

1. SUMMARY/ABSTRACT:

The South Dakota Department of Human Services, Division of Long Term Services and Supports in **partnership** with the Division of Developmental Disabilities and key community, state, and federal (e.g., Veteran's Administration) stakeholders, in the course of this three-year project, proposes to build an infrastructure for a sustainable evidence-based lifespan respite care program accessible to caregivers regardless of age, disability or chronic condition of the care receiver. The **goal** of this project is to improve overall access to respite services for families and other caregivers through provider development and training. The project **objectives** are to: 1) collaborate with stakeholders to establish a State Lifespan Respite Coalition; 2) identify and develop a plan to address programmatic barriers; 3) develop a plan to recruit and train respite providers and create a respite provider registry; 4) utilize the Aging and Disability Resource Connections (ADRC) as a "No Wrong Door" for caregiver access to lifespan respite (to include new and planned emergency respite); and 5) increase caregivers' and the public's awareness about the need for and availability of respite. The Department will form a coalition including membership from divisions providing respite, service providers, ADRC staff, caregivers and other community, state, and federal stakeholders to develop a lifespan respite care program. Anticipated **outcomes** include: 1) increased awareness of the availability of respite services; 2) an accessible, sustainable lifespan respite care program serving all populations. **Products** include: marketing and outreach materials, online training for caregivers and providers on respite issues; education materials on the availability and efficacy of using respite services; and a searchable statewide respite provider database.