

The Federal Administration for Community Living's Lifespan Respite Care Grant

**The Department of Human Services
Social Services Administration, Office of Adult Services**

And

Elizabeth Cooney Personnel Agency, Inc.,
Elizabeth Cooney Personal Care, LLC

Announcement

Lifespan Respite Care - Emergency Care Services Available

Effective immediately: Emergency Respite Care will be available to provide assistance for individuals with special needs, living in the community across the age and disability spectrum, in or out of their homes, by qualified care workers in order to provide relief for their families or informal caregivers.

Definition of an Emergency: An Emergency Respite Care need is defined as an unplanned event that requires the unavoidable absence of the care recipient's primary informal caregiver. This event would be one that would require respite services within 72 hours of the request.

Approval for Emergency Respite Care will be the responsibility of the Elizabeth Cooney Personnel Agency, Inc., Elizabeth Cooney Personal Care, LLC and would be accomplished within 48 hours of the request. The Agency will provide flexibility of payment for an emergency including retroactive reimbursement. These services will be monitored by the Maryland Department of Human Services via the Lifespan Respite Care Project Coordinator.

Program Guidelines:

- A family may only make **one request per 12 month period;**
- The **maximum grant per family is \$225** per 12 month period
- The Agency may deny a service request if the care recipient is experiencing a medical emergency, psychiatric crisis, or other situation where medical intervention or hospitalization would be more appropriate; and
- **Emergency Respite Care is intended to be a resource of last resort.** Therefore, depending on the situation, the Agency has the discretion to refer Applicants to other appropriate and available resources.

Requests for Service: Requests for service will be accepted from agencies and organizations working with caregivers and recipients of care and from the community. Requests may be made to the Elizabeth Cooney Personnel Agency, Inc., Elizabeth Cooney Personal Care, LLC. The Agency has 24 hour availability. For more information contact:

Elizabeth Weglein, CEO
410-323-1700

Types of Service: The Elizabeth Cooney Personnel Agency can offer respite care workers, grants or reimbursement payment to help pay for Emergency Respite Care services when requested and approved. Respite Care Services include:

1. Home-Based Service - provided in the residence of the person with the special needs, by a qualified Respite Care worker identified and assigned by the Agency to provide the respite services, or
2. Site-Based Service – provided out of the home, by a provider in the community, such as a day program, Adult Day Care, etc, or
3. Respite Grant – a reimbursement payment or grant provided by the Agency to the client to assist in paying for the respite services provided by an individual identified and selected directly by the client (cannot be family members who reside in the household with the care recipient). Service delivery models 1 and 2 above may also be subsidized by the Agency.

There are two (2) levels of Respite Care services that can be offered through DHS’s Lifespan Respite Care Project, defined as follows:

Level I: Oversight and support of the care recipient and personal care services which may include any or all of the following: a) household and personal assistance services, such as light housekeeping services, chore services, assistance with meals and special diets, food preparation, dressing, shopping, escort services, recreational activities; and b) personal care services such as assisting with bed baths, care of mouth, skin, hair; assisting with bathroom or bedpan use, helping in and out of bed, assisting with ambulation, transferring from bed to wheelchair, prescribed exercises and tasks which have been taught by professional health personnel, and/or assisting the person with the disability to follow a medically prescribed regimen.

Level II: Skilled care delivered by a health practitioner licensed by the Maryland Department of Health.

Contract Time Frame: Emergency Respite Care is funded by a grant from the Federal Administration for Community Living and is in effect from August 2017 through August 2019.

For Additional Information Contact:

Kathleen Ward

410-767-7422

kathleen.ward@maryland.gov

