

Sec. 18. Title 46, chapter 1, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding article 6, to read:

ARTICLE 6. LIFESPAN RESPITE CARE PROGRAM

46-171. Definitions

In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Lifespan respite care" means a coordinated system of accessible, community-based respite care services for family caregivers of children or adults with special needs.
2. "Respite care" means short-term care and supervision services that are provided to an individual to relieve the individual's caregiver.

46-172. Lifespan respite care program; program termination

A. The department shall establish a lifespan respite care program.

B. The lifespan respite care program shall:

1. Establish a respite program for primary caregivers of individuals who do not currently qualify for other publicly funded respite services.
2. Coordinate with other respite services, including services that are provided pursuant to title 36, chapter 5.1 and sections 36-2939, 36-3407 and 46-193.
3. Support the growth and maintenance of a statewide respite coalition.
4. Conduct a study on the need for respite care throughout the lifespan of individuals.
5. Identify local training resources for respite care providers.
6. Link families with respite care providers and other types of respite caregiver consultants.
7. Create an evaluation tool for recipients of respite care to assure quality of care.

C. The program established by this section ends on July 1, 2017 pursuant to section 41-3102.

46-173. Lifespan respite care advisory committee

The department shall establish a lifespan respite care advisory committee that includes family caregivers and respite care providers to advise the lifespan respite care program on respite care matters.

Sec. 41. Appropriation; lifespan respite care program; exemption

A. The sum of \$500,000 and one FTE position are appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2007-2008 to the department of economic security for the purposes of the lifespan respite care program established by section 46-172, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act.

B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations.