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Your submission for this review:

I am currently a foster carer with [REDACTED] NSW. I have been foster for the last 2 years and currently up to placement 6 and 7, siblings. This means I have had 7 additional children in my care within a 2 year period, this is a lot of change to my 'normal' day parenting. The current rate of allowance is equal to \$40.28 per day which is expected to cover meals, nappies and formula. Items like clothing, toys, extra curricular and therapy where required are also things I need to consider. During this time I have moved house to accommodate the extra children and have also purchased a bigger car to ensure everyone's safety is covered. A bigger car and house also comes with additional costs, which the current allowance hasnt increased to assist with. My current working arrangement has been impacted due to being a foster carer, I have taken additional time off to care for these vulnerable children due to their increased need to visit GPs and Specialists. In my opinion children in care seem to have more health care needs due to their lower immune system, I have noticed that my foster children have had my days off school or daycare as compared to my own children. This impacts my leave entitlements and super. I enjoy being a foster carer, its very rewarding to see the children in my care reunited with their parent/s or move to a kin placement, to achieve milestones and improvements in their development and to be a safe place for them during such a traumatic time in their lives, but as the cost of living increases I believe the allowance needs to reflect this. Continuing to be a foster carer should not be a decision based on financial situations, but sadly I believe this is a determining factor for so many people.