



Caregiving

"It's given me a different purpose in life."
- Rebecca

Would you like to help children and families near you?

Contact us to find out more today about being a
short-term, emergency, or respite caregiver

Call **029 650 0119** or

Email **Dyanne.bensley@ot.govt.nz**



**ORANGA
TAMARIKI**
Ministry for Children

Caregiving: your love and patience can make a big difference

Did you know there are children and young people in the Canterbury region in need of short-term care?

It's best when children can stay at home safely with their family.

At times when this isn't possible we find and support caregivers who provide safe, stable, loving homes for children and young people in need of care.

We take a family first approach to caring for children, working with the family to decide who can safely care for the child.

If there isn't a family group, hapū, or iwi option immediately available we need to have approved caregivers ready who can provide appropriate care for children whatever their needs are. These caregivers care for the child while we work with the parents and family to ensure they can either safely return home or if that is not possible live with someone else in their wider family group, hapū or iwi.

How Can You Help?

There are various ways you can help care for children and young people. In your region we're currently looking for caregivers who can provide emergency, respite, or short-term care.

Emergency care is needed when a child is placed in your care at very short notice due to an immediate need. Emergency care is for a short time while other arrangements are made and can often occur at night or over the weekend.

Respite care is needed when the usual caregivers need a rest. You will be caring for the child for a short period of time and ideally get to know the child before they come to stay with you.

Short-term care is needed when we're working with a child's family and deciding a plan for moving forward. During this time, you might be asked to care for them for up to six months and you will work with social workers to support children to transition to where they will go next.

About You

Caregivers have a passion for mentoring and caring for children and are committed to helping them through difficult situations. It might be helpful if you've already worked, or are working in childcare, teaching, social work, youth work, counselling, or healthcare, however this experience isn't essential.

We're keen to work with and support caregivers from all walks of life. There is no required background or 'typical caregiver'.

Things can get difficult when supporting children and young people who have experienced trauma.

Sometimes children will display strong emotions and need your patience and understanding as they attempt to understand the world around them. It can be hard work, but the rewards are massive.

Would you like to help children and families near you?

Contact us to find out more today
Call 0296500119 or
Email Dyanne.bensley@ot.govt.nz