RESPITE CUTS PUT MORE PRESSURE ON FAMILIES

Shadow Minister for Health Nicole Manison called on the Health Minister Robyn Lambley to continue vital respite funding to assist families supporting people with disabilities.

“This is a cruel and disgraceful attempt of the CLP Government to scrap $140,000 of funding for respite service to support families,” Ms Manison said.

“About 50 families use these respite services that have been cut and respite services are already in high demand right across the Territory.

“It is abhorrent that the CLP Government is trying to penny pinch from disabled Territorians and placing more pressure on families already facing challenges.

“Carers had been initially told respite services were cut, with no alternative service offered at a time when there are already waiting lists of up to 2 years to access some respite services in Darwin.

“Some of the families that access this respite care have a few children in the program as well.

“The Flexi Respite and Connections programs should be continued.

“There are already very limited respite options available for families and these services should continue.

“The CLP Government has made life so much harder for Territory families with disabled children by failing to commit to build a new Henbury School and having limited post school care options for children when they finish their education.

“Health Minister Robyn Lambley needs to fully commit to not cutting respite funding and services.”

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