Author name: Name suppressed

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Your submission for this review:

As a caseworker who works with children, young people, carers and families in out of home care I am so happy to see this review take place. Having a benchmark for finances would make case planning much more fair and equitable. Common feedback that I hear from carers is in regard to the carer allowance. With the costs of living increasing, it is becoming impossible to adequately provide for all of the needs of the children and young people they care for and often are seeking assistance for things like after school activities, purchase of warm clothes and blankets and sometimes food or petrol costs to get through week to week. It is my understanding that a review of the carer allowance has not been completed in many years and would like to suggest that the carer allowance be reviewed annually and increased in line with the CPA at a bare minimum. There is also a much needed overhaul of the costs for leaving care .For example, we allocate on average \$2500 for setting up a home, however in the current climate buying furniture and white goods would at a minimum cost about \$5000.