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Date of submission: Friday, 8 March 2024

Your submission for this review:

It is a small % of carers that seem to be in it for the money and you can only make money if you take in several kids, quantity over quality. MASSIVE myth out there for decades. It is shocking how little carers are valued for the 24 hrs job they do with kids who very often have very challenging behaviours. One of my friend is a carer and an e- psychologist, who had own practice. Then they get placed with 3 kids with 'no issues', but it turns out later that they have learning difficulties, developmental delays etc. The foster mother gives up work; as the family is challenged but loves the kids. They gave up a second income, all supernnuation entitlements etc. No one thinks of what we sacrifice for these kids. The demand to get kids out of motel rooms, results in the current carers getting a phone call to take in more kids...how does that work? We need you to invest in carers; more respite for those who need it to cope for another few months at a time; more camps to create friendships among the carers and for the foster kids to know they are not alone. If you get \$550 a fortnight for one child, divide it by 14 days, then divide it by 24 hours...you end up with \$1.70 an hour, it is ridiculous. We could dogsit and get \$50-\$120 per day, are kids worth less than animals nowadays? Signing up a kid for soccer costs \$300 this season. Anything and everything is more expensive. Not many of you sitting in the office would do what we do. Why? Because it is too tough. If you are not dedicated as a carer...no money in the world could be enough for the hours we spent awake at night with them; the many stories we hear that could cause vicarious trauma easily...we move on and take another kid. The amount of money that is wasted, 1.3 billion for these motel arrangements..mindblowing. If you would offer proper salaries for carers to stay home and take on more kids on a fulltime basis, you would find more carers for sure. Now we are all managing financial situations; behaviours etc.