

IN-HOME SUPPORT DAYCARE BABYSITTING RESPITE



Clarifying Support Resources for Foster Parents

IN-HOME SUPPORT

There are times where it may be addressed that you need extra support to keep up with the day to day need of the children in your care. Your Ministry worker would complete an assessment of your home and if it is decided In-Home Support is required, they will complete an In-Home Support contract which would then be assigned to a Program Coordinator within the SFFA office.

- The purpose of the In-Home Support Worker is never to replace the role of the Foster Parent, but to help Foster Parents focus on their primary responsibility – the children in their home.
- A Caregiver must be present in the home during support hours and support hours must be completed in the home.

DAYCARE

Daycare can be used when a Foster Parent works full time outside the home or on a case by case need for child socialization.

- The Child and Caregiver Support Worker must ensure that background checks and home safety checks are completed for regular full or part time babysitters and unlicensed home day care providers.

BABYSITTING

Families can request babysitting hours for a number of different reasons such as:

- Attending to the medical, educational and treatment needs of children in care as per their approved case plan;
- Participating in approved Caregiver training;
- Responding to personal emergencies or special circumstances of the family;
- Attending meetings related to formal conflict resolution, appeals or allegations pertaining to their home;
- Participating in Ministry committees at the request of the Ministry;
- Attending SFFA provincial or local board meetings as an elected or appointed member;

Things to remember when booking and finding a babysitter:

- The Caregiver must have good knowledge of the babysitter they choose and ensure that the babysitter has the level of maturity and skills to provide responsible and safe care for each child.
- The Caregiver must provide the babysitter with names of appropriate contact persons and/or agencies in order to respond effectively to any emergency that may arise.
- The Caregiver must have prior approval from their Child and Caregiver Support worker before using or booking a babysitter.

RESPIRE

All Foster Families and extended Family Caregivers are eligible for 10 days of respite per year.

These days can be taken all at once or split into multiple occurrences. Respite is a planned block of time to provide the Caregiver family with temporary reprieve from the day-to-day responsibilities of childcare. Respite can be provided in the foster home or at the respite providers residence. Prior planning must be made with your Child and Caregiver Support worker before taking respite to ensure planning can be approved.

- The respite provider must be approved by the Child and Caregiver Support worker or Childcare Worker and complete a criminal record check.
- If respite is provided in another home the worker must ensure the home meets the required home safety standards.
- The respite provider must be made aware of the basic child in care requirements such as discipline policy, confidentiality, and legal authority and responsibility of the Ministry for decisions related to care of individual children.
- The respite provider must be given a general outline of the child's needs and any conditions such as visits.
- Respite providers are compensated \$40/day with an additional \$20/day for each additional child.
- Respite days cannot be carried over between years.