

CAREGIVING GUIDE



STEP in

LIFESTREAM CAREGIVER PROGRAMS

a program of

LifeStream

Who We Are

LifeStream Services is an Area Agency on Aging and East Central Indiana's Aging and Disability Resource Center. LifeStream provides programs and services to help older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers remain independent and active in their homes and communities.

Our Mission

Provide the right information, resources, and support for improving quality of life and maintaining independence for older adults and those with disabilities.

Office Locations

Headquarters

1701 Pilgrim Blvd.
Yorktown, IN 47396

Pendleton

1 Plaza Dr., Suite 6
Pendleton, IN 46064

Richmond

2404 National Rd. W.
Richmond, IN 47374

Connect With Us



800-589-1121



lifestreaminc.org/stepin



@lifestreamservices



lifestreaminc.org

LifeStream Caregiver Programs

If you step in to provide help or assistance to a friend, family member, or loved one – you're a caregiver. LifeStream Services can help with support, transitions, education, and planning for those who *STEP In* to caregiving.

LifeStream's *STEP In Caregiver Programs* are a comprehensive way to educate and support family caregivers, care partners, and people with care needs. Caregiver Memory Kits, resource binders, support groups, and evidence-based programs are just a few of the ways LifeStream is here to help you *STEP In* to caregiving.

Caregiver Programs Coordinator Contacts

Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Jay, Madison and Randolph Counties

Tia Drumm

765-759-1121 ext. 101

tdrumm@lifestreaminc.org

800-589-1121

Fayette, Franklin, Rush, Union, and Wayne Counties

Chelsey Krofta

765-759-1121 ext. 281

ckrofta@lifestreaminc.org

800-589-1121

Caregiver Programs

CAREGIVER MEMORY KITS

Caregiver Memory Kits are resource kits designed for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers and care partners. The goal of these kits is to help caregivers and care partners get connected with helpful resources and increase interaction between the caregiver and their loved one. These kits consist of helpful books and resources for the caregiver, as well as activities for the caregiver and their loved one to enjoy together, such as puzzles and bingo. Those who check out these kits will also be given a keepsake packet of resources and goodies to keep upon returning the kit, courtesy of LifeStream Services.

STEP In TO CAREGIVING CARE TEAM RESOURCE BINDER

The purpose of this binder is to serve as an organizational tool to help caregivers and their care teams feel empowered to help the person they care about, keep themselves organized, and be prepared in the case that someone else may need to step in for them. Individuals who may need to step in could include another family member, a professional caregiver, a neighbor, or a friend.

Some of the sections in this binder include:

- Emergency preparedness
- Medical
- Household
- Legal and financial
- Caregiver

NATIONAL CAREGIVER MONTH

The hope for National Caregiver Month is that non-professional caregivers and care partners would feel appreciated and seen. Throughout the month of November each year, LifeStream will host events and run campaigns to recognize caregivers. These events give caregivers an opportunity to focus on themselves for a couple of hours and enjoy some food, activities, and company of others in similar circumstances. National Caregiver Month is also a time to educate the public about the importance of family caregivers.

PASTA - PARENTING A SECOND TIME AROUND

PASTA is an educational and support group for adults doing kinship care, such as grandparents raising grandchildren or an aunt raising a niece or nephew. Being a primary caregiver for grandchildren and/or other children can be both a blessing and a challenge. The expectations of providing care for children, especially when older, can be overwhelming and exhausting. PASTA provides an ideal opportunity for older caregivers to receive assuring, personal support specific for their circumstances.



Caregiver Programs

DEMENTIA FRIENDS

The Dementia Friends Indiana initiative—an outreach of Dementia Friendly America—seeks to educate communities across the state about dementia, break down the stigma surrounding dementia, and implement practical changes that make life easier to navigate for those with dementia and those who care for them. This session is great for any community member, community group, business, or organization that is interested in making their community friendlier and more conducive for those living with dementia. This session can also serve as a helpful resource for anyone who is providing help or assistance for someone living with dementia.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY

A dementia friendly location or community is a business, village, town, city or county that provides supportive options that foster quality of life and independence for individuals living with dementia. Dementia Friendly Communities are safe, respectful, and welcoming of individuals living with dementia, their families and caregivers.



DEMENTIA LIVE®

Dementia Live® is an experience that immerses participants into what life might be like to live with a cognitive impairment and sensory changes.

DEMENTIALive®

Dementia Awareness Experience

Utilizing specialized gear that simulates dementia specific changes that include altered eyesight, hearing, and tactile sensation, this safe experience is a powerful and effective tool to strengthen care partner understanding of, and empathy for, people living with dementia. Gaining a first-hand understanding of anxiety, isolation, frustration, confusion, and more, Dementia Live® uniquely walks participants from the “AHA” moment to empowering participants with tools to improve communication, care processes, relationship building and the environment.

MEMORY CAFÉS

Memory Cafés are a welcoming, safe place for people living with dementia and their caregivers to enjoy activities and a break from their normal routine. Additionally, memory cafés offer an opportunity to socialize and connect with others who are in a similar situation. The activities are provided at no cost; however, some activities may request a donation to cover cost of supplies.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS & GATHERINGS

Caregiving can be a challenging role, and no one should have to go through it alone. Support groups are for those caring for a loved one with dementia or other diagnosis to share resources, experience, and support.

Caregiver Programs

RESPIRE SERVICES

Caregivers need time to take care of themselves, too. Respite allows caregivers to take a break from the demands of caregiving while still ensuring that their loved one's needs are met. Respite funding and services are typically authorized on a short-term basis for caregivers and care recipients over the age of 60. To qualify, the care recipient needs to require assistance with activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing, toileting, walking, etc. A LifeStream Options Counselor can help determine eligibility for the respite program.

To begin the eligibility and intake process, contact the LifeStream Information and Assistance Department at 765-759-1121.



POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS

This class helps caregivers prioritize their wellbeing and take care of themselves while caring for a friend or a loved one.

The evidence-based program meets once a week for six weeks, and has been studied and shown to help family caregivers:

- Reduce stress, guilt, anger, and depression and improve emotional wellbeing.
- Manage time, set goals, and solve problems.
- Master caregiving transitions and be part of decision-making.
- Communicate effectively with the person needing care, family members, doctors, and other helpers.
- Find and use community resources.

CARE COACHING

The ADPI Care Coach Program is a grant-funded program where the Care Coach evaluates how the care partner or caregiver is coping with stressors relating to dementia. The care partner and Care Coach then develop a personalized coaching plan for the care partner with the goal of reducing stress. Care Coach will re-assess the care partner's stress level at three-month intervals to evaluate the progress towards the goal of stress reduction. The purpose of working with a Care Coach is to help care partners implement evidence-based coping strategies to manage their loved ones cognitive, functional, behavioral, and psychological disabilities without becoming burned out.

For more information about care coaching, reach out to our Care Coaches at (800) 589-1121.

Caregiver Programs

SPEAKERS BUREAU

As a part of LifeStream's Speakers Bureau, presentations on caregiving and related topics are available. Whether you are interested in learning more about the caregiver programs LifeStream provides, or if you are interested in a certain topic related to caregiving, you can request a speaker to come and talk to your group or organization about a variety of topics. Presentation topics can be customized to fit your needs.





Ready to take the next STEP?



Visit the LifeStream Website

Visit www.lifestreaminc.org/stepin to learn more about each of these programs and find event locations near you. If you need additional resources and information, please reach out to us!



Contact our Caregiver Programs Coordinators

If you have questions or want to learn more about LifeStream's STEP In Caregiver Programs, please reach out to our coordinators.

Blackford, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Jay, Madison and Randolph Counties

Tia Drumm

765-759-1121 ext. 101

tdrumm@lifestreaminc.org

800-589-1121

Fayette, Franklin, Rush, Union, and Wayne Counties

Chelsey Krofta

765-759-1121 ext. 281

ckrofta@lifestreaminc.org

800-589-1121



Head over to our Facebook Page

Join the caregiving conversation happening on Facebook. Here you will find weekly tips, resources, additional support, and event information. Like/follow our page at www.facebook.com/lifestreamservices.