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# **Celebrating Our Communities' Caregivers**

## Join us in Supporting Family Caregivers During National Family Caregivers Month

November is National Family Caregivers Month—a time to recognize, celebrate and support America's 53 million family caregivers.

From managing medications, meals and transportation to performing nursing and medical tasks, family caregivers provide compassionate and dedicated care to millions across the country. Oftentimes, their care recipients are older adults with disabilities or chronic health conditions, and caregivers must juggle caregiving with working, childcare and more. Their contributions are immeasurable—yet the role of this "invisible workforce" is only getting harder.

### The state of caregiving in America

Increasingly, family caregivers are facing more challenges, stress and burden. According to a recent AARP <u>report</u>, 64 percent of caregivers report their situation as emotionally stressful, 45 percent have experienced a financial impact as a result of caregiving, and more caregivers than ever are performing medical/nursing and other complex care tasks. Yet despite these challenges, 60 percent report difficulty in finding services and support in their communities.

### Together, we can help

Research shows that when caregivers receive support, their rates of depression, stress and anxiety decrease. This improves not only their own well-being but that of their care recipients as well. Having seen the power of community and partnerships over our 40 years serving caregivers, we invite you to join us in helping reach out to, connect with and offer support to your caregiver friends, family and colleagues.

### Resources you can use

Whether you're a caregiver, a provider or part of a community-based organization, here are resources, tools and info you can use to help improve the lives of family caregivers.

# FOR CAREGIVERS

We offer free resources, information and expert guidance to improve the care you provide to your care recipient and—very importantly—yourself!

- Top 17 Resources for Family Caregivers A brand new list of the 17 resources rated as favorites by hundreds of caregivers we've served over the years.
- <u>FCA website</u> Contains hundreds of free resources, expert guidance and high-quality information (and in multiple languages!)
- <u>CareNav</u> A personalized, private online dashboard, loaded with resources matching your specific caregiving needs.
- Classes and events: View full calendar here
- Connections Our monthly e-newsletter for family caregivers, full of tips, articles, resources and expert advice on a range of caregiving topics. <u>Learn</u> <u>more</u> and sign up today!



These resources make it easier for allied health professionals to fill the "connection gap" and help family caregivers get the info and assistance they need.

- Family Caregiver Screening Toolkit All it takes is two simple questions during your patient visits to identify family caregivers and connect them with needed resources.
- <u>6 Reasons to Screen</u> Read why helping caregivers is a win-win for their care recipients, our communities and our nation's health care system.
- Better Together: Serving More Caregivers Through Community
  Partnerships Learn more about the crucial role professional partnerships play in increasing caregiver support.
- **Provider e-News Update** Our e-newsletter for health care and social service providers. <u>Learn more</u> and sign up today!

This month, we challenge you to help one family caregiver in your life (even if that's you)! Working together, we can build a more robust network to better support all of our communities' caregivers.

Used with permission of **Family Caregiver Alliance, National Center on Caregiving**--40 years of experience advocating for policies and delivering programs nationwide to support and sustain the quality work of family caregivers and caregiving professionals. Leads quality education, provides compassionate caregiver planning services and works to bridge research and practice to benefit all caregivers. For more information, visit <u>www.caregiver.org</u> or call (800) 445-8106.

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