

SPECIAL SERVICES AT HOME (SSAH) FACT SHEET

SSAH provides funds to assist children and families in **Personal Development and Growth** and **Family Relief and Support**.

WHAT IS RESPITE?

The Special Services at Home guidelines defines RESPITE as assisting with the activities of daily living and helping improve the quality of life for the family while enabling the child with special needs to continue to live at home. It enhances the primary caregiver's capacity to provide care for the special needs family member living at home, through the provision of temporary relief supports.

WHO CAN I HIRE?

- A respite worker that you hire on your own
- A worker employed through an agency
- A family member who is over the age of 18 and NOT the primary caregiver, parent, step parent or spouse

For help finding a worker and for more information on services in your community please go to www.respiteservices.com

HOW CAN I USE MY SSAH FUNDING?

You can use your SSAH funding for the following services:

- To pay for in-home or out-of-home respite; to pay for the services of a support worker to provide Respite and/or Personal Development
- Camps and recreational and/or support services
- 1:1 support worker at camp or recreation programs
- Training for a family member or worker that enhances the understanding of the SSAH client's needs (e.g. sign language)
- To pay the extraordinary costs of childcare. Families must cover normal costs of childcare and may bill the extraordinary costs arising from the disability against the SSAH funding. Childcare costs for disabled individuals over the age of 12 are considered extraordinary and may be billed in full against the SSAH funding approval.
- Nursing for medically fragile children
- Routine homemaking tasks such as light housecleaning, meal preparation, laundry, grass cutting, and snow shovelling so that you have more time with your child who has special needs or other family activities.

You cannot use your SSAH funding for the following services:

- Basic care
- Regular child care fees for children under 12 years of age
- Fees and tuition costs for education and employment
- Educational services such as tutoring and academic programs
- Conferences, degree or diploma courses for training of special service workers or family members
- Assistive devices, specialized equipment, home modifications
- Dental services
- 1:1 support in a school setting
- Professional Services: junior and senior therapists (e.g. IBI, ABA, speech therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy).

Please contact your Special Agreements Officer if you are unsure if an expense is eligible for reimbursement.