## Northland disability respite market

Northland at a glance (NorthAble NASC region)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of people receiving DSS support in region  | **1,474** |
| Number of people allocated respite in region (includes Carer Support) | **875** |
| % people allocated respite who are Māori | **55%** |
| % people with respite allocation aged 21 years or under | **66%** |

## Current respite allocations

* 79 people are allocated facility-based respite (44% are aged under 21). The total annual value of the facility-based respite allocation in Northland is approximately $560,000.
* 24 people are currently allocated contracted in-home respite, at a total value of approx. $320,000 per year.
* 830 people are allocated Carer Support, at a total value of around $1.7 million per year.
* 15 people in Northland use Individualised Funding (IF) Respite at a value of $86,000.

## Current respite options available

### Overnight respite options

* A dedicated five-bed, facility-based respite service for children and young people aged 5 to 17 years (or up to 21 years on request) operates from Whangārei. This service is has around 75% occupancy.
* A new community-led service expects to open in July 2018 to provide overnight respite for infants and young children who are medically fragile or have a disability.
* There are five community residential providers in Whangārei and Dargaville who at times may have capacity to offer respite for adults with disabilities. One of these providers has a contract for respite.
* There is a holiday camp in the Far North that has experience in supporting young people with additional needs and may also be able to offer overnight respite.
* There are 12 aged care facilities across the Northland region that currently offer overnight respite for adults with disabilities.

### Daytime respite options

* There are around 10 services that offer weekday activity options for adults. These include community participation programmes and business enterprises.
* There is one disability-specific out-of-school care programme at Blomfield School. There are approximately 25-30 mainstream out-of-school care programmes across Northland.
* Social, recreational or sporting activities available for people with disabilities in the region include Riding for the Disabled, swimming lessons, Boccia, Parafed and Special Olympics.
* A hip hop workshop for children and young people runs from Whangārei.

## Gaps in the Northland respite market

* There are few options for disability-specific social or recreational activities for children, young people or adults. Northable NASC notes that parents would like after school programmes, and the option of evening or weekend activity groups for their disabled children.
* Most services are centred around Whangārei, leaving the communities further north without formal respite services.
* There is scope to increase the number of host-families available to support a disabled person for periods of respite out of their family home.
* With 55% of people with a respite allocation identifying as Māori, there is likely scope for additional kaupapa Māori respite support.