

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

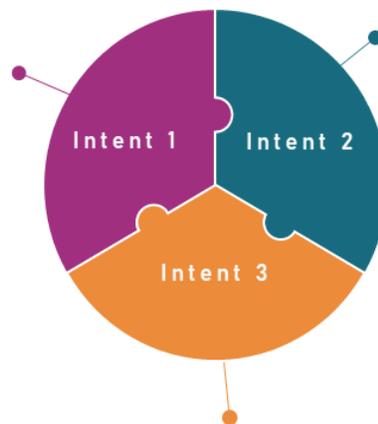
Disabilities – Recommendation 9

Recommendation Summary: Develop and resource a full continuum of flexible respite support.

Primary Public Body: Manitoba Families

1. Create a resource strategy that reflects a full and flexible continuum of respite options.

Families reported that Self-Managed Respite Guidelines were issued in 2021 to assist CdS staff when assessing respite needs with families and children. Also, two new respite homes were developed to help improve access to respite options. These programs, however, are still at the pilot stage, and do not appear to be sufficient to serve children with disabilities across Manitoba.



2. Develop informal resources on the continuum of respite options and providers for families.

A guide to meet this intent is currently in the final stages of design and development.

3. Enforce and financially support the requirement for criminal record and child abuse registry.

There are legal agreements between Families and CdS with requirements to include personal references, a criminal reference check, and child and adult abuse registry checks with respect to caregivers.

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

0.50

Partially Compliant

Recommendation Compliance Summary

In accordance with subsection 11(1) clause (d) of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act* (ACYA), the Advocate retains the responsibility "to monitor the implementation of recommendations included in reports made under section 27 (investigation) or special reports made under section 31."

This form details the assessment of implementation of compliance made under the referenced subsection of the ACYA. MACY assesses implementation of compliance with recommendations once a year but receives updates from public bodies every six months.

1. Recommendation Information	
Special Report Name:	Bridging the Gaps: Achieving Substantive Equality for Children with Disabilities in Manitoba
Date Released:	3/25/2021
Full Recommendation: (including details)	Recommendation Nine: The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that Manitoba Families and Children's disABILITY Services create and resource a strategy that reflects a full and flexible continuum of respite options from at-home respite to alternative care outside the home.
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	The intents of the recommendation are to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create and resource a strategy that reflects a full and flexible continuum of respite options. 2. Develop informational resources on the continuum of respite options and providers for families. 3. Enforce and financially support the requirement for criminal record and child abuse registry.
Issue:	Disabilities
Public Body	Manitoba Families
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	June 30, 2022
2. Compliance Determination	
Partially Compliant 0.50	Actions taken only implement part of the recommendation. Important requirements have been met and the recommendation is acted upon, however, deficiencies remain.
Self-Assessment	Partially Compliant
Previous Compliance Determination	N/A
3. Rationale for Determination <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
Intent 1: Create and resource a strategy that reflects a full and flexible continuum of respite options. 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manitoba Families reported work to create a full and flexible continuum of respite options available – hourly, on evenings and weekends, 24-hours a day. • Manitoba Families reported that the Self-Managed Respite Guidelines were issued in 2021 to assist CdS staff when assessing respite needs with families and children. • The government also announced a two-year pilot in partnership with St. Amant to create two overnight respite homes (one in Winnipeg, one in Brandon). 	

- These facilities will offer proactive services outside of the formal child welfare system that are aimed at preventing children with disabilities from entering CFS care.
- The government has also announced the Bridge Program for Children and Youth with Disabilities Pilot Project which will provide out-of-home residential supports and in-home family supports for families who are no longer able to provide care because of the ongoing complexity of their children's care requirements. This program will provide stays of up to seven days at a time.
- A self-managed respite guide for families is in the latter stages of development.

Intent 2: Develop informational resources on the continuum of respite options and providers for families.

2022

- Manitoba Families reported that a guide is currently in the final stages of design and development.

Intent 3: Enforce and financially support the requirement for criminal record and child abuse registry.

2022

- Manitoba Families reported on the development of a legal agreement between families and the department. The requirements under the agreement include personal references, a criminal reference check, and child and adult abuse registry checks.

Analysis Summary: Progress has been made on all three Intents. The development of two new respite homes is an initiative that will help improve access to respite options. These programs, however, are still at the pilot stage. It is also doubtful if these facilities (one in Winnipeg, one in Brandon) will be sufficient to serve children with disabilities across Manitoba. The guide being developed in line with Intent 2 is also yet to be completed. In light of promising work to date, the status determination for this recommendation is partially compliant.