Sustainability Learning Collaborative
Lifespan Respite Grantee Meeting
Huntsville, Alabama
October 11, 2017

BURNING ISSUES

Coalitions and Planning Groups
Building an invested Advisory Group with members willing to do actual work on committees.
Building a Board with structure and purpose.
Getting organizations (that are not required to do so) to report data.
Engaging coalition members.
Helping coalition members find their role with the coalition.
Creating a “hook” so that potential members will want to become members of the coalition.
Getting the coalition to help move the program forward, and to improve upon it.
Starting to develop a sustainability plan.
How to generate state funding for lifespan respite and caregiving action plan.
Need 8 to 10 community-based organizations to step up to design, implement and sustain community respite programs.
Need to identify and implement design for sustainable coalition and stakeholder group.
Membership in coalition.
Absence of expertise on coalition and the need for knowledge.
How to create and engage a coalition.
Pros and cons of pursuing 501C3 status.
A stronger Lifespan Respite Coalition with support from key organizations.
Growing Coalition membership.

Funding
Finding funds to keep staff to run programs, and funds to do the activities and provide the services the respite program offers.
Finding funding if not awarded additional grants.
Sustaining voucher programs if existing funding ends.
How to generate state funding for lifespan respite and caregiving action plan.
How to sustain a Lifespan Respite Program when federal grant is ending after only three years, and no state funds are available.
Finding funding sources after Lifespan Respite Grant ends in 2018.
Finding permanent baseline funding.
Keeping work going once grant funds have dried up.
Keeping program going without grant funding.
Program Delivery and Administration
Streamlining program process that staff does not invest time “spinning wheels” of staff/program/voucher recipients.
Need to develop a framework for emergency respite.
Need to establish training/certificate program for respite providers.

MARKERS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability enables a program to continue beyond grant funding, both fiscally and programmatically.

Group of people actively and proactively engaged in mission and vision of creating supports for caregivers/respite, who work together on the same agenda to create policies and services that support respite (with vouchers and with head agency) to drive this agenda.

Solid Funding Base
To survive and grow without dependence on grant funds.
Permanent baseline funding.
Our program has continued long after initial state grant and now has state line-item funding, plus the federal grant.
Funding streams and volunteer programs to meet respite service needs.
Visible, accessible resources.
Ongoing funding to support vouchers and staffing for a stable program.
Funding sources.
Money and support.
Continuing the work beyond the funding.
Continuing the work if we lose grant funding.

Data Collection and Reporting
I have introduced a web-based data management tool to both our coalition and to our state commission on caregiving that is easy to use, captures data on the fly, and data is always available and accessible.

Continuous Coordination
Organization has been in place for X number of years.
We've had success with building partnerships (state committees). Those qualities that anchor the program in the landscape.

**Stakeholders**
- Ongoing, robust stakeholder engagement.
- Growing membership.
- Developing relationships with programs and organization partners such as state agencies and not-profit organizations.
- Community support.
- Keeping members engaged and following up. Only a limited group work outside the actual coalition meeting. Little buy-in. Too much territorialism. Something formal beyond coalition.
- Having invested people involved in coalition building to move the work and agenda forward.

**Government Commitment**
- State legislation to establish a state respite office, and funding for the state respite office. (Arkansas)
- Government commitment to the mission.
- Continuation of a coordinated system of respite.
- Government support.
- Money and support.

**Written Plan**
- Writing/publishing a state plan with recommendations for implementation.