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Area Agency on Aging Provides Backpacks to Support Family Caregivers

PITTSBURGH – Beginning today, the Department of Human Services Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is providing caregiver backpacks to libraries for check-out by family members taking care of older adults or people with disabilities.

The backpack is designed to provide family caregivers information about topics relevant to their situation at a self-guided pace. Each backpack includes brochures, books, DVDs, and other educational materials designed to inform on caregiver issues, provide easy-to-use tips, and connect caregivers to community resources to help family caregivers.

In cooperation with the Allegheny County Library Association, 50 designated libraries will store the backpacks; however, backpacks can be sent to any member library. Caregivers may borrow the backpack for three weeks – and renew, if desired – as they would any other library material.

Last July, the caregiver backpacks were piloted at Avalon Public Library, Cooper-Siegel Community Library, Crafton Public Library, Northland Public Library and Western Allegheny Community Library with the intent to increase the number of backpacks in circulation this spring.

For more information about family caregiver support at AAA, please visit:

<http://alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/News-Events/Engagement/Caregiver-Support-Programs.aspx>

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Marc Cherna, Director

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