PROVIDE
RESPITE CARE

Respite provides foster parents with breaks so they can get things done, relax and re-energize. It also provides children with opportunities to experience new things and develop new relationships with other caring adults.

Respite providers care for children for short periods of time such as a few hours, a weekend or a week or two. This can also include giving children and youth daily rides to and from school or weekly rides to afterschool activities.

! You must be approved if you'll be providing respite:
- More than 48 hours at a time
- More than 11 times in a 12-month period

This is defined as "formal respite care" in Family Services Division Policy 95.

How to get approved for respite care

1. Call the Resource Coordinator in your local Family Services District Office.

2. Complete the application the Resource Coordinator provides.

3. Respite can be provided in your home, the child's home, or the community. If you'll be providing respite in your home, a worker will tour your home to make sure it meets the requirements.

4. We conduct background checks on members of your household.

5. The district office approves or denies your respite application.

The support that's available

➲ You'll be reimbursed a nightly or hourly rate.

➲ You can call 1-800-649-5285 if you need help after hours, on weekends, and on state holidays.

! **To provide formal respite care, you:**

✓ Must be at least 18

✓ Can be single, married, living with a partner or joined through civil union

✓ Must not have had a foster care license denied or revoked

Applications are considered regardless of disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity/expression, race, religion, or sexual orientation.

FAMILY SERVICES DISTRICT OFFICES

Barre 802-479-4260

Bennington 802-442-8138

Brattleboro 802-257-2888

Burlington 802-863-7370

Hartford 802-295-8840

Middlebury 802-388-4660

Morrisville 802-888-4576

Newport 802-334-6723

Rutland 802-786-5817

Springfield 802-289-0648

St. Albans 802-527-7741

St. Johnsbury 802-748-8374

VERMONT
DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES
FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION