

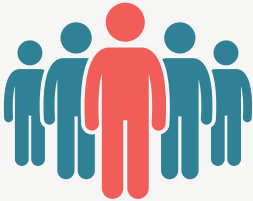
RESPIRE CARE:

Support for those who care the most

THE FACTS

1 out of every 5 Coloradans live with a serious short- or long-term medical condition

such as autism, chronic illness or mental health conditions.



They depend on help and support from more than



800,000 caregivers here in Colorado.

Respite care provides support and relief for family caregivers so they can:

- Attend to their own health needs
- Maintain responsibilities and employment
- Provide a meaningful and healthy life for those under their care

Given respite care's critical role to the health care system, its



\$6 billion in economic value¹



and its role in improving Coloradans lives, **it deserves more attention and support.**

¹ "Valuing the Invaluable: 2011 Update, The Economic Value of Family Caregiving in 2009", AARP Public Policy Institute

A DEEPER DIVE INTO COLORADO'S RESPIRE CARE NETWORK:



Why do we need a strong respite care network?

- Demonstrates cost savings for health providers, insurers and taxpayers
- Improves quality of life for Colorado's more than 800,000 caregivers
- Reduces emergency medical expenses for caregivers
- Strengthens and preserves family units

How we improve respite care in Colorado:

Systematic issues – like funding, access to care and red tape – keep Coloradans from the care they need. We can improve lives and reduce future burdens to taxpayers by:

- Conducting a return-on-investment study to demonstrate the economic impact of respite care
- Developing a statewide training system for providers
- Expanding the Colorado Respite Coalition's website to serve as a hub for respite care resources
- Developing a centralized community outreach and education program while leveraging existing resources
- Implementing a tax credit to reduce caregivers' out-of-pocket expenses
- Standardizing respite care options across all Medicaid waiver programs
- Streamlining regulatory requirements for facility-based, short-term, overnight respite care



Support legislation to fund and implement Colorado Respite Task Force's recommendations

