



Immediate Release

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For more information:

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**NYS Caregiving & Respite Coalition (NYSCRC) Director and Lifespan's *Relatives Raising Children* Program Coordinator Among Those Tasked with Advising Council on New York State's Master Plan for Aging**

NYSCRC's Doris Green and Lifespan's Linda James have been appointed to Governor Kathy Hochul's stakeholder committee to advise the Master Plan for Aging Council on developing the state's first-ever guiding document to help ensure older adults live healthy lives and age with dignity. Green, James, and Lifespan President/CEO Ann Marie Cook are among the 28 committee members who will provide expertise on age-friendly policies, supports and health services to guide the council as it develops a comprehensive roadmap for meeting the socioeconomic needs of all generations of New Yorkers as they age.

James facilitates a support group for Kinship Caregivers and is currently working on a project to train such caregivers to mentor others. Kinship care refers to grandparents, other relatives, and even family friends who are caring for children.

Green has a long history of developing programs in planning, advocacy and financial services for older adults and caregivers of those with disabilities. Under her direction, the NYSCRC recently announced a \$3 million workforce initiative targeting Lewis, Oneida, Herkimer, Cortland, Tompkins, and Jefferson counties aimed at expanding the availability of respite for caregivers. Under the grant, funded by AmeriCorps, the coalition will recruit and train 300 individuals 55 and older to provide respite for people caring for older adults and for those with disabilities. Respite provides caregivers with a break from their responsibilities. The goal of the program is to increase the respite workforce and help about half of the 300 people find non-subsidized work providing respite and caregiving assistance. The initiative is slated to launch in March of this year.

The New York State Caregiving & Respite Coalition, managed by Lifespan of Greater Rochester, is a partnership of dedicated organizations and individuals committed to supporting the millions of our state's family caregivers. Lifespan of Greater Rochester is a regional nonprofit organization providing information, guidance and more than 30 services for older adults and caregivers.

For more information about NYSCRC and any of its programs and resources, call 585-287-6393.

[www.lifespanrochester.org](http://www.lifespanrochester.org)

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