

More than a Million Child Caregivers

In-Home Personal Care Services

(Assistance with Health Related
Activities of Daily Living)

Services & Programs

GA Medicaid S.O.U.R.C.E.
GA Medicaid CCSP
Private Duty Personal Care
Respite Care
Live-In Personal Care
Independent Waiver Program
Special Care Fund

Official SOURCE Provider



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A recent survey conducted by the National Alliance for Caregiving in collaboration with the United Hospital Fund estimated that America has 1.4 million children as young as eight caring for frail, disabled, or mentally ill adults or siblings. An estimated 5% of children 8-18 work as family caregivers. Thirty-one percent of those children are between the ages of 8 and 11. These child caregivers appear more prone to depression, anxiety, trouble at school, and behavioral problems. **CarePlus** can help the families of your patients by providing assistance with activities of daily living and giving families greater opportunity for quality time.

The National Alliance for Caregiving (NAC) study included mailed, omnibus surveys and telephone interviews covering 40,000 households. It is believed that this is the first study in the U.S. to consider the prevalence of and effects on child caregivers. One limitation of the study was that randomly selected participants had to volunteer to answer multiple questions, and it was probable that those involved in the most difficult family scenarios were less likely to participate. For this reason, the problems highlighted in the study may be understated.

Signs of Stress in Children: Compared to children without a caregiving role, the child caregivers were 64% to 80% more likely to feel like no one loves them at least some of the time. The younger caregivers proved twice as likely to report occasional feelings of worthlessness or inferiority. Based on parental reports, the caregivers were twice as likely to have trouble getting along with teachers and 54% more likely to be disobedient at school. Negative effects were greater among caregivers who provided assistance with ADLs (bathing, dressing, toileting, feeding) versus children who only provided household chores (meal preparation, cleaning, patient's laundry). ADL caregivers were 92% more likely than non-ADL caregivers to say there was no use in showing their feelings and proved 58% more likely to say they cannot depend on anyone. Seventy percent of ADL caregivers demonstrated sudden mood changes versus 48% of non-ADL caregivers. The report was careful to point out that the parents of child caregivers appeared in no way negligent or exploitive. Many people are surprised to learn these correlations.

Fully one quarter of child caregivers reported that they received no help with their caregiving tasks. Socioeconomics play a role in the prevalence of child caregivers. Single parent households prove more likely to have child caregivers, and households with a combined annual income of less than \$25,000 are twice as likely to have child caregivers compared to households with combined incomes between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

How Doctors Can Help: Children and adults alike often have trouble admitting to the emotional and physical toll of caring for a frail, disabled, or mentally ill adult. Doctors, PAs, and nurses can help by making sure families know that **CarePlus** provides personal care services such as Medicaid's S.O.U.R.C.E program. When a Medicaid beneficiary demonstrates sufficient need for personal care services, Medicaid pays 100% of personal care costs. By sending well-trained, dependable nurse aides to the homes of your patients, **CarePlus** can reduce the strain of working for a family member and reduce the likelihood of an expensive nursing home admission. Call **CarePlus** with basic information about patients who may benefit from assistance at home. Many times, the friendly staff of CarePlus can tell you over the phone if your patient qualifies for Medicaid funded homecare. CarePlus staff can also begin the referral process.



CarePlus is an Official SOURCE Provider:

- Medicaid Pays 100%
- Most people on Medicaid & SSI qualify
- Provides hours of in-home personal care service daily
- Home delivered meals
- Emergency response system
- No waiting list

*Please refer your patients on Medicaid and SSI to
CarePlus for SOURCE services.*