



**SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, INC.**  
**Adoption Permanency Division**  
**(APD)**  
**RESPIRE CARE SERVICES**

**Respite Care Services:**

- Respite is a planned break for resource/adoptive parents who are parenting children who have special needs and behavioral challenges.
- Respite is for the use of adoptive families and also resource families. All adoptive families are eligible for respite services.
- Respite services are offered once a month for families, as requested.
- Respite care is short term, usually lasting from less than a full day up to a week (most often a weekend).
- Respite can be provided by a family member, friend, neighbor, church member, or even from someone in the community who you may not know personally, as long as they have become a certified respite provider through SCSCY.

**Requirements for Respite Providers:**

- Must be between at least of 21 years of age.
- Must rent or own your own residence with adequate sleeping accommodations. (Child/Youth may not sleep on couches or share a bed with another person. Only same sex and similar age children may share the same room).
- Interested party must be married or single. Two or more unrelated adults living in the same household will not be certified as respite providers.
- Homes may have no more than a total of five children including biological, adopted, and/or respite children/youth.
- Take a TB test with results indicating negative reading.
- All prospective respite providers will be required to pass background checks. These include Child Abuse Registry, Criminal Record, Fingerprinting and DMV Report. Any members of the household ages 14 and older must have background checks, also.
- Have valid Mississippi Driver's license and current automobile insurance. Driver's license and automobile insurance must be updated as needed with documentation.
- Must be willing to provide three references for contact.

- Must receive a satisfactory home environmental check.
- Be willing to complete training as required (First Aid/CPR/Bloodborne Pathogen and Respite Curriculum Training).

**For more information about receiving respite services or becoming a respite provider please contact:**

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