

GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS
TITLE VI PART C
**CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM
PROCEDURES**

Purpose:

It will be the purpose of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Title VI Part C Caregiver Support Program to offer support services to all eligible Native American Caregivers, Grandparents or older relative residing in the service area as well as respite care when program funds are available.

The Caregiver Support Program provides a comprehensive referral and service system for caregivers. This is for families/individuals who are caregivers to elders who are chronically ill or who has a life altering physical, mental or developmental disability, and for grandparents or older individuals who is the primary caregiver for a child or a relative of a child by blood, marriage, or adoption, or raising the child informally and who is 55 years of age or older and **lives with the child**. Services available include information about services, caregiver training, support groups, counseling, assistance to caregivers in gaining services, and respite services to compliment care provided by caregivers. This is not an exclusive list.

PROCEDURES:

Eligibility

1. Priority; Caregivers who are older individual with the greatest social and economic need, Older individuals with the greatest economic need particularly of low-income individuals, Grandparent/Older individuals providing care to individuals with severe disabilities, including raising children/children with disabilities, and to Family caregivers who provide care to older individuals with the greatest social and economic needs.
2. Care Recipient (i.e., the person whom the caregiver is providing care) 55 years or older must reside within the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Tribal Service area and be a federally recognized tribal member.
3. Care Recipient under 18 must reside with the grandparent/older individual in the Grand Traverse Band of Indians Tribal Services area.
4. Caregiver (i.e., the person providing care to the care recipient) must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and reside within the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Tribal Service Area. Also meet one of the following:
 - Caregivers are Native Americans who are 55 years and older, who provide care and support services to the care recipient that are 55 years and older who, for reason of illness or frailty: i.e., program provides assistant to providers that care or elders that are “Frail” functionally impaired due to cognitive or other impairment. This provision is put in place to prevent financial abuse of the elder or caregiver where care givers are legitimately providing care and not just living or accompanying their elder relative or friend free of charge;
 - Caregivers are providers who are 55 years and older, who provide care and support services to the care recipient that are Native American’s 55 years and older who, for reason of illness or frailty: i.e., program provides assistant to providers that care or elders that are “Frail” functionally impaired due to cognitive or other impairment. This provision is put in place to prevent financial abuse of the elder or caregiver where care givers are legitimately providing care and not just living or accompanying their elder relative or friend free of charge;
 - Caregivers are Native Americans who are under 54 years and age, who provide care and support services to the care recipient who is 55 years and older, for reason of illness or frailty or to an individual with Alzheimer’s disease or a related disorder with neurological and organic brain dysfunction. This provision is put in place to prevent financial abuse of the elder or caregiver where care givers are legitimately providing care and not just living or accompanying their elder relative or friend free of charge; or
 - Grandparents/Older individual (55) years or older, who are primary caregivers for and/or child or a relative of a child by blood, marriage, or adoption, or raising a child informally under 18 years of age and whom cannot function independently. The sole primary care provider is the person responsible for the child/ren health, education, and lives with child/ren. This provision is put in place to prevent financial abuse of the grandparent /older individual where the grandparent / older individual care giver is legitimately providing care and not just living or accompanying their relative.

5. The Care Recipient 55 years or older must need assistance with at least two of the criteria of Activities of Daily Living (ADL's) that includes eating, dressing, bathing, transferring, toileting, walking, shopping, doing laundry, managing money, taking medication, and require supervision due to Alzheimer's or other Dementia.
6. The Care Recipient 55 years or older with two of the Activities of Daily Living cannot be a caregiver when being cared by a caregiver through the GTB Caregiver program. This is due to prevent and eliminate stress upon the care recipient and to prevent fraudulent activity. The care recipient maybe a caregiver temporarily because the program is for the care provider.
7. Respite Care provides the caregiver with "time off" from their care giving duties where the caregiver chooses his/her own respite worker. Respite care range from a few hours a day to a week or more. The respite place and the length of time depends on the needs of the family and the available resources. Respite Service Agreement and Responsibilities and a conduct of a complete background will be required before services are rendered.
8. The Respite Provider must be age 18 or older.
9. Respite Providers/Caregivers are not considered employees of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians but are temporary program participants receiving services.
10. Family members or other who show proof that Caregivers/Respite Providers are not taking proper care of the Care receiver will be immediately terminated.
11. Elder Site Coordinator are ineligible to receive respite support for elders during working hours.
12. The Caregiver application will be processed followed with an approval or not eligible letter. Once application is approved and processed all support service requests will be mailed out or picked up by the care provider.

The Tribal Caregiver Support Program provides:

1. Respite Assistance
2. Opportunity for the Caregiver to access assistance services.
3. Caregiver Training
4. Caregiver and/or Grandparents/older individuals Support and Support Groups
5. Resource assistance information will be collected and provided to the Tribal Caregiver clients who are in the Tribal Programs service area.
6. Contracting for services from local health care agencies for: Caregiver training, forming caregiver support groups, and basic caregiver coping skills.
7. Background checks on Respite Providers; Caregivers/Respite providers are responsible for submitting documents to conduct a background check.

The Tribal Caregiver Support Program does not provide:

1. Mediation for family conflicts. Tribal Caregiver Support Program is to remain impartial.
2. Reimbursements

