

# AZ Family Caregiver State Plan

# The Challenges Facing AZ Caregivers

Caregivers are the hidden heroes in our state. Many organizations and agencies are providing support. Yet big, complex challenges remain, including:

- Lack of self-identification
- Insufficient access to resources and training
- Lack of recognition
- Financial barriers
- Mental health
- Needs of diverse communities



# Our “North Star”

Vision: A resourced, resilient, statewide community of caregivers.

Mission: Collaborating to grow and strengthen systems that support caregivers from Day One.

## Values

- Action
- Collaboration
- Empathy
- Equity
- Service

## Strategic Goals

- **Access to Services:** Build a system of streamlined, accessible services that give caregivers support on Day One.
- **Outreach & Awareness:** Conduct advocacy & outreach that raises self-awareness and awareness of caregiving within the state, and shapes policy and practices in support of family caregivers.
- **Education:** Offer comprehensive, community building, multilingual, multi-cultural, multi-generational education & training.

# Strategic Goal #1: Access to Services

Build a system of streamlined, accessible services that give caregivers support on Day One.

Outcome 1—Caregivers are able to easily find and access information about available services, resources, and support. (Action examples: Create a comprehensive list, build an interactive online decision tree, designate a single point of entry so there are “no wrong doors.”)

Outcome 2—Arizona caregivers are able to obtain respite services that meet their needs. (Action examples: Assess current process, identify roadblocks, listen to caregiver experience, seek best practices, develop & promote recommendations for improvement.)



# Strategic Goal #2: Outreach & Advocacy

Conduct advocacy & outreach that raises awareness of caregiving within the state and supports systems change in support of family caregivers.

Outcome 1—Arizonans will be educated about and understand the experience of family caregiving, and be able to self-identify as caregivers. (Action examples: Create easy to use platform for caregivers to share their stories, launch a multi-channel media campaign to tell caregiver stories and help caregivers self-identify.)

Outcome 2—Outreach and support for Arizona family caregivers is improved by state, tribal, and municipal policies and practices. (Action examples: Create a caregiver advocacy network that educates, informs, tracks policy, and gives caregivers tools to participate in the policymaking process.)



# Strategic Goal #3: Education

Offer comprehensive, community building, multilingual, multi-cultural education and training for caregivers and health professionals.

Outcome 1—A range of evidence-based educational resources and training opportunities will be available to all Arizona family caregivers. (Action examples: Identify and address gaps in current training resources, scholarship communities to develop their own culturally relevant material.)

Outcome 2—Family caregivers will have access to and use of financial education and advance planning tools. (Action examples: Work with health partners to ensure Medicaid patients have access to info, expand use of ACC emergency respite planning.)

Outcome 3—Health professionals are aware of the key role family caregivers play, educated on available resources for caregivers, receive trauma-informed training, and actively engaging family caregivers as part of the caregiving health team. (Action examples: Form a “Day One Task Force” including health professionals to improve the way diagnosis day happens.)



# Implementation Structure



Action Team 1: Access to Services  
Chair: ACC- Kathrine Steele-Watson

Action Team 2: Advocacy and Outreach  
Chair: FSL- Erica Reyes

Action Team 3: Education  
Chair: C4TC- Michele Thorne

Hub Organization- Arizona Caregiver Coalition



THIS PLAN WAS NOT  
BUILT TO SIT ON A  
SHELF- HELP US PUT  
THIS PLAN INTO  
ACTION

