

# Family Caregivers may receive up to \$595 for Respite Care



**Are you caring for a relative in your household who has a disability or chronic condition? Learn how to apply for up to \$595 in reimbursement for respite services.**

The Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services is offering up to \$595 in reimbursement per family for respite services to assist Virginians with disabilities or chronic conditions and the family members who provide their care. An estimated 1000 families could be helped by the voucher program, which is part of the Commonwealth's efforts to support a statewide network of coordinated caregiver respite services.

Respite is short-term, temporary relief for those who care for family members, which can help reduce the strain on caregivers so they can continue to provide for their loved ones.

Examples of respite services for which families can apply for reimbursement include:

- An in-home program, where services are provided in the family's home or a care provider's home
- A center-based program, where family caregivers bring the care recipient to a facility to receive respite care
- A child or adult care center, a summer or weekend camp
- Assisted living or nursing home respite programs

## **To apply for the Virginia Lifespan Respite Voucher Program:**

- You must be a Virginia resident and Primary Caregiver of a child, or an adult. This includes non-residential caregivers.
- The Primary Caregiver for the person receiving care must apply for the funds. You may receive up to one \$595.00 benefit.
- You may not use voucher funds to reimburse household expenses. Examples include: rent, utilities, medical supplies and food. Funds cannot be used so the applicant can go to work.
- You must use this program to hire a provider that does not live in the same household as the caregiver or care receiver. The caregiver cannot be reimbursed through this program for care they already provide. They must be 18 years or older to provide respite services.



**For more information and how to apply, visit [vda.virginia.gov](http://vda.virginia.gov), call (804) 662-7650 or toll free at (800) 552-3402, or send an email to [liza.white@dars.virginia.gov](mailto:liza.white@dars.virginia.gov) for information on the Virginia Lifespan Respite Voucher Program.**