# Young Carers Webinar

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### Who are Young Carers?

"A young carer is anyone who is living with a family member with an exceptional need. This can be short-term or long-term and include an illness, disability, mental health issue, addiction, language or cultural barrier, or other unique situation."

Think of someone you know who fits this description.

## The Young Carers Project

(1) Community Collaborative

(2) By Us For Us© Guide, Documentary and Website

(3) Young Carer Advisory Group

(4) Goals & Approach

## Walking through the Guidebook

- Chapter 1: You: Identity, Emotions, Stress, Self-care
- Chapter 2: Your Relationships: Family, Friends & Others
- Chapter 3: Your World: School, Healthcare, Culture
- Chapter 4: Tips For: School Staff, Healthcare Professionals,
  Organizations, Community Members

#### Supporting Young Carers

- Be compassionate and empathetic
- Check in with them on a regular basis
- Focus on their perspective and experiences rather than on their family members
- Help them meet others who have similar experiences so they feel less alone
- Help them find a safe place they can go when they need a break
- Don't underestimate the impact you're having as a caring adult
- Share this information with your colleagues, other community members and young carers

# Tips for Organizations

- Interactive and accessible for all ages
- Provide age appropriate information
- Create safe and comfortable programs
- Train staff to understand and support young carers and their needs use the documentary <a href="https://youtu.be/xFJ7Tp-Yx-w">https://youtu.be/xFJ7Tp-Yx-w</a> and guide <a href="http://goo.gl/Z7YRIA">https://goo.gl/Z7YRIA</a>
- Online Support
- Honesty & Transparency

#### Next Steps

- Guidebook, documentary & website distribution
- Organizational training
- Can you think of a young carer you know?
- What's your action plan?

# Let's Stay in Touch ©

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