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President Obama, Vice President Biden unveil middle-class agenda

by [MIKE ALLEN](#) | 1/25/10 7:51 AM EST



President Barack Obama stands with Vice President Joe Biden as he speaks from the White House on Jan. 14. *Photo: AP*

Helping Middle Class Families Care for Aging Relatives. An estimated 38 million Americans provide unpaid care to an aging relative, including approximately 23 million caregivers with jobs and 12 million who are also caring for their own children. The \$102.5 million Caregiver Initiative will ease the burden on families with elder care responsibilities and allow seniors to live in the community for as long as possible. The Initiative adds \$52.5 million in funding to Department of Health and Human Services caregiver support programs that provide temporary respite care, counseling, training, and referrals to critical services. The extra funding will allow nearly 200,000 additional caregivers to be served and 3 million more hours of respite care to be provided. It also adds \$50 million to programs that provide transportation help, adult day care, and in-home services, such as aides to help seniors bathe and cook, help which eases the burden for family members and helps seniors stay in their homes