

Family Caregiving

The Growing Contributions and Costs

Women's Day at the Statehouse
February 6, 2013

Agenda

- Facts about family caregiving
- Statistics (national and Indiana)
- Recommendations for taking care of family caregivers
- HB 1416 – Tax credit for family caregivers

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Who are family caregivers?

The “average” US caregiver is a **49-year-old woman** who works outside the home and spends nearly **20 hours per week** providing unpaid care to her mother for nearly **five years**.

- Almost two-thirds of family caregivers are women (65%)
- “Sandwich Generation”
- Spouses, partners, children, daughters/sons-in-law, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, close friends...



Roles of family caregivers:

Companion	Housekeeper	Accountant	Personal Shopper	Nurse
Medication Manager	Care Coordinator	Hiring Manager	Care Supervisor	Transporter
Scheduler	Advocate	Communicator	Chef	Researcher

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Costs of family caregiving:

- Impact on physical and emotional health
- Out-of-pocket costs
- Lost wages and retirement
- Impact on social networks
- Lost productivity and higher health care costs

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Family caregiving = unpaid

National (2009):

- 42.1 Million family caregivers in U.S.

- \$450 Billion

= to total sales of world's largest companies (Wal-Mart: \$408 Billion in 2009)

= to combined sales of three largest publically held auto companies
(Toyota, Ford, Daimler: \$439 Billion in 2009)

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Indiana (2009):

- 1.34 million family caregivers in Indiana
- \$9.4 billion

= four times greater than the total government spending on long-term care services and supports in Indiana.

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Taking care of caregivers

Recommendations:

- Implement “family-friendly” workplace policies
- Improvements to Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
- Fund national and local caregiving support programs
- Expand publicly funded home and community-based service programs to permit payment to family caregivers
- Provide financial assistance for family caregivers

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HB 1416 – Tax credit for family caregivers

- Provides a maximum tax credit of \$500 for eligible caregivers
- Related expenses can include training, supplies, transportation, home modifications, medical equipment
- Modest tax relief makes financial sense for the state's budget and for the budgets of Hoosier families coping with caregiving
- Referred to Ways and Means – would like to get a hearing

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Resources & Contact Information

AARP Caregiving Resource Center – www.aarp.org/caregiving

Family Caregiver Alliance – www.caregiver.org

National Alliance for Caregiving – www.caregiving.org

Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging – www.iaaaa.org

AARP Indiana

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