

Support Family Caregivers

What's Happening?

- Wisconsin family caregivers need help. Family caregivers are the primary providers of long-term care and fill in the gaps when local support systems are unable to meet community needs, doing things like providing:
 - direct care
 - care management
 - transportation
 - medication management
 - scheduling medical and therapy appointments
 - assistance with benefit applications

Why Does it Matter?

- Lots of family caregivers leave their jobs or have to reduce work hours because there are no other options for care and no paid leave benefits, which creates a financial burden.
- Family caregivers spend, on average, \$7,000 out-of-pocket annually on expenses related to their caregiving role. Those caring for family members long distance spend even more.
- Family caregivers need breaks. Limited respite funding and lack of paid workers is making it difficult for caregivers to receive a break.
- Continual stress has a negative effect on the physical and mental health of both family caregivers and the people they care for.
- Some family caregivers are aging and in need of supports and services themselves to remain at home.
- People who do not have family to help are finding it difficult to stay in their own homes and communities.

Ask Legislators to:

- Support a family caregiver tax credit.
- Increase respite funding throughout Wisconsin.
- Expand Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) to:
 - include grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings and;
 - create an employee-funded FLMA insurance program to fund paid leave.

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