THE CAREGIVER RELIEF FUND

The Caregiver Relief Fund is a respite funding service of Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

Eligible Caregivers: Unpaid family members, friends, neighbors, or domestic partners caring for a person 60 years old or older. The caregiver must reside in Multnomah County. The person in care must need substantial assistance in at least two activities of daily living (ADLs). ADLs include: bathing, behavior, dressing, eating, elimination, mobility/walking, personal hygiene/grooming, transferring.

Seniors, age 55 and older, caring for relatives (non-parental) adults of any age with severe disabilities, are also eligible for funds. ADL requirements are the same as above.

Caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease (and related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction) are eligible for Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) funds. The care receiver and caregiver can be of any age.

Grandparents, and other relatives, at least 55 years old, who are caring for a grandchild/child age 18 or younger, are eligible for FCSP funds. The grandparent/relative must be the main caregiver of the grandchild/child, and the grandchild/child must reside with the grandparent/relative. ADL requirements do not exist, but grandparents caring for children with disabilities are the highest priority. Caregivers receiving TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) are eligible for FCSP funds.

Funds: Award amounts are based on the needs of the caregiver. There is currently no income restriction; however, serving caregivers with financial needs is a priority. Payment is made directly to the respite provider or vendor. Time sheets are mailed to the caregiver upon enrollment. The respite provider or vendor completes the appropriate forms that are signed by the caregiver and sent to the Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator. All unpaid caregivers are eligible to participate.

Respite Services: Funds are available to pay for respite services. Caregivers must use an agency for services. Acceptable agencies include: home care agencies, adult day care centers, or facilities that provide overnight respite.

For elders caring for children, funds can be used to pay for agencies who provide child care, camps, or programs that offer after school activities.

Supplemental Services: Defined by the legislation as a variety of goods and services that may be provided to caregivers. This may include (but is not limited to) mobility aids, durable medical equipment, communication equipment (Lifeline, walkie-talkies, etc), grab bars, ramps, and/or any non-respite services which allow the caregiver to provide better care for the recipient.

Caregiver Relief Fund Access: ADS Helpline (503.988.3646) for those without case manager. This is the number printed on all of the FCSP brochures.

For referrals through the ADS branches, or District Senior Centers, case managers should contact Loriann McNeill, FCSP Coordinator. An electronic intake form is available for case managers to complete. If you need an electronic form contact Loriann at 503-988-3646. The information needed to enroll a caregiver takes less than 15 minutes to complete. The electronic intake form should be emailed to family.caregiver@co.multnomah.or.us   Award letters for respite funds are mailed to family caregivers directly.

Contact Person: Loriann McNeill, Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator.
Address: 421 SW Oak , Suite 510, Portland, Oregon 97204.
Phone: 503.988.3646 extension 26263.
Email: loriann.mcneill@co.multnomah.or.us

Family Caregiver Support Program staff is available for presentations to any group (business, church, provider, etc.) that have an interest in caregiver issues. Presentations can also be made available for caregiver support groups, health fairs, etc. Caregivers may access a broad range of information about support groups, caregiver training, local and national resources through the ADS Helpline, and the Family Caregiver Support Program.