



Info Sheet - Respite Services for People with Disabilities in NT

Block-funded respite services available (Northern Territory and Australian Government funded)

Organisation	Service Name	Service Description	Type of Respite	Eligibility Criteria	NTG / AG	Region
Carers NT	Respite Care Service for children 0-12	Centre-based respite	Flexible respite options on an emergency or planned basis	Carers of children with disabilities aged 0 - 12 years	NTG	DU
Carers NT	Respite Support for Carers of Young People with Sever or Profound Disability (RSCYP)	Centre-based respite	Immediate and short-term respite to carers of young people with severe or profound disability.	Carers of young people with severe or profound disability under 30 OR carers who experience significant stress in caring for a person with disability under 65.	AG	DU
Carers NT	Young Carers Respite and Information Services (YCR)	Centre-based respite	Age appropriate support including educational, social and recreational activities e.g. Time off to study for exams, tutoring, skills development.	Young carers who need support to complete their secondary education or vocational equivalent due to the demands of their caring role.	AG	DU
Carers NT	Respite Services under the National Respite for Carers Program (NRCP)	Centre-based respite	Flexible respite options on an ongoing or planned basis.	Predominantly for carers of people who are frail aged however carers of younger people with disabilities (under 65 or 50 if Indigenous) are also eligible.	AG	DU
Carers NT	Mental Health Respite (MHR) Program	Centre-based respite	Flexible respite provided in-home or out-of-home; or social and recreational activities that provide carers with a break from their caring roles.	Carers of people with severe mental illness/psychiatric disability and carers of people with an intellectual disability.	AG	DU
Carpentaria Disability Services	Home Away from Home Respite (HAHF)	Centre-based respite	HAHF provides: - Blocks of respite; - Overnight respite - Day respite In a centre-based setting for both adults and children.	Carers and people with disabilities aged 0-64 for non-indigenous and 0-49 for indigenous.	NTG	DU
Carpentaria Disability Services	Flexi / Connections Respite	Centre-based respite	Flexi Respite is provided in the family home by a support person of the family's choice. Connections respite is provided by a carer in their own home or a CDS approved carer in the family home.	Carers of people with disabilities aged 0 - 65.	NTG	DU
Top End Association for Mental Health (TEAM)	Mental Health Respite (MHR) Program	Centre-based respite	Flexible respite provided in-home or out-of-home; or social and recreational activities that provide carers with a break from their caring roles.	Carers of people with severe mental illness/psychiatric disability and carers of people with an intellectual disability (up to 25% of client base).	AG	DU
NT Friendship & Support Inc.	Respite Services (0-18 years)	In-home respite	Host families provide in-home respite	Families of children 0-18 years with a disability.	NTG	KATH
Step Out Community Access Inc.	Respite Services	Centre-based respite	Provision of a flexible respite service in a respite home. Priority given to remote clients and those requiring 24 hour care.	Carers of people with a disability 18-65 years. Clients under 18 may access services when no alternative options are available.	NTG	KATH
Uniting Church in Australia Frontier Services	Respite for Carers of Children 0-12 years old. Alice Springs and Tennant Creek	Centre-based respite	Flexible, emergency & planned respite	Families and other voluntary care givers of children with disabilities aged 0 to 12 years of age in Alice Springs & Tennant Creek.	NTG	AS and TC
Uniting Church in Australia Frontier Services	Respite Support for Carers of Young People with Sever or Profound Disability (RSCYP)	Centre-based respite	Immediate and short-term respite to carers of young people with severe or profound disability.	Carers of young people with severe or profound disability under 30 OR carers who experience significant stress in caring for a person with disability under 65.	AG	ASU

Uniting Church in Australia Frontier Services	Young Carers Respite and Information Services (YCR)	Centre-based respite	Age appropriate support including educational, social and recreational activities e.g. Time off to study for exams, tutoring, skills development etc.	Young carers who need support to complete their secondary education or vocational equivalent due to the demands of their caring role.	AG	ASU
Uniting Church in Australia Frontier Services	Respite Services under the National Respite for Carers Program (NRCP)	Centre-based respite and mobile respite service	Flexible respite provided by host family carers; in the client's home; centre-based facility; and in community locations, including Troopy Program in remote communities.	Predominantly for carers of people who are frail aged however carers of younger people with disabilities (under 65 or 50 if Indigenous) are also eligible.	AG	ASR
Anglicare NT	Respite Support for Carers of Young People with Severe or Profound Disability (RSCYP)	Centre-based respite and mobile respite service	Immediate and short-term respite to carers of young people with severe or profound disability.	Carers of young people with severe or profound disability under 30 OR carers who experience significant stress in caring for a person with disability under 65.	AG	EA
Anglicare NT	Young Carers Respite and Information Services (YCR)	Centre-based respite and mobile respite service	Age appropriate support including educational, social and recreational activities e.g. Time off to study for exams, tutoring, skills development etc.	Young carers who need support to complete their secondary education or vocational equivalent due to the demands of their caring role.	AG	EA
Anglicare NT	Respite Services under the National Respite for Carers Program (NRCP)	Centre-based respite and mobile respite service	Flexible respite provided by host family carers; in the client's home; centre-based facility; and in community locations, including Troopy Program in remote communities	Predominantly for carers of people that are frail aged however carers of younger people with disabilities (under 65 or 50 if Indigenous) are also eligible (currently approx. 20% of client base).	AG	EA
Gove Hospital	Respite Services under the National Respite for Carers Program (NRCP)	Hospital-based respite	2 Aged Care Places at the Gove Hospital which can also be utilised for respite for carers of people with disabilities.	Predominantly for carers of people that are frail aged however carers of younger people with disabilities (under 65 or 50 if Indigenous) are also eligible subject to availability.	AG	EA

Respite services

Clients requiring respite services are to be referred to the services outlined in the table above. An ISP application should only be made when all natural support networks for the person with a disability have been explored and it is deemed that these networks are inadequate and no block funded services are available for the client. The waitlisting of clients at a block-funded service does not suggest that the service is unavailable.

The DS Policy for Respite levels prescribes an annual maximum of four weeks respite for clients residing within a designated urban, rural or regional area and six weeks respite for clients residing in remote areas. Where an ISP application has been approved, it cannot be guaranteed that a service will be available as it is subject to the capacity of service providers.

What an ISP covers

ISP funding for respite services covers the cost of care for the client during periods of respite. This includes the cost of a support worker to care for the client in the carer's absence, short-term supported accommodation for the client; airfares for a client (and/or a support worker) to travel to a respite location. What is not covered is the cost of accommodation for the carer; travel for the carer; childcare for a client's siblings and food or personal expenses of the client. Many services will charge client fees which must be discussed with the client's family during the development of the respite model.

Options to consider:

- Contacting block funded services and placing the client on a waitlist for planned respite;
- Contacting Carers NT, UCFS or Anglicare NT for emergency respite should the family require respite in the interim;
- Relying on existing services in the area, particularly in remote communities where there are limited services available. This would include options such as sourcing a support worker from the local Disability In Home Support (DIHS) service to assist.