

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 089

Topic: Programs for siblings of children and adults with a disability

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Xenophon asked:

What other programs aimed at siblings of children and adults with a disability does the Department fund?

Answer:

Siblings who are carers of children and adults with a disability can access a range of programs and services funded by the Department. These include the:

- Mental Health Respite Program, which provides a range of flexible respite and support options for carers of people with severe mental illness and carers of people with intellectual disability (also covers autism);
- Young Carers Respite and Information Services Program, which provides respite services to help young carers at school who take time off to study, spend time with friends and enjoy regular activities that other young people take for granted;
- Respite Support for Carers of Young People with Severe or Profound Disability Program, which provides immediate and short term respite to carers; and
- National Disability Advocacy Program, through which carers can access family advocacy services on behalf of their family member with a disability.
- Family Relationship Services for Carers, which provides targeted mediation and counselling to assist families who are concerned about the future care of their family member with a disability.