

## Family Support Services

### Direct Funded Respite

provides funding directly to families to purchase the respite services that best meet their needs

### Contracted Respite

provides contracted respite services which may include recruitment, training and monitoring of respite caregivers

### Respite Relief

provides overnight respite services by an approved caregiver in their home or in the child's home

### Child and Youth Care Worker

provides one to one support to a child or youth with clear goals of service

### Social Skills Groups

provides an opportunity for children and youth to participate in groups with a focus on social skills development and peer relationships

### After School Program

provides after school care for children 12 to 19 with special needs

### Behavioural Support

provides consultation, training, development and monitoring of individualized positive behaviour support plans for children, youth and their families

### Homemaker Support

provides short-term home support services including care of children and training in household management skills. This service is determined based on need.

### Residential Support

provides voluntary residential care with a Special Needs Agreement, this includes foster homes, staff specialized resources and group homes

## Staff Qualifications

All program staff employed by MCFD have specialized training and expertise in the services they deliver.

## Hours of Operation

MCFD offices are open Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

## Contact Information

OFFICE  
INFORMATION  
HERE

After-Hours Line (for emergencies outside office hours call 24-hours):

Lower Mainland: 604-660-4927

Elsewhere in BC: 1-800-663-9122

Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD):

Vancouver: 604-775-0303

Elsewhere in BC: 1-800-661-8773

## Websites

### MCFD Children & Youth with Special Needs

[www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec\\_needs/index.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/index.htm)

### Community Living BC (CLBC)

[www.communitylivingbc.ca/](http://www.communitylivingbc.ca/)

### At Home Program

[www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/at\\_home/](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/at_home/)

### Autism BC

[www.autismbc.ca/](http://www.autismbc.ca/)

### Supported Child Development

[www.scdp.bc.ca/](http://www.scdp.bc.ca/)

# Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) Vancouver Coastal Region



At Home Program,  
Autism Programs &  
Family Support Services  
Information for Parents

## Eligibility for Services

To be eligible for these programs, a child or youth must be:

- a resident of British Columbia *and*
- under the age of 19 *and*
- diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (this includes Autism, Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome, PDD-NOS, Rett Syndrome) *or*
- eligible for the At Home Program that includes children who are assessed as dependent in at least three of four functional activities of daily living (eating, dressing, toileting, and washing) *or*
- diagnosed with an Intellectual Disability

## What to Expect

These programs are voluntary and parents have a choice whether to utilize them. If you feel your child is eligible and you would like to learn more about these services please contact your local Child and Youth Special Needs (CYSN) office, where a CYSN worker will explain the various services. If you decide to utilize these services you will be assigned a CYSN worker.

The successful delivery of our services depends on people working collaboratively. The views and input of parents, children, youth, CYSN workers, and the community are all essential and each has an important role to play.

## Family Support Services

Family Support Services is an umbrella term that describes a range of programs intended to support parents to care for their child or youth with special needs in the home. These programs are subject to funding availability, eligibility, and your child could be waitlisted. Priority waitlists for programs vary depending on availability, the needs of the child/youth, the situation of the family and their existing supports.

## At Home Program

If your child is eligible for the At Home Program they could receive At Home Program Medical Benefits and/or Respite Benefits.

At Home Medical Benefits provides the following basic, essential benefits for eligible children: medical supplies, medical equipment, dental, orthodontic and optical benefits.

At Home Program Respite Benefits provides \$2,400 to \$2,800 per year (depending on family income) to assist families of eligible children to purchase the respite services that best meet their needs.

## Autism Programs

If your child has a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) they are eligible for autism funding immediately.

Autism funding programs provide funding to families of children and youth diagnosed with ASD to assist with the cost of purchasing eligible autism intervention services (based on best practices) that promote their child's communication, social-emotional, pre-academic/academic and functional life-skills development. Families of children under age 6 are eligible for up to \$22,000 of autism funding; families of children aged 6-18 are eligible for up to \$6,000.

## Transitional Planning

A CYSN worker will help you plan for your child during the transitional years from adolescence to adulthood. The services you receive will end upon your child's 19th birthday. Consequently, the CYSN worker will support you to plan for your child's future starting at age 16. This might include assisting in:

- determining eligibility for adult CLBC services
- determining eligibility for adult health services
- applying for Persons with Disabilities designation (PWD)
- identifying, with your child, their goals for their future

## Cost of Services

There is no charge for most programs. However, some programs require parental contributions. An income test is administered to determine the amount of parental contribution for services provided. The basis for the income test is the net income of the family or individual receiving services.

## Program Outcomes

The CYSN program collects data on how it is doing and how satisfied the children, youth and families are with the services they received. The feedback is used to assess the quality of services and how services can be improved. Each year the results are made available to the public.

