

# Community Living - Respite Program

## *What is Community Living Service Delivery?*

Community Living Service Delivery (CLSD) is a branch of the Ministry of Social Services. Branch staff work with people with intellectual disabilities and help them access a variety of community-based services.

CLSD staff work to ensure that the physical, emotional, and social needs of people with intellectual disabilities are met and that they are able to live as independently as possible within their own communities.

## *What is respite?*

Respite is a temporary or short-term break from the daily responsibilities of caregiving for parents and guardians of children with intellectual disabilities. Respite can contribute to the improved physical, emotional, and spiritual health and well-being of the caregiver.

## *What is a respite benefit?*

A respite benefit is an income-tested, monthly financial benefit provided to parents or guardians of a child with an intellectual disability. The purpose of the respite benefit is to enable parents to pay for short-term alternative or additional supervision and care of the child. This monthly benefit gives eligible families the freedom to plan and manage their respite supports.

## *Who is eligible to apply?*

To be eligible for the respite benefit, parents or guardians must:

- be residents of Saskatchewan; and
- have a child living in their family home who is under age 18, meets the eligibility requirements, and has been accepted for services provided by CLSD.

## *How do I apply?*

Parents or guardians who think they may be eligible for a respite benefit must:

- complete an application that includes signing a declaration indicating they will follow the stated guidelines of the respite program;
- take part in an assessment of the support needs of the child using the Daily Living Support Assessment (DLSA), as well as an assessment of the impact of the disability on the family unit using the Family Impact of Disability Assessment (FIDA);
- provide their Notice(s) of Assessment (NOA) from the specified tax year and consent to ongoing income verification from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

### *How is the benefit determined?*

Benefits are determined on an individual basis from information contained in the completed assessments and income data for each family.

### *How are benefits paid?*

Benefits are paid monthly to eligible families.

#### Family responsibilities

To access benefits, families must agree to the following:

- an annual income test;
- to report any change in circumstances;
- to use the benefit for respite care;
- to not pay themselves as parents or guardians or use the benefit for employment-related child care expenses; and
- to take part in an annual review with the assigned CLSD community service worker.

For further information, contact the Community

Living Service Delivery office nearest you:

Estevan	306-637-4550
La Ronge	306-425-4357
Lloydminster	306-820-4250
Meadow Lake	306-236-7500
Melfort	306-752-6100
Moose Jaw	306-694-3800
Nipawin	306-862-1700
North Battleford	306-446-7535
Prince Albert	306-953-2668
Regina	306-787-3848
Saskatoon	306-933-6300
Swift Current	306-778-8219
Weyburn	306-848-2404
Yorkton	306-786-1300