

FAMILY REIMBURSED RESPITE INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT IS FAMILY REIMBURSED RESPITE?

Family reimbursed respite is a service available within self-direction for people receiving unpaid caregiving support. It is intended to offer intermittent relief to caregivers and is capped at \$3,000 per year. The caregiver pays the respite provider directly and submits to the fiscal intermediary for reimbursement of these costs.

Family reimbursed respite is 100% paid with New York state funds. In order for the respite services to be reimbursed, it is important to comply with the criteria and documentation requirements below. In accordance with the False Claims Act, submitting false information may result in having to repay funds, losing future reimbursement eligibility and possible legal action. Heritage Christian Services reserves the right to request verification of payment for respite services at any time.

To be eligible for family reimbursed respite, the following criteria must be met:

- The person supported has a self-direction budget with family reimbursed respite built in.
- The person's Life Plan has a valued outcome related to respite and family reimbursed respite is listed in section 5 of the Life Plan.
- The person does not have an OPWDD housing subsidy.
- The person has support needs that are being provided by a family member or unpaid caregiver.

The respite provider must meet the following criteria:

- The respite provider should be at least 14 years of age.
- The respite provider cannot be a parent, significant other or legal guardian for the person supported.
- The respite provider cannot be an HCS employee.
- The rate of pay or cost of respite services should be reasonable. The current NYS minimum wage may be used as a guide for rate of pay.

To receive reimbursement, the following should be submitted to the FI in eVero, using the Heritage Christian Services Family Reimbursed Respite form:

- The date of the respite care
- The times the respite was provided
- The number of hours respite was provided
- The costs of the respite services

Please note:

- The reimbursement will be issued to the caregiver that received the respite support.
- Heritage Christian Services reimbursement cannot be made directly to the respite provider.
- The request for reimbursement should be submitted to the FI no later than the end of the month following the date(s) of service.