

Author name: Name suppressed

Date of submission: Thursday, 8 May 2025

Your submission for this review:

How often do I hear that we are in it for the money as carers? In the decades we have been doing this, the lack of sleep, the behaviours of these traumatized kids (putting faeces around the house, violent outbursts) can not justify the \$1.70/hour we get. It did get increased to \$2.20/hr, yes it is a kick in the gut. If we wouldn't be dedicated to these kids, who are victims in need of support, we wouldn't be able to do it. Funding changes from agency to agency and prices increase everywhere. If we want our foster kid to play soccer like our kids, it used to be \$80 per season, now it is \$300, no one pays for that, but it is pretty much the amount we get for two weeks. It has never been about the money EVER, but feeling it from CW/media etc as if we are, it's hurtful to the core. It's enough. The millions and millions spent on hotels/caravan parks should have been given to carers, then more people would step forward as it is hard to support extra kids in this day and age. Hopefully your report is finally going to make the difference that all carers deserve and need. We couldn't get support for a 7 year old who showed sexualized behaviours, because there is 'no funding' or an excuse that he needed to be in permanent care first, which can take years as we all know. If you don't get in early, it is harder for everyone involved in the future, in our society. Money needs to be spent better in so many areas. We have seen the department waste money left/right and centre and there is no money for us. How can this be right? Our hope is with you to finally change and adjust this broken system.