

Position: Caregiver Specialist

Primary Function: To provide outreach, community education and linkage to other service providers, the business community, religious and civic organizations in order to promote awareness and support of caregiver issues. To provide individual comprehensive clinical support services, education and training to caregivers.

Position Goals:

- 1) Development of outreach plan to penetrate the Aging Care Connections service area. Outreach will focus on those community organizations that come in contact with older adults and their families.
- 2) Increase community awareness and support of caregiver issues.
- 3) Primary responsibility for education and training of other professional staff, the community at large and service providers on this issue.
- 4) Caregiver Specialist will attempt to recruit volunteers for caregiver activities and/or collaborate with volunteer organizations willing to support caregivers.
- 5) Regular communication and coordination with the Countywide Caregiver Coordinator including attendance at AgeOptions meetings and training involving caregiver issues.
- 6) Development of outreach materials including web page maintenance and all other forms of print and electronic communication.
- 7) Conduct comprehensive assessment of care recipient needs within the home environment to include: cognitive function, physical health, ability to perform activities of daily living within the home environment, emotional well-being, social support and financial resources.
- 8) Conduct a comprehensive assessment of caregiver needs to include: caregiving challenges, emotional well-being, stress levels, social support and financial resources, while providing caregivers with resources and referrals that correspond to changing needs.
- 9) Development of a caregiver intervention plan and provide phone/in-person counseling services to promote healthy caregiving and support.
- 10) Provide on-going, complex case management.
- 11) To respect the caregiver's right to self-determination and choice while maintaining confidentiality at all times.
- 12) Development of a disaster relief plan to assist caregivers in the event of a national disaster.
- 13) To complete required assessment tools and related documentation for this position.
- 14) Other duties as assigned by Caregiver Support Program Supervisor and/or the Director of Social Services.

Qualifications:

Bachelor's degree in social work or related field.
Ability to communicate effectively to groups and/or individuals.
Minimum two years experience in a social service environment.
Availability of an automobile for home visits.