## Whanganui disability respite market

Whanganui at a glance (Access Ability NASC region)

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| Number of people receiving DSS support in region | **515** |
| Number of people allocated respite in region (includes Carer Support) | **241** |
| % people allocated respite who are Māori | **26%** |
| % people with respite allocation aged 21 years or under | **65%** |

## Current respite allocations

* 17 people are allocated facility-based respite (12% are aged 21 years or less). The total annual value of the facility-based respite allocation in Whanganui region is currently $111,000.
* 26 people are currently allocated contracted in-home respite, at a total value of approx. $138,000 per year.
* 231 people are allocated Carer Support, at a total value of around $680,000 per year.
* Eight people in Whanganui use IF Respite at a value of $64,000.

## Current respite options available

### Overnight respite options

* There is one dedicated facility-based respite service for children aged 5 to 21 in Palmerston North. Two families from the Whanganui region are currently choosing to travel the approx. one-hour drive to access this service. This service is currently rebuilding its client base after a change in provider.
* There is one dedicated respite house for adults with physical disabilities in Whanganui.
* There is one facility that adults could access for respite if they have a co-existing mental health condition.
* There is one community residential provider that may offer respite if the person with a disability is looking to transition to this service in the long term.
* There are seven aged care facilities in the Whanganui region that people with disabilities can use for respite.

### Daytime respite options

* There are around three services that offer weekday activity options for adults. These include community participation programmes, business enterprise and day services.
* There is a disability-specific school holiday programme that operates for one day per school holidays. There is an after school computer club for young people with disabilities. Mainstream out-of-school care programmes operate.
* Sporting options include Riding for the Disabled, swimming lessons, Boccia, Halberg Allsports and Special Olympics.
* Social and recreational activities within the region include a Lego programme for children with autism, a youth group, a monthly disco, social networking groups, and an art studio for artists with disabilities.

## Gaps in the Whanganui respite market

* Scope exists to develop disability-accessible out-of-school care options, and social, recreational or sporting options for children and adults across the region.
* Consideration could be given to the need for respite options for adults with intellectual disabilities.