



FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM



The National Family Caregiver Support Program was created as a result of the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act in 2000. The program was developed by the Administration on Aging after listening to the needs expressed by hundreds of family caregivers in discussions held across the country.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICES?

- 1) Anyone who is a caregiver of a senior 60 years of age and older
- 2) Grandparents or other senior relatives who are primary caregivers of children not more than 18 years of age.

THREE CATEGORIES OF SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

1) Support

- a) Information regarding available services and assistance in gaining access to those services
- b) Individual counseling
- c) Work in partnership with organizations, facilities and service providers in the ten counties of Southeast Tennessee to provide Caregiver workshops, conferences, and support groups to assist caregivers in making decisions and solving problems relating to their caregiving roles.

2) Respite care to enable caregivers to be temporarily relieved from their caregiving responsibilities

- a) Adult Day Care
- b) Short-Term In-Home Respite
- c) Overnight Respite
- d) Personal Care (long-term help with bathing, grooming, etc.)
- e) Homemaker Services

3) Supplementary services offered on a limited basis to complement the care provided by family caregivers

- a) Personal Emergency Response Systems
- b) Help with purchasing medical supplies not covered by insurance
- c) Minor Repairs or Home Modifications
- d) Home Delivered Meals

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HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

In Southeast Tennessee, after being enrolled in the Family Caregiver Support Program, the primary caregiver in this program may use up to \$2000 in respite services over 12 months.

The key concept in the program is caregiver CHOICE. The caregiver makes the decisions about ...

- 1) **The type of respite care to be utilized.**
 - a) Caregivers may choose to use Adult Day Care, Short-Term In-Home Respite, or Personal Care.
 - b) Caregivers may choose to use one or a combination of services.
- 2) **Which service provider to use from the list of those with whom the Area Agency on Aging and Disability has contracted.**
 - a) Once the caregiver chooses a service provider, then he contacts the provider to request services. **The caregiver must make sure the provider understands that he is requesting services through the FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM.**
 - b) The service provider will tell the caregiver what they require to set up service (information from a physician, an evaluation interview, etc.).
 - c) The service provider will call the Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator regarding the caregiver's request.
 - d) The Coordinator will authorize the services the caregiver is to receive. No services will be provided before the service provider has received an authorization to provide services.
 - e) The service provider will invoice the Family Caregiver Support Program and the Program will pay the bill.
- 3) **When the service will be used.** Although the caregiver may decide when he or she wishes to use a service, the actual dates of service will depend on the schedule of the service provider. Therefore, caregivers should contact service providers as far in advance as possible.

If you would like to have additional information please call the Information and Assistance number (Toll Free) 1(866) 836-6678.

This information is made possible through funds from the Older Americans Act, The Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability and The Southeast Tennessee Development District/Area Agency on Aging and Disability

The Southeast Tennessee Development District/Area Agency on Aging and Disability is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD (423) 752-0640