

## Presbyterians and the Mission of Elder Care

Recently a member of First Presbyterian Church of Honeoye Falls, Gail Richeson, reached out to me. She wrote:

*I am working at Lifespan 2 days a week (Tuesday and Thursday) under a grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation. The purpose of the grant is to provide in-home respite to caregivers of people with early dementia and mild cognitive impairment using trained non-medical volunteers. We would like to connect with church communities who might know of families in need and also of potential volunteers.*

The name of the program is **Partners in Caring Respite**, and is housed at Lifespan, 1900 So Clinton Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618. If you know of a church family with a loved one suffering from early dementia, you can offer them contact with Gail at 585-244-8400 ext 168, or at [gricheson@lifespan-roch.org](mailto:gricheson@lifespan-roch.org).

If you or someone in your congregation are interested in being a trained non-medical volunteer to give actual respite to caregivers, please give Gail a call.

As Chaplain at the Rochester Presbyterian Home, I am more aware of multiple needs in our families created both by aging and by onset of many different forms of dementia in those we love. Our response is Elder Care and Memory Care.

The program Gail offers will give us even more ways to enter Elder Care ministries, as well as provide better care for our loved ones.

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