## The Critical Role of Connection

Empowering Caregivers: A Crucial Support System

#### **Stacy Gunnerson**

Owner or Grannie on the Move



## Importance of Connection in Caregiver Support

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## Introduction to Caregiver Support

An overview of the significance of supporting caregivers in their roles.

### The Role of Emotional Support

Exploring the necessity of emotional support for caregivers and its effects.

## Accessing Resources through Connections

How connections can help caregivers access essential resources and information.

## **Building a Sense** of Community

The importance of fostering community among caregivers for shared experiences.

## Problem-Solving and Advocacy

Encouraging caregivers to engage in problemsolving and advocacy efforts.

## Methods of Building Connections

Various strategies and methods caregivers can use to build connections.

## Impact of Connections on Caregiver Well-being

Understanding how connections influence the overall well-being of caregivers.

## Conclusion and Call to Action



## Introduction to Caregiver Support

Understanding the Importance and Challenges of Caregiver Support



## Definition of caregiver support

Caregiver support refers to the resources and assistance provided to individuals who care for others, highlighting its essential role in enhancing the quality of caregiving.

## Significance of caregiver support

The support for caregivers is crucial as it helps improve their well-being, effectiveness in their role, and ultimately benefits those they care for.

## Common challenges faced by caregivers

Caregivers frequently
encounter challenges such
as stress, isolation, and
burnout, which can
negatively impact their
health and caregiving
abilities.

## Importance of connection

Establishing connections with others is vital for caregivers, as it serves as a tool to alleviate stress, reduce feelings of isolation, and combat burnout.



### The Role of Emotional Support

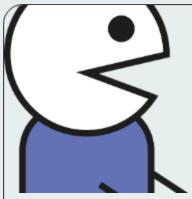
Understanding Emotional Connections in Caregiving

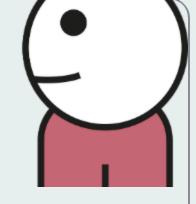




## **Emotional Support** in Caregiving

Explanation of emotional support in caregiving.





#### O2 Sharing

Importance of sharing experiences to reduce feelings of isolation and enhance a sense of belonging.



#### 03 Coping

Emotional connections provide coping mechanisms including stress relief strategies.



## Managing Anxiety and Fatigue

Emotional support aids in managing anxiety and fatigue.



## Accessing Resources through Local Connections

Networking Benefits for Caregivers





### Networking benefits among caregivers

Caregivers can gain access to educational materials, enhancing their knowledge and skills.





## Care techniques and best practices

Connections allow caregivers to share effective care techniques and best practices, improving overall care quality.



# Resources obtained through connections

Networking can lead to discovering respite services that provide temporary relief for caregivers.



## Financial aid options available for caregivers

Through connections, caregivers can learn about various financial aid options that can alleviate their financial burdens.





#### **Area Agency on Aging – Southwest Idaho (AAASI):**

- Provides resources for caregivers, including respite care, training, and support groups.
- Contact: (208) 898-7060
- Website: aging.idaho.gov

#### **SUPPORT SERVICES**



#### **Caregiver Support Groups**

- Local hospitals, senior centers, and churches often host support groups
  where caregivers can share experiences and receive emotional support. For
  example, St. Luke's and St. Al's offer caregiver resources and occasional
  workshops.
- Disease Specific Organizations also offer Support Groups



#### **Respite Care Providers:**

- Organizations like Home Watch and Comfort Keepers offer professional caregivers to provide temporary relief for family caregivers.
- Respite vouchers may also be available through local agencies or nonprofit organizations
- Other Certified Family Homes?





#### **Idaho Legal Aid Services:**

- Offers free or low-cost legal advice for caregivers handling elder law, guardianship, or healthcare directives.
- Contact: (208) 345-0106
- Website: idaholegalaid.org

## FINANCIAL AND LEGAL ASSISTANCE



#### **Medicaid and Medicare**

- Programs like Idaho SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Advisors) can help caregivers navigate Medicaid and Medicare for their loved ones.
- Contact: (800) 247-4422
- Call Molina Directly



#### **VA Service Officers**

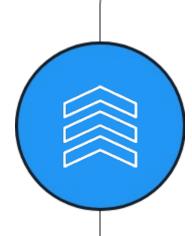
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## Jannus - Legacy Corps for Veterans and Military Families:

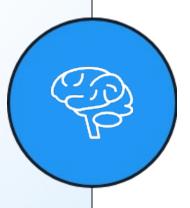
- Offers caregiving support specifically for families caring for veterans in the Boise area.
- Contact: (208) 336-5533
- Website: jannus.org

## EDUCATION AND SUPPORT



#### **Family Caregiver Navigator Program**

- Offers guidance, workshops, and classes to help caregivers build skills and confidence.
- Contact: (208) 426-5899



#### **Alzheimer's Association - Greater Idaho Chapter**

- Provides educational sessions and support groups specifically for caregivers of individuals with dementia.
- Contact: (800) 272-3900Website: alz.org



## EDUCATION AND SUPPORT



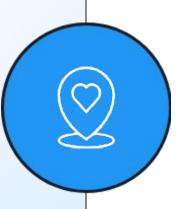
#### **Idaho Caregiver Alliance**

- Provides resources and hosts virtual support groups to connect caregivers statewide.
- Website: idahocaregiveralliance.com



#### **Caregiver Action Network (National)**

- Offers free online resources, forums, etc.
- 24/7 caregiving hotline: 1-855-227-3640.



#### **Stephen's Place**

- Parent-to-parent programs offer support for families with children who have intellectual, developmental, physical and mental disabilities.
- Call today (360) 984-3600

## **Building a Sense of Community**

Fostering Empathy and Resilience in Caregiving by gathering with other Caregivers







The importance of feeling valued and understood in caregiving roles.

## Empathy throughShared Experiences



Community fosters empathy by sharing success stories and challenges.

#### **Validation of Efforts**



Community provides
validation of caregivers'
efforts, enhancing their sense
of belonging.

## Resilience and Motivation



The impact of community on caregiver resilience and motivation.





01



## The power of collective voices in caregiving

Advocacy plays a crucial role in influencing policies and services that affect caregivers.

02



## Examples of successful advocacy initiatives

Legislative changes and improvements in community support systems highlight the impact of effective advocacy.

03



## Connections facilitate stronger advocacy efforts

Building connections among caregivers enhances the ability to advocate for necessary changes.

## Problem Solving and Advocacy

The Importance of Collective Voices



### **Methods of Building Connections**

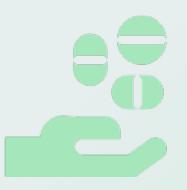
**Exploring Diverse Avenues for Connection** 











## Support Groups and Workshops

Engagement in support groups and workshops provides opportunities for individuals to connect and share experiences.

## **Community Events and Online Forums**

Participation in community events and online forums fosters interaction among diverse groups, promoting connection.

## **Expanding Knowledge Networks**

Utilizing various connection methods aids in broadening knowledge networks, enhancing learning and collaboration.

## **Enhancing Emotional and Practical Support**

Diverse avenues for connection strengthen emotional and practical support systems, benefiting individuals and communities.



### **Challenges in Establishing Connections**

Overcoming Barriers to Connection





#### **Time Constraints**

Caregiving responsibilities often limit the time available for building connections.



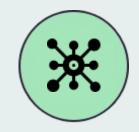
#### **Geographic Limitations**

Physical distance can hinder in-person support and connection.



## **Utilizing Online Resources**

Leveraging digital tools can help bridge the gap created by time and distance.



## **Prioritizing Connection- Building Activities**

Focusing on activities that foster connections can enhance relationships despite constraints.



## Impact of Connections on Caregiver Well-being

#### The Benefits of Strong Connections



- Positive outcomes of strong connections
  - Strong connections lead to improved mental health and reduced stress for caregivers.
- Increased fulfillment in caregiving roles

Connections contribute to a greater sense of fulfillment in the caregiving experience.

Long-term benefits of connected caregiving communities

Connected communities provide sustained support systems that benefit caregivers over time.

Enhanced overall quality of caregiving

Stronger connections result in an overall enhancement in the quality of caregiving provided.



#### **Conclusion and Call to Action**

Importance of Connection in Caregiver Support



02

03

#### **Recap of Importance**

You each play a vital role in supporting each other and seeking support for yourself.

## **Encouragement to Build Connections**

We encourage you to actively seek out and foster connections with others.

#### **Call to Action**

Commit today to choosing one local or online support network to get involved in.

If you have more questions as to what opportunities may be available to you locally for caregiver support please contact Stacy directly at stacy@grannieonthemove.com



#### Who is Grannie on the Move?

We are Senior Care Advisors that assist seniors in finding the care they deserve, as well as the financial resources to afford it.

If you are interested in becoming a contracted provider for our clients, please contact us for details.

208-820-4200 or yolanda@grannieonthemove.com



