



The Massachusetts Lifespan Respite Coalition is supported and sponsored by the Federal Lifespan Respite Grant and a broad interagency coalition including but not limited to: MA Department of Developmental Services; MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs; Children's Hospital, Boston; MA Office of Medicaid; National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater New England Chapter; The Seven Hills Foundation, and many more.



Our Mission:

To promote and support access to quality respite care options that enhance the lives of individuals and families with special needs throughout the lifespan.

Our Vision:

Throughout Massachusetts, every individual, caregiver, or family needing respite services will have access to a seamless, statewide system that provides quality, individualized respite services that meet their needs.

How to join:

It's **FREE** to become a member of the Massachusetts Lifespan Respite Coalition.

Contact Joan Rafferty at info@massrespite.org or visit our website for registration information. You will receive updates, coalition meeting information, advocacy events, and much more!

www.massrespite.org

“Each of us, at some point in our lives, will find ourselves being a caregiver for a loved one.”

Join Us!

What is lifespan respite?

You or someone you know is a caregiver. Caregivers provide around the clock assistance for a family member, loved one, or other individual with a disability, chronic illness, or life changing injury. Respite services provide caregivers with a needed break from their ongoing responsibilities, enabling them to keep their family unit intact and healthy. Lifespan respite acknowledges that families looking for respite services share a common need regardless of the age or diagnosis of the individual that requires care.



Who We Are:

**Parents * Children * Elders
Veterans * Advocates
Educators * Religious Groups
Diagnostic Specific Groups
State Agency Representatives
Physicians * Insurers
Paid Providers * Volunteers**

Our Guiding Principles:

- Every family is entitled to a highly qualified, trustworthy respite provider.
- Every respite provider should aspire to respect and embrace cultural diversity.
- Respite services should support families in building strength and maintaining unity.



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email: info@massrespite.org



Our Goals:

- To build and strengthen the Coalition by bringing together all family caregivers statewide to unite around the common need for respite services.
- To improve statewide dissemination and coordination of respite care by developing a comprehensive, accessible directory of services
- To enhance and expand the availability of Lifespan Respite Services in Massachusetts by improving training and recruitment of providers, and developing a strategic plan and list of policy recommendations
- To capitalize on the power of many voices to advocate for awareness of the need for respite services and funding to support them.