



Kennerley

Building a brighter future for Tasmanian families since 1869

Community Respite PROGRAM



Who is **KENNERLEY?**

Kennerley Childrens Homes is a Tasmanian Not For Profit organisation that has assisted families in raising their children since 1869. Our founder Alfred Kennerley and his wife Jane recognised that families sometimes need assistance and support when times are tough, and, today this value still drives our core business. We are passionate about making a difference in our community by assisting families to reach their full potential and thrive.

Kennerley have always believed that raising confident and resilient children is a community responsibility, and, it's a big job that no-one should have to do alone. We recognise that respite care provides vital support and assistance to families who are experiencing difficulties through no fault of their own.

Very often, families are isolated and have no extended family or friends to provide the parent (or parents) with a break from the challenges of raising children. Families today are all very unique and come in all shapes and sizes, and our program supports anyone providing primary care for children, whether they are a parent, aunty, grandparent or kinship relative everyone needs to recharge their batteries occasionally.

Building a brighter future!





WHO IS ELIGIBLE AND HOW DO I ACCESS YOUR PROGRAM?

This particular program was developed in 1989 as a response to community need and we have been caring for children from our community since that time with many of our carers assisting families throughout their children's lives with relationships that are built on trust and support. Our Community Respite Program is open to anyone with the primary responsibility of caring for children, we do not discriminate.

YOU CAN BE:

- A single parent;
- A grandmother or grandfather raising grandchildren;
- Have health issues and need assistance during treatment;
- Be raising a child with a disability or special needs;
- A kinship relative raising a family member.

Once you have made contact with us (Phone: 03 6272 5900 or email together@kennerleykids.org.au) we will take you through the process of registering your children and matching them to a carer with Kennerley. This is an important step because we want to make sure that your child/ children's needs met, and, for them to enjoy their experiences as much as possible – providing an enriching experience while you take a well-earned break. Your information and the request for assistance is of course confidential and one of our Social Workers is there to assist you at every step of the process answering any questions you might have as we go.

Generally, the service we provide to families is on average between 1 to 7 days , but can be extended in some special circumstances.

WHAT CREDENTIALS DO OUR RESPITE CARERS HAVE TO CARE FOR YOUR CHILDREN?

- All of our carers are registered Respite Carers for Kennerley;
- They each hold a current National Police Check, a Working With Children Check and Child Safety Check because your children's safety is paramount to us;
- Kennerley is a registered Charity, has NDIS accreditation and prides itself on being a child safe organisation; and
- Every carer has been through rigorous training so that they are aware of the developmental needs of children and can respond to them in a child focused and trauma informed way.

IS THE COMMUNITY RESPITE PROGRAM FOSTER CARE?

No, our Community Respite Program is not Foster Care, that is a separate program, and while we offer access to this program to our Foster Carers to help them to stay resilient and well rested, this program is for families in our community that are in need of support in raising their children and building a brighter future.



Kennerley is a registered provider of the following NDIS services: Early Childhood supports: Assist Personal Activities; Participate Community; and Centre/ Group Based Activities.

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