SENIOR NEWS



November 2016

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Respite...The *true* Gift of Time

By Lisa Erquiaga, CCSC Executive Director

The term "Respite" is not a new word or phenomenon. The term emerged in the late 1960's in regards to the deinstitutionalizing movement that involved both children and adults to return to their homes and communities.

Surprise! The term "RESPITE" has re-emerged today...bigger than life. Its definition is simple, "A short period of rest or relief from something difficult". While we don't want to imply that taking care of a loved one is 'difficult' but it can weigh heavily on a full-time caregiver who could use that relief.

Caregiving is a universal occupation. According to *Caregiving* in the U.S. 2015 written by AARP, there are 43.5 million caregivers in the United States, most uncompensated. Sixty percent of them are female, take care of one person, are an average age of 49.2 years old and take care of at least 85% of family members. One in 10 are a spouse and one in 10 is 75 years and older. Caregivers can be parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, extended family and friends, neighbors, or any person you trust.

While the job of being a full-time caregiver can be physically draining and demanding, no one is equipped to do it alone, nor should they. It's important to have help like a "Respite Break". Getting help is essential for the caregiver's physical and mental health and for the loved one being cared for. Seeking support and maintaining one's own health are key to managing the caregiving years. It's crucial to utilize respite care services before you become exhausted, isolated, or overwhelmed, with the possibility of having to resort to a nursing home placement.

Respite is typically temporary and can be a span of time from an hour to two weeks. Respite services are intended to provide assistance to a family member or a caregiver to prevent possible "burn-out". This can be a mode of sharing the responsibility. There is a real sense of dedication and sharing of expertise when providing respite care to an individual. Not all families have the same needs, so care needs to be geared and modified with the main family caregiver to best identify type of respite care needed. (continued on Page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

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Respite gives the main caregiver various opportunities to take a moment and just breathe. Knowing and trusting a trained respite volunteer to help share in giving the caregiver a little time away to go to a movie, have a cup of coffee with a friend, or even just take a nap is the "gift of time". There are ways of helping your loved one accept having a new person other than their usual caregiver as the relationship is built. Just having the person be present to get familiar with a routine for the first few visits provides an important transitioning time to become companions. Respite provides the main caregiver a chance to avoid decreased social activities, combat and cope with stress, improve family functioning, improve energy levels and mental outlook, and more understanding of the need to take care of the entire family as a whole.

The United States Congress passed *The Lifespan Respite Care Act of 2006* (HR 3248) and it was signed into law in December 2006 because of recognition of the significant contribution made on a daily basis and the needs faced by America's caregivers. It has been defined as "lifespan respite program" provides a coordinated system of accessible, community-based respite care services for family caregivers of children and adults with special needs. The bill was introduced and championed in the US House of Representatives by Rep. Mike Ferguson and James Langevin (D-RI). 2016 marks the 10th Anniversary of the bill's enactment. The National Respite Coalition and its partners in the Lifespan Respite Task Force are working closely with the Congressional champions of the Lifespan Respite Care Reauthorization Act of 2015 (HR 3913). The bill would reauthorize the program through 2020 and has an authorization level of \$75 million over five years.

I had the opportunity to observe and experience the many facets of "caregiving" as a very young child. My Granny worked full time at NASA during the day and spent much time scheduling caregivers for my uncle in the early 60's through to 1993. He had Friedreich's Ataxia starting in his teens and progressively worsened up to his passing at age 53. The job of keeping caregivers was her second full time job. She was a very busy lady in her community civically. Finding dependable help to be able to count on to show up to do the job was not always an easy feat. I remember a "revolving door" of many, many people coming to be the "caregiver". There was always someone new getting hired and trained, working a little while, then just disappearing into thin air, followed by another new face. It wasn't because my uncle ran them off, he was a wonderful man. The longest I can remember a familiar face being present was about six months, tops. At a young age, I remember thinking "why doesn't anyone stay very long around here"? The reasons were many with the biggest one being a lack of training until they came on the job and then decided it wasn't what they thought and they never returned. The constant changes were difficult on the entire family, particularly my uncle, the "Care Recipient".

At the young age of 27, my third child was born with Spina Bifida, Hydrocephalus, and other various other complications. Well, he was six years old and in the first grade and I was attending a workshop on *caregiving* for my job. The reason I share this information is because this is the day I found out a startling fact that I was a "CAREGIVER"! Although I had never thought of myself as anything more than his mother providing the care, nurturing, and love that a mother gives. That still amazes me to this day. There were times in those years that I wish I would have better understood the concept and maybe utilized the respite opportunity more.

(continued from Page 2) Over the next years as I continued my "caregiving' that came naturally for my son, I gladly added a few more individuals to my roster of care. My father-in-law, my mother-in-law, my husband's aunts, and travelled once a month for a long weekend to care for my dear Granny to give respite to my aunt. Prior to starting here at the Senior Center I also did private caregiving for several families. And I still fill-in for several individuals when needed as my time will allow.

The 65+ age group is expected to double to 70 million people by 2030. The understanding and art of *caregiving* was not quite as refined in the 1960's as it today. But the need and concept are nothing new. Families are stepping up more and more to provide in home care of their loved ones for various reasons. Family caregiving is the backbone of the United States' long term care system as well as the core of what sustains frail elders and adults with disabilities, yet caregivers often make major sacrifices to help loved ones remain in their homes as they age, keeping them from institutional placements. Many families are part of the "sandwich generation," caring for children and parents at the same time.

I have recently become a Certified REST Trainer to provide respite training to volunteers in our local community and surrounding areas. I attended a two-day training last month in Las Vegas with a great group of individuals. This excellent opportunity for training was made possible and sponsored by Jeff Duncan, Chief Supportive Services, Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division. The Master Trainers were from REST (Respite Education & Support Tools), in Bloomingdale, Illinois and did an outstanding job.

My commitment to the sponsor is to provide an 8-hour training in my community to at least 20 individuals. If you would like to be trained to provide this valuable service as a "Volunteer Respite Worker" for a loved one or someone in the community this is your opportunity to do so. While spending time one-on-one with a child or adult with a disability or special healthcare need, YOU will truly be giving RESPITE - the "Gift of Time" to the primary family caregiver.

I will be scheduling a training soon in the Fallon area to have that pool of properly trained individuals to call on. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in this great volunteer endeavor in your community. Also if you would like more information on this subject, I would love to share my learnings.

Lisa Erquiaga







Thank You! Thank You!

Louie's Home Center

For generously giving seniors \$10.00 gift certificates on their Birthday's in October.

Thank You Thank You

Louie's Home Center

Thank You to the
Monday, Wednesday
and Friday Exercise
Class
for taking the
Challenge
and paying your
\$3.00 per week for
our new exercise
fitness room



Bob Larson for your spontaneous donation for the "ICE Cream Machine" Yep, 3 flavors Bob!

Thank You
Dynamic Fouro for the
great Halloween
Baskets for our
Costume Contest

Thank You

Andy Lenon
and Oasis
Academy
7th grade
students for
coming to visit
with the
Seniors
in
October.

Thank You Thank You

Robert & Mary Petrere for their \$100.00 donation to exercise

class for October.

Thank you

Tedford Tire & Auto Service
for your monthly \$150.00
donation for October.



Thank you!



Thank you!

Thank You Thank You

Mel & Barbara Foremaster
for your monthly \$50.00 donation
to the Center for October.



Thank you to all our Volunteers who attended our recent Volunteer Training and Awards Dessert meeting.

We sincerely could not do the great job of service we do here at CCSC without our loyal Volunteers. You all Rock!

Please know how appreciated you ALL are!

Next Volunteer Training Meeting is

January 12, 2017

Save the Date!

Building update: Our new building is going up so fast and it gets more and more exciting every week. All the interior colors have been chosen. The stainless steel in the kitchen is being installed and the metal beams signify the many rooms that will be housed inside this 16,000 square foot building. Completion date is currently set for March 31, 2017









Welcome Oasis Academy Students



Oasis Academy students will be spending some quality time here at the Churchill County Senior Center.

We welcome them with open arms to come and socialize, play games, do projects, take interviews and anything else anyone has any ideas that would be fun and encouraging for these two age populations to interact together.

The students will be visiting for the remainder of 2016 as follows:

November 15—socialization and eating LUNCH with us here at the Senior Center **December 6**—Gingerbread House Building Team contest (supplies provided) 12:30-2pm in the Dining Room. Sign up now!

<u>December 12</u>-Gingerbread House judging day. Students return for Contest Awards and sing Christmas Carols 12:30pm

They will then be back in January 2017 to do individual Senior interviews! Watch for a sign up sheet soon!









Come in for lunch and after join the fun playing

Play Bingo

Every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m.

Cards .25 each

Thank you Bingo Volunteers!





Let **CART** do the driving!

Let's go Christmas Shopping and have

Pre-Holdiay Pie and Cookie Sale

Churchill County Senior Center will be taking pre-Holiday pie and cookie orders starting on Monday November 7 until Wednesday, November 14. Baked by our very own cooky, Mary and company.



Watch for order form with items to purchase soon.



Take CART to the RENO/SPARKS area for a day of Holiday Christmas shopping
Choose from two Saturdays and two different locations

December 3 Sparks to Spanish Springs/Legends/ Target

December 17 Reno to Meadowood Mall

Cost is only \$10 for each trip per person. This fee pays for the transportation to and from. Food not included.

Sign up sheet at front desk at Senior Center. For more information Call Cathy or Carolyn at 428-2988



Churchill County Senior Center will be having fundraiser on December 3 7:30am- 2pm on site Christmas Holidays

Breakfast, Bake Sale, and Craft Bazaar







We will have tables for outside Vendors to sell their crafts or products for \$25 for the event. Many handmade crafts are being donated to the Senior Center table to sell and all proceeds go to the new building. If you would like a table or have your special creations to donate please contact Lisa Erquiaga 423-7096. We appreciate your support. Tell all your friends to come eat and shop under one roof! More info to follow.

Come Feast with us!



Thanksgiving Feast at Churchill County Senior Center will be held on November 22 at 11:30am.

The usual suggested donation of \$3.00 for Seniors and \$6.00 charge for others will apply.

CCSC will be closed on Thursday and Friday November 24 and 25 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.



Churchill County Senior Center and its operations/programs are financially supported from grant monies from the State of Nevada, Aging and Disability Services Division, as well as generous funding both from Churchill County and City of Fallon. We also receive contributions from many local citizens, businesses, organizations and our many fundraising events.

Grant Funded Services

Congregate Dining Room

Lunch is served Monday - Friday
Soup is served at 11:00 a.m.
Lunch is served
starting at 11:30am to 12:30pm.
Seniors 60 and older Suggested \$3.00 donation
Under 60 - \$6.00

Meals on Wheels Program

Available to qualifying homebound seniors 60 and older Daily Delivery Monday—Friday Homemaker Program

Available to eligible seniors 60 and older Includes light housekeeping, pick-up of prescriptions, or other needs.

Nevada Care Connection Resource Center

Available to seniors 60 and older, people with disabilities & their caregivers, and veterans. Provides helpful information, referrals to available programs, services and community resources.

La Invitacion . . .

El Churchill County Center invita a todas las personas mayors de 60 años de edad y para disfrutar de un almuerzo diario en nuestro comedor en 310 E. Court St., cerca Parque Avena. Ofrecemos una gran variedad de servicios, incluyendo comidas sobre ruedas, ama de casa, el envejecimiento y la discapacidad especialista de recursos y muchas actividades. Las comidas se sugiere una donacion de \$3.00 para los ancianos. Sopa comienza a las 11:00—11:30, con un almuerzo a partir de las 11:30-12:30. Esperamos contar con su presencia! 775-423-7096.

Halloween Festivities 2016

Halloween was so much fun at the Churchill County Senior Center this year. We had 4 days of themed costumes, Gypsy Day, 50's Day, Wacky Hat, Sock, T-shirt Day and Pirate Day. And on Monday, October 31 was the Grand Finale' of Costuming!

A costume contest was held. 1st place (Angel/Devil) 2nd place (Baby in Pink), and 3rd place (Kitchen Fairy) winners were awarded Halloween Treat Baskets made and donated by the Dynamic Fouro. Thank you Dynamic Fouro! You're **all** the best!

We were served a great pizza lunch and lots of fun and entertainment was had by all.

On the Grand Finale' Day we had a little bit of every type of

Creature known to man! Some of us can't wait till next year!

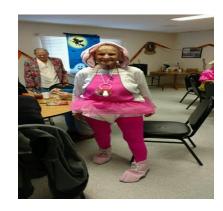
Thank you to everyone who participated. You all helped make it very special.













More Halloween Fun...













Are you concerned or have question regarding

Changes to Medicare and reduction of benefits

Friday Nov 18th 10:00 am at Senior Center

A state licensed Medicare specialist will be discussing some common questions. You will find this presentation beneficial if any of the

following applies to you:

- 2 My plan has been terminated for 2017.
- My premiums have increased. How am I going to afford this increase?
- Do I have the most cost effective Medigap?
- How do I know which drug plan is best for me in 2017?
- What changes have been made to Medicare that could affect me?

For help regarding common concerns and questions with your healthcare and changes that you should know about, please attend this informational seminar.

Watcher-Fox Insurance & Financial Services

Angie Oceguera

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