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Your submission for this review:

After four years of foster caring, I now feel that the payments do not cover all costs. I do receive help occasionally for items needed such as payment for recommended play equipment by a therapist. But, as there is such a shortage of support workers to take my foster daughter to her appointments, therapy, doctors, allied health etc. I-almost always take her myself. The time taken to do all of this means that I cannot pursue other work or utilise my qualifications and earn a proper wage, I need to ensure our kid gets all needs met to ensure the best possible outcome for her. With all of these appointments there is the extra cost of petrol and car maintenance also. We were fortunate to be able to take her on a trip overseas, which was so beneficial for her, we spent a lot of money for this to happen, but the trip changed her world. We will soon be moving house, so there will be items required for her room that will be needed set up as she is growing and her needs have changed. Extra small costs such as buying birthday presents for her friends parties and also craft and games that are purchased to do when she is at home and also when she goes to her respite carer for a sleepover, I will always give the respite carer some money if I know she is taking my kid out for the day, as I know she is paid very little for 24 hour care and would not cover her costs, I will usually give her \$20 or \$30 or up to \$50 if she is taking her to something special such as a performance or show. We have also taken her to plays and stage shows that we have paid for. Our kid also has ADHD, that was diagnosed three years after she came to us, this means she needed our attention all of the time, with little down time.