



RESPIRE CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM **Fact Sheet**

Summary of the Program:

Respite Care is a form of temporary relief, or “time off”, for the primary caregiver. **Respite** is for the caregiver living in the home who provides **care** for the person with dementia. **Care** is for the person with dementia.

The ***Respite Care Assistance Program*** helps families with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias access respite care services in the 28 Missouri counties we serve. We offer:

- **information**
- **care consultation**
- **one year of financial assistance**

Respite Services Available:

In-home Services - homemaker, companion or personal care provided in the home by an agency or independent contractor.

Adult Day Programs - care provided in a licensed facility by a trained staff. A typical day might include socialization, moderate exercise, activities, meals, and assistance with personal care.

Short-term Facility Based Care - temporary placement in a facility, not to exceed one month, to allow the caregiver to travel, receive medical care, or a complete rest.

The caregiver is responsible for the selection, arrangement and payment of respite services.

Independent in-home providers:

We encourage caregivers hiring an independent in-home provider with no previous dementia experience to access training through our Family Education Programs. This insures quality services and protects both the person with dementia and the care provider. They may attend free family education classes such as “Understanding Memory Loss”, or “Quality Care Basics” which is a Basic Training class for professional caregivers. The Alzheimer’s Association conducts training workshops throughout the year. A Basic Care Guide with video is also available free of charge. Call our office to request a Family Education calendar, a Professional Education calendar or a copy of the Basic Care Guide.

In addition, by state law, we require a background screening to be completed on an independent in-home provider. The Family Care Safety Registry form must be

completed and returned. The Alzheimer's Association will pay the fee to have it processed. All independent workers must be cleared of any criminal offenses against a person before reimbursement can be given for their services.

Financial Assistance:

One year of reimbursement for respite care services is available, not to exceed \$500 for the year. Financial assistance of two, one-year periods, is contingent on continued program funding. Services paid by Medicare or Medicaid cannot be reimbursed to the caregiver.

Eligibility Requirements:

The primary caregiver must:

- * live with the individual with dementia
- * provide a diagnosis from the treating physician of probable Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia
- * submit an application
- * provide verification of services within 60 days

There are **no income requirements** for program eligibility. The primary caregiver or other persons living in the same household as the person with dementia cannot be reimbursed for care they provide. Caregivers must be 18 or over. Persons residing in a long-term care facility do not qualify for financial assistance.

Program Funding:

Funding is provided by the **Alzheimer's Disease Services Grant, Daughters of Charity**, and the **St. Louis Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association**, a non-profit organization dedicated to comprehensive educational programs, compassionate services, access to resources, and support for research. Private contributions help support this program. The Alzheimer's Association will be responsible for the administration of the program, but takes no part in the selection and management of, or responsibility for the care provided.

All contributions, inquiries and applications may be sent to:

**Alzheimer's Association
9370 Olive Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63132
800.272.3900**