

## Children with Special Health Needs Respite

**Definition:** Respite is a planned break for parents or caregivers, which allows them time to spend with other children, schedule necessary appointments, or rest and recharge. Children with Special Health Needs (CSHN) Respite provides limited funding and short-term support to parents and primary caregivers.

**Eligibility:** CSHN Respite is available to families with children:

- Birth to 21 years of age;
- Diagnosed with a chronic physical or developmental condition;
- Who require enhanced health-related services; and
- Live in a family with an income at or below 500% of federal poverty level

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### Q: Who can be a respite provider?

**A:** Any number of people can be a respite provider—including grandparents, aunts/uncles, and adult siblings—unless this individual is serving as the child’s primary caregiver. Primary caregivers, regardless of legal status, cannot be paid to be a respite provider. Respite providers must be 16 years of age or older in order to be reimbursed through CSHN Respite. Qualifications for respite providers should be based on the individual needs of the child and are determined by the parent/primary caregiver.

#### Q: Can I be reimbursed for providing care to my own child?

**A:** No, respite reimbursements cannot be made for care provided to your own child.

#### Q: Who can CSHN Respite be used for?

**A:** CSHN Respite can only be used for the identified child, not siblings or costs related to other individuals.

#### Q: How is CSHN Respite Paid?

**A:** CSHN Respite is a reimbursement made to the parent/primary caregiver after respite has been provided.

#### Q: What if my child gets respite funds from somewhere else?

**A:** CSHN Respite is limited and therefore reserved for children who do not have access to other respite funds.

#### Q: How do I know if my child is eligible for CSHN Respite?

**A:** Your local CSHN Care Coordinator will determine if Respite is appropriate for your child based on the need of your child and family.