

Caregiver Grant Programs Overview, Best Practices & FAQs

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Agenda

1. Initial Onboarding

- a. [Welcome Letter](#)
- b. [Caregiver Coordinator Training Curriculum](#)

2. Overview

- a. [Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program \(AFCSP\)](#)
- b. [National Family Caregiver Support Program \(NFCSP\)](#)
- c. [Kinship & Grandfamilies](#)
- d. [RCAW](#) - Lifespan Respite Grant Programs, Rachel Watkins-Petersen, Assistant Director

3. Enrollment Forms & Program Management Resources

- a. [Caregiver Coordinator Checklists and Letters - EXAMPLES](#)
- b. [Local Procedure/Policy – EXAMPLES](#)
- c. [FAQs](#)

4. Ongoing TA

- a. [Wisconsin Caregiver Coordinators Statewide Meetings](#), every other month
- b. [Fact Sheets](#)
- c. [DHS Family Caregiver Support Manual](#)
- d. [WisconsinCaregiver.Org](#)
- e. [Trualta](#)

Initial Onboarding

Welcome Letter

- Technical Assistance → [Family Caregiver Support](#)
- Learning Management System → [GWAAR ED](#)
 - OAA Overview, AFCSP 101 & NFCSP 101
- GWAAR SharePoint → [Partner News & Events – External](#)
- Reporting → [PeerPlace – Login](#)
- Caregiver Online Training, education & support → [Trualta](#)
- Sign up → [GWAAR Newsletter](#)
- DHS SharePoint → [WILMS](#)

Core Competencies Curriculum

- Motivational Interviewing
- DHS Family Caregiver Support Manual
- Health Equity Series
- Grieving, Death & Ambiguous Loss
- Dementia 101
- Kinship aka RAPP Navigator Training
- Advanced Directives
- Diverse Family Caregivers
- Caregiver Support Group Facilitator Training

Eligibility Overview

- [Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program \(AFCSP\)](#)
 - Requires a dementia diagnosis and living in community
 - \$4,000 max / care recipient unless approved waiver
 - Requirement to spend at least 40% on respite care (TAUs encouraged but not required)
 - AFCSP waivers can be requested if your T/AU has the extra funds and when a caregiver has an extraordinary/unexpected situation (e.g., change of condition, safety/physical danger, and/or risk of becoming homeless or placed in an institutional setting.)
 - Reminder: Any/all direct client services must be entered into PeerPlace.
- [National Family Caregiver Support Program \(NFCSP\) - Caregiver of Older Adult \(CGOA\)](#)
 - Part of Older Americans Act (OAA) = age criteria of care recipient 60+ with 2 I/ADL needs
 - **Or if the care recipient has Alzheimer's or another dementia, any age.**
 - No limit set spending max amount set by feds or state*; therefore, you **should have local max** established
 - [Local Procedure Policy EXAMPLES](#)
 - Reminder: All reporting = tied to a service (e.g., Info Services/Public Info, Assistance, Respite, Supplemental Services, and Counseling/Training/Support Groups)

*\$5,000 NFCSP maximum for home modification and repairs

NFCSP Overview continued

- [National Family Caregiver Support Program \(NFCSP\)](#) – Older Relative Caregivers (ORC)
 - Caregiver is 55+ & caring for someone 18 – 59 with a [severe disability](#) (e.g., chronic, limits three or more major life activities, etc.)
 - Lives with the care recipient
 - Reminder: All reporting = tied to a service (e.g., Info Services/Public Info, Assistance, Respite, Supplemental Services and Counseling/Training/Support Groups)
- [Relative As Parent Program \(RAPP\) aka Kinship aka Grandfamilies](#) (NFCSP) – Older Relative Caregiver (ORC)
 - Grandparent or other relative caregiver – can also include step-grandparent, a relative of the child by blood, marriage or adoption who is younger than 18 years of age and for whom all the following are true:
 - The caregiver lives with the child.
 - The grandparent or other relative caregiver is the primary caregiver for the child because the biological or adoptive parents are unable or unwilling to serve as the primary caregiver.
 - The caregiver has legal guardianship of the child or is raising the child informally.
 - A referral to your county’s Kinship Care Coordinator should **always** be made, unless they are already enrolled.
 - [Kinship Care Coordinators Contact Information Map](#)
 - Reminder: All reporting = tied to a service (e.g., Info Services/Public Info, Assistance, Respite, Supplemental Services and Counseling/Training/Support Groups)

Respite Care Association of Wisconsin (RCAW)

- [Respite Grant](#) - up to 5 days of respite care, can re-apply every 90 days!
- [Supplemental Respite Grant Program](#) – up to \$250 for home modifications, safety technology, housekeeping, laundry, lawn mowing, snow removal, and sensory items. Can re-apply every 60 days!
- [Healthy Meals, Healthy Minds \(HMHM\) Grant Program for Family Caregivers](#) – allowable even if enrolled in NFCSP and AFCSP, likely to end 9/30/26 with the ACL grant.
- [Respite Care Provider Registry](#) - Search for trained respite care workers in your tribe or county.
 - Training is free and offered online by RCAW
 - Promote the registry to have more workers join

Reminder: These services do **not** need to be reported in PeerPlace or report it on financial claim

Enrollment Forms & Program Management Resources

- - AFCSP Enrollment Form **Required for AFCSP**. Reminds CG this info should be on file with their PCP. Updated annually.

- Caregiver Services Registration - **Required for NFCSP**. Confirms eligibility for PeerPlace reporting (age + I/ADL needs). Updated annually.

- Caregiver Needs Assessment Form – **Required for both AFCSP & NFCSP**. Tips available to assist. Completed annually.

- Customer Satisfaction Survey – Shortly after **enrollment** (for both programs). CG to **complete online** or return to Lynn using DHS envelope; email lynn.gall@dhs.wisconsin.gov if you need envelopes.

- Initial Evaluation – Shortly after **enrollment** (for both programs). Can be done by phone 1-2 weeks post-enrollment. Only completed one time.

- Post Evaluation – (for both programs) Complete after 1 x service OR 6-12 months post-enrollment. Only completed one time. **Low return rate**; need comparison data.

- [*Examples - Caregiver Coordinator Checklists and Letters](#)
 - New Enrollee / Checklists / Letters
- [*Examples - Local Procedure Policy Examples Caregiver Grant Programs](#)
 - Waitlists Policies (e.g., first come, first serve, alternating years on the program, acuity based)
- [*FAQs for NFCSP and AFCSP - categorized – UPDATED](#)
 - Eligibility Questions
 - Questions Related to Diagnoses
 - Grandparents/Relative Caregivers
 - What items/services can be paid for with NFCSP and AFCSP
 - PeerPlace Reporting Questions
 - General Program Questions

Ongoing Technical Assistance (Program)

- Every other month meetings
 - [Wisconsin Caregiver Coordinators Statewide Meetings](#)
 - Sept. In-Person Meeting
- Fact Sheets
 - [Family Caregiver Marketing Toolkit](#)
 - Articles
 - Customizable brochures
- [DHS Family Caregiver Manual](#)
 - Eligibility
 - Definitions
 - Operational Policies and Procedures
- [WisconsinCaregiver.org](#)
 - Local/State/Federal Resources
 - Caregiver Audience
- [Trualta](#)
 - FREE online CG training modules, webinars, support groups, Care & Share Show, anonymous talk
 - Updates at our Statewide meetings
 - Staff resource for support group content and [Staff Space](#)

Ongoing Technical Assistance (Reporting)

- [PeerPlace Guide & FAQ](#)
 - A family caregiver is an individual, typically a relative, friend, or neighbor, who provides care. For the purposes of reporting the "caregiver" is not the professional, direct care or respite care worker.
 - Caregiver is the Client in PeerPlace
 - Linked to Care Recipient
 - Fields to complete – DOB (CG and CR), all other demographics should be completed for the Caregiver
 - Fields to complete in the Linked Contact – Primary Relationship and Caregiver (optional field Classification)
 - If Care Recipient is between ages 18-59 the Disability Type field must be completed in the CR client record
 - Assessment of the Care Recipient is entered into the Caregiver
 - Services for AFCSP & NFCSP only entered into the Caregiver
 - If person with dementia enrolls in AFCSP, with no CG, services reported under funding source **“AFCSP No CG”**
 - Case Management tasks include completing enrollment forms, evals, referrals, coordinating services, etc.
 - Trualta - No reporting for AUs; GWAAR enters this data for the entire state
 - Public Awareness (AFCSP) & Public Info (NFCSP) – entered as an “Aggregate Profile” – which do not capture individual clients served by name (anonymous)
 - Caregiver Support Group – "Event Profile" entry only

Ongoing Technical Assistance (Reporting)

Reminders:

- **AFCSP Mid Year Report and End of Year Report is required to be completed once per contract year.**
- As of August 9th, 2025, AFCSP expenses are allowed again to be applied as Match for the NFCSP Program. As the expenses are applied, matching services must be entered under the NFCSP Program with the AFCSP as Match Funding Source.
- AF/NFCSP funds can only be used for III C meals if CG/Care Recipient are ineligible for III C or there is a waitlist
- Use AFCSP Admin Dollars! Every year Aging Units (AUs) have up to 10 % to use annually.
 - Examples: computers, desks, printers, new staff set up (time to register on WILMs, SharePoint, PeerPlace, GWAAR ED, etc.) or other in-direct costs for doing business.
 - Case management is not an admin expense.
 - Admin costs are not entered into PeerPlace as this is not associated with a direct service.
- AFCSP Staff training reported on monthly claim form, is not reported in PeerPlace and this is separate from admin costs for AFCSP.
- For NFCSP, for staff training or other non-direct service time must be expensed from IIIB Admin.
- Use the Served Caregiver/Care Recipient View (View Builder) to locate client-based error information.
- User the Served Clients Summary Report to locate service/funding information and service-based error information.

May Discussion - Questions / Feedback

- Potential changes to enrollment forms, but first need to know impact.
- How many Aging Units send an enrollment Welcome Letter?
 - Does the letter include a list of approved services?
 - Does it address when a caregiver should contact you about change in condition or living environment?
 - Does it include information on advance directives (e.g., guardianship, and POA, Authorized Rep, etc.)
 - Create one enrollment form for both programs?
 - Is there value in having customers sign the AFCSP enrollment form?
 - Is guidance needed to develop service plans?
 - Do you use the "optional voluntary information" sections on AFCSP enrollment form? (POA, service plan development, etc.)
 - Would it be preferred to include these sections in a service plan development and approval guide?
- Next Steps

Thank You

[Wisconsin Family Caregiver Facebook](#) • [Family Caregiver Support](#) • [DHS Family Caregiver Support Manual](#) •
[WisconsinCaregiver.Org](#)