CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER WHO WORKS: WHAT EMPLOYERS ARE DOING

Of the millions of caregivers caring for family members and friends, approximately 60 percent are working full or part-time. Research has shown that these caregivers can be stressed by trying to balance work and family obligations; they can suffer ill health and financial loss as a result and cost their employers lost productivity. Jack Watters of Pfizer, Elizabeth Mestheneos, a vice president of IFA and founding member of 50+ Hellas, and Gail Hunt, head of National Alliance for Caregiving in the US, will speak on some of the latest approaches employers are taking to support their caregiving employees. One project to be discussed is ReACT, a coalition of 40+ major employers in the US, which has conducted a study of best practices in corporate eldercare. Greek and other European countries' support for working caregivers will also be presented. The speakers also plan to generate discussion about what is available through Pacific Rim and East Asian employers.