



FINANCIAL DISTRESS

What We've Heard From Caregivers

CAREGIVERS OFTEN CAN'T WORK FULL-TIME

"I wasn't able to work full-time because some of our caregivers or the agencies weren't reliable. And then my sister and I would be juggling taking turns. If they weren't able to cover someone, or if the caregivers were late, who would stay with my parents to make sure that there's somebody there with them? I never felt like I could commit to working and that was hard financially."

CAREGIVERS FACE SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

"There is a financial struggle in our particular situation. We do dip into our savings and our investments and our lines of credits to pay these things, to get the support and care that not only they need, but that they deserve. So there is a great financial impact and with financial impact comes emotional impact because you are always thinking about money. You are always thinking about debt. You're always thinking about how to pay off that debt. You're always thinking about that line of credit."

THERE ARE MINIMAL TO NO FINANCIAL SUPPORTS FOR CAREGIVERS

"I feel there is no hope for the future and that we are abandoned by the government with almost no support financially."

"This is where I get emotional, because [my parents] have worked really hard their entire life. They're honest, Canadian citizens who have contributed to their respective employers, who have contributed to the Canadian economy and in this time of dire need, there aren't any grants, subsidies, rebates. There are minimal, minimal supports, resources and tax credits available, but it does not outweigh what you pay out."

CAREGIVERS NEED FINANCIAL SUPPORTS

"To receive no compensation for the 24/7 care I give can be daunting and depressing. Full-time unpaid caregivers should be given, at minimum, a basic income. This is a lonely, isolated life of tremendous responsibility and sacrifice. It is done due to necessity and out of love. But there is a price paid by the unpaid."

"I think it's very troubling and surprising that caregivers are not given any financial assistance. Caregivers are not only helping the ones they care for but also helping the government save a world of healthcare costs by taking care of their loved one."