifespan Respite Grantee and Partner Learning Symposium for grantees and partners (by invitation only) on September 13, 2022.

The theme for the conference, *Reimagine Respite*, is meant to be timely as well as inspirational. The pandemic may be ongoing, but we can now imagine a more hopeful future. COVID-19 cast a harsh light on the lack of support for family caregivers, but it also presented opportunities to raise awareness and rethink traditional supports to ensure that they are more meaningful for family caregivers and their loved ones. *How was respite care adapted during the pandemic? Might adaptations provide a model to Reimagine Respite post-COVID?*

This conference will provide a space to ‘dream’ big, ‘explore’ new ideas, and ‘create’ different ways to ‘achieve’ respite. It will also ‘inspire’ us to build on what we’ve learned and ‘discover’ new ways to meet the respite needs of the nation’s more than 50 million family caregivers.

Previous National Lifespan Respite Conferences have been very successful, and we expect no less from the 2022 conference in Madison! The conference will offer valuable, up-to-date information for families, professionals and other stakeholders related to respite supports for caregivers. Conference keynote speakers and breakout sessions will offer a multitude of opportunities to **Reimagine Respite** for Lifespan Respite Care Programs and the broader respite network that supports caregivers.

This call for presentations is an opportunity to come to Madison to share your innovative best practices related to respite care, envision a new path to caregiver support, and benefit and learn from what you and the respite network have accomplished.

Target Audience

This national conference is intended for *everyone* who supports family members and family caregivers of individuals across all ages. Anyone who is affected by or caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's, ALS, Autism, Down Syndrome, ADHD, intellectual or developmental disabilities, mental health, and behavioral health issues, or any other disabling or chronic condition, has a stake in significant caregiver issues. Families of or providers to military wounded soldiers or Veterans, kinship caregivers or providers, and those working with families at risk of abuse or neglect will also have much to gain from attending this conference. The audience will include family caregivers, persons with disabilities, older adults, parents, grandparents, siblings, young caregivers, guardians, respite providers, social workers, case managers, program managers, nurses, researchers, advocates, direct support staff, teachers, leaders of faith-based organizations, policy makers, and other community/business leaders who influence and shape the role of respite in the support network.

What benefits do YOU gain from presenting at the Conference?

- ❖ You will learn and grow in a friendly, caring, fun, and inclusive environment and come away personally and professionally revitalized.
- ❖ You gain visibility and recognition as a national leader in Respite.
- ❖ You are provided an opportunity to network with and learn from other professionals and caregivers from across the nation.
- ❖ You will have the satisfaction of sharing best practices in respite care systems and services.
- ❖ You will receive a \$100 discount off the "early bird" registration cost of \$395, reducing the cost of the conference registration for presenters to just \$295.

Presentation Formats

The conference will offer 60-minute time slots for breakout sessions. Presenters are encouraged to incorporate the **Reimagine Respite** theme, targeting one of the five topic areas and/or the Lifespan Respite Track listed below. Each presentation should include at least three learning objectives.

Please think of creative ways to inform and energize the audience. Presenters are welcomed and encouraged to develop interactive sessions that engage participants in discussion, networking, and an open exchange of ideas. You may develop a proposal alone or with one or two other speakers on a related topic. *The conference review committee retains the right to combine presentations with others under similar topics. Presenters will be notified in advance if this occurs.*

Breakout rooms will be set up “theatre” style or with round tables to accommodate 35-75 participants. If your proposed session or presentation requires a different space set up, the request must be indicated on the application form. We will not be able to guarantee your preferred arrangement, but we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

Presentation Tracks and Topics

We are looking for presentation proposals that focus on respite care, but cross over multiple disciplines, reflecting the wide range of options required and utilized by caregivers across the lifespan. Proposals should target one of five topical tracks or the Lifespan Respite Track described below. Following each topic description are questions to help you think about possible session ideas, but you are not limited to these. We encourage you to show how your work **Reimagines Respite**. Be creative!

Dream: Innovative Service Delivery throughout the Lifespan

This track is designed to highlight successful models, innovations, and exemplary approaches to providing planned and crisis respite care for all ages. Newly imagined and non-traditional approaches to respite for all populations can also be shared.

- ❖ *Are your respite services on the cutting edge, offering new and innovative approaches to respite?*
- ❖ *Are your services new, engaging and reflective of changes necessitated by the pandemic?*
- ❖ *Are you engaging volunteers and the faith community to provide respite?*
- ❖ *Are you reaching families across the age and disability spectrum in meaningful ways?*
- ❖ *Do you make a special effort to reach invisible and unserved groups who are often ineligible for public funding or who are geographically or culturally isolated from mainstream services?*
- ❖ *Are your respite services person and family-centered? Do they allow for self-directed services?*
- ❖ *How do you engage working caregivers to utilize respite?*
- ❖ *Do you encourage use of inclusive community social and recreational activities as respite opportunities?*
- ❖ *How do you ensure the quality and safety of the respite services you provide?*

Discover: Advances in Research and Evaluation

As service providers and caregivers make a case for respite availability and funding, a solid evidence-base for respite is essential. Research provides understanding of the health and well-being of family caregivers and the overall effect of respite on societal outcomes, including cost-benefits. Good data collection is important for continuous quality improvement in the respite we provide. This track is intended to present findings from evaluations of lifespan respite activities, respite models, alternative respite and support interventions, and strategies for meaningful performance measurement.

- ❖ *Have you done research on innovative or exemplary respite service models?*
- ❖ *Have you examined the effectiveness or benefits of new virtual or alternative informal respite services that emerged during the pandemic?*
- ❖ *Have you documented significant caregiver or care recipient outcomes from respite?*
- ❖ *How does respite benefit the whole family?*
- ❖ *Have you explored the societal benefits of respite, including cost savings to government programs, health systems or to employers?*
- ❖ *How can we take existing respite research and translate it to meaningful practice?*
- ❖ *Do you engage in meaningful data collection and performance measurement that documents how well you provide services? Do you use the data for quality improvement?*
- ❖ *Have you studied and documented systems change for respite, collaboration, or respite access?*
- ❖ *Have you documented that respite helps strengthen families and reduces abuse and neglect?*

Create: Strengthening the Respite Provider Workforce

The nationwide shortage of well-trained direct care workers and respite providers needs to be addressed immediately. The experienced respite network is uniquely positioned to reimagine and test solutions to the workforce crisis. Sessions should focus on ways to boost caregiver confidence in respite, including training to improve the safety and quality of care, and strategies to increase the pool of reliable and qualified respite providers and options for families.

- ❖ *Are you engaged in helping to address the shortage of direct service workers?*
- ❖ *Do you provide innovative respite provider or volunteer recruitment strategies?*
- ❖ *Have you had success in building and maintaining a respite provider pool during the pandemic?*
- ❖ *Do you use proven or exciting new training curriculum or cutting-edge learning approaches?*
- ❖ *Have you had success with virtual online training?*
- ❖ *Do you provide training that leads to professional career pathways?*
- ❖ *How do you recognize, support, and retain respite workers and volunteers?*
- ❖ *Do you have expertise in specialized training in behavioral management, dementia, or medical needs?*
- ❖ *Have you engaged new partners, such as community colleges or universities, to help recruit and train respite workers?*

Inspire: Advocacy and Networking for Sustainability

We have come to understand that our collective efforts to sustain the important work we do in caregiving and respite is inextricably linked to the changing economic, social and political environment. Presentations may explore new public awareness campaigns, financing strategies for sustainability, unique partnerships, successful coalitions, legislative advocacy, and imaginative contexts for providing, promoting and sustaining respite.

- ❖ *What partnerships have you fostered to promote or sustain respite services?*
- ❖ *What are your best practices in building or sustaining coalitions?*
- ❖ *What innovative approaches do you use to engage new stakeholders in supporting your respite activities and what are your success stories in making collaboration work?*
- ❖ *What creative campaigns have you used to reach caregivers, stakeholders, and the public to share the importance of respite and how to access it?*
- ❖ *What business practices have you used to ensure sustainability?*
- ❖ *How have you partnered with health systems or insurance companies to promote respite? With employers and businesses?*
- ❖ *What have you accomplished to embed your respite activities into larger state or county-wide health or social services systems?*
- ❖ *What do your long-term sustainability plans look like and how do you achieve them?*
- ❖ *How have you used technology to enhance and sustain respite services?*
- ❖ *Are you an advocate for respite? What strategies have you used to promote respite with policymakers, funders and other decision makers?*

Explore: Family Caregiver Perspectives

This track is geared to family caregivers and those who work with family caregivers who want to learn more about successful caregiving strategies, meaningful respite, resources that support caregivers, and impactful stories related to the benefits of respite and caregiver wellness programs. This track also seeks sessions in which family caregivers share what they imagine their dream respite might be.

- ❖ *What does respite mean to you? What would your dream respite look like?*
- ❖ *What do you need to feel optimistic about using respite?*
- ❖ *What do you expect to get out of respite?*
- ❖ *How do you spend your respite time to feel rejuvenated and rested?*
- ❖ *What do you need to encourage respite use?*
- ❖ *How do you know your loved one is safe and well cared for in respite?*
- ❖ *Self-directed respite: Is it for you?*
- ❖ *How do you find and pay for respite?*
- ❖ *I am a sibling or a young caregiver. Are there special respite services for me?*
- ❖ *What is the best model of respite care for me and my loved one?*

Achieve: Lifespan Respite Track

This track may be of particular interest to Lifespan Respite grantees and their partners, and present an opportunity for them to highlight their service delivery and systems change grant activities. Through the federal Lifespan Respite Program, the U.S. Administration for Community Living awards competitive grants to state agencies in partnership with state respite coalitions and others to develop statewide coordinated systems of community-based respite services for family caregivers; provide gap-filling planned and emergency respite; and build respite capacity through provider training and recruitment and new volunteer and faith-based initiatives.

Current and former Lifespan Respite grantees and their partners are encouraged to submit a session proposal for the Lifespan Respite Track that describes best practices, program successes, and challenges experienced in their Lifespan Respite grant implementation or coalition activities. Some topics in this track might include:

- ❖ *Innovative service delivery*
- ❖ *Effects of changes to respite or grant activities as a result of the pandemic*
- ❖ *Collaborative partnerships (e.g., with No Wrong Door Systems and Aging and Disability Resource Centers, employers, medical community or managed care organizations)*
- ❖ *Respite registries*
- ❖ *New ways to engage volunteers or the faith community*
- ❖ *Respite provider training and recruitment*
- ❖ *Public awareness and messaging*
- ❖ *Defining a coordinated Lifespan Respite system for improved respite access that links family caregivers to services, respite funding sources, and information*
- ❖ *Sustainability plans*
- ❖ *Fact-finding and data management*

Review Process

All completed proposals will be reviewed by the Conference Planning Committee using the following criteria:

- Practical applicability to the conference theme ***Reimagine Respite***.
- Usefulness of the information, skills, and/or ideas for the intended audience
- Contributions to new or innovative practices
- Intent to stimulate active engagement of participants
- Presenter's qualifications and experience
- Use of instructional aids

We reserve the right to request modifications to a proposal before a final decision is made. We also reserve the right to combine presentations with similar topics in one session. Presenters will be notified in advance if this should occur.

Important Instructions for Application Submission

Proposals must be [completed online](#) and submitted no later than **March 11, 2022**

All presenter applications must be completed [online](https://www.tfaforms.com/4954890) [<https://www.tfaforms.com/4954890>]. Be sure to review the following information carefully to be certain you describe all aspects of your proposal and complete each required section before you submit the application online.

- 1) We recommend that you draft the narrative portions of the proposal in a WORD document, save responses to your computer, and then copy and paste the relevant sections into the appropriate text boxes in the [online application](#).
- 2) You do not need to complete the application in one sitting. You will be able to save it, exit the session, and continue later as long as you provide your email address and create a password. We suggest you [review the questions](#) in advance of completing the application.
- 3) Presenters will be asked to describe their presentation in an abstract of no more than 500 words. Presenters are encouraged to incorporate the *Reimagine Respite* theme.
- 4) Please designate your preferred track.
- 5) Each presentation should include at least three learning objectives.
- 6) Presenter bios should be no more than 250 words and must describe their relevant qualifications and experience.
- 7) To be considered, all proposals must be submitted online by the **March 11, 2022 deadline** and include all information requested on the Presenter's Application Form.
- 8) You will receive a confirmation email with a copy of your submitted proposal.
- 9) We will make every effort to respond to all applications no later than **May 1, 2022**.

AV Equipment

All breakout sessions will include a PowerPoint package with a podium with laptop computer, LCD projector and screen. Internet may be available. A podium microphone may be provided depending on the size of the room and the acoustics. Presenters will be responsible for costs associated with any additional equipment or services required. Contact Lisa Schneider with the Respite Care Association of Wisconsin at lschneider@respitewarewi.org if you have questions or additional requests.

Presenter Registration

All presenters will be required to be registered for the conference. Approved presenters will receive a \$100 discount off of the “early bird” registration cost (\$395), reducing the cost of registration for presenters to just \$295. **Please note:** Wisconsin residents and ARCH paid members, whether or not they are presenters, are already entitled to a discounted registration rate of \$295. Only one discount per registrant will be permitted.

An approved presenter’s registration must be completed and paid for by **June 1, 2022** for the presenter’s session to be included in the conference. The registration fee will not be waived for presenters. In addition, hotel, travel, per diem, and other associated costs are the responsibility of each presenter.

Dates to Remember

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** **March 11, 2022**
- **Presenter Notification:** **May 1, 2022**
- **Presenter Registration Payment Due:** **June 1, 2022**
- **Lifespan Respite Grantee and Partner Learning Symposium (by invitation only):** **September 13, 2022**
- **Opening Conference Reception:** **Evening of September 13, 2022**
- **National Lifespan Respite Conference:** **September 14-15, 2022**

Questions?

Please contact Lisa Schneider at the Respite Care Association of Wisconsin at lschneider@respitewi.org or Jill Kagan with ARCH at jkagan@archrespitewi.org with any questions.

Visit the [Conference Website](#) for more information. To complete the Call for Presentations Application Form online, visit <https://www.tfaforms.com/4954890>.

Conference Hosts.....

