

Dear Council Members,

Hope you are doing great!

I would like to introduce my family's story to you and thank MC Respite Program for the huge helps to us. I sincerely hope it to be continued and improved.

My father is 80 years old and has Parkinson's disease. My mom is 78 years old and has Dementia/Alzheimer's disease. Both have Anemia too. My dad used to have twice stroke and easy to fall. He also has high blood pressure and one impaired eye. My parents came to this country and started living in my house in 2023. They don't have other kid. I am their only child. They don't speak English and don't have any skill of driving. Their life totally depends on me.

I am a 52-year-old single woman who also have a full-time on-site job. Every day I get to get out for work. After work, I must buy three people's grocery, pick up their medications, get their referral forms, take them to visit doctors, take lab tests, etc.

I was overwhelming. At this point, MC Respite Program helped me a lot. It approved 140 hours for each of my parents, which gave them a chance to go to adult day care center and make senior friends. They feel happy. It also gave me a chance to relax a little bit. I really appreciate it.

The only regret is that 140 hours are too limited. I divided 140 hours by 5 hour per week, I only got 28 weeks. As we all know, there are 52 week a year. Those Respite hours are not able to cover a whole year, even just once a week. I am worrying about how I fill the gap (24 weeks). I have no idea.

Here I urge you to approve more funds to Respite Program. We really need it.

Thanks!

Zhirong Wang