

Respite Care Programme

Purpose

The Respite Care Programme is designed to support older individuals with significant disabilities and care needs, enabling them to remain in their own homes for as long as possible. By providing regular, planned relief to informal caregivers, the programme helps delay or prevent the need for long-term residential care. This service is offered at no direct cost to clients or their families.

Eligibility

The programme is available to individuals aged 65 and over—or those of a similar age and life stage—who are being cared for at home and have high levels of ongoing disability and dependency. It is particularly intended for situations where the demands on a live-in caregiver are substantial.

What is Respite Care?

Respite Care involves the temporary admission of a client to a rest home or hospital, providing caregivers with scheduled periods of relief. These stays are pre-arranged and tailored to meet the needs of both the client and their caregiver(s).

Service Locations

Respite Care is available at various rest homes and hospital facilities throughout Northland. Every effort is made to arrange placements close to the client's home to ensure convenience and continuity of care.

Coordination and Planning

The Needs Assessment Service coordinates Respite Care in collaboration with the client, their caregiver(s), and family/whānau. Together, they develop a care plan and identify a suitable placement that aligns with the client's needs and preferences.

Accessing the Programme

Entry into the programme begins with a comprehensive Needs Assessment. This assessment informs the selection of an appropriate care setting and the development of a tailored respite plan.

Referrals

Referrals to the Respite Care Programme can be made by anyone involved in the client's care, including general practitioners (GP), community health professionals, or caregivers. It is essential that the client, caregiver, and family/whānau are informed of and consent to the referral.

For more information or access to the programme contact:

Health of Older People

Phone: 0800 88 88 90 or 09 430 4131 **Email:** nasc@northlanddhb.org.nz

https://info.health.nz/locations/northland/

northland-nasc

North Able

Phone: 0508 637 200 or 09 430 0988 Email: nascadmin@northable.org.nz https://www.northable.org.nz/services-

pages/nasc



