

RESPIRE POLICY

The Victims Compensation Program regards payment of respite services to be an important part of an overall plan to help victims and family members toward recovery after crime-related trauma.

Respite services will be considered reimbursable only upon submission of a written recommendation by a physician or mental health professional.

The person providing the respite care must submit a written treatment plan which addresses how the respite services will benefit the victim and the victim's family; an estimate of the number of hours of respite needed per week; and a plan for reducing respite services or finding other funding sources or alternative services.

Respite services will be paid at \$15 per hour, with a cap per treatment plan of \$1,000. The respite worker's mileage costs will not be reimbursed.

Respite services beyond the initial \$1,000 will be considered upon submission of an updated written recommendation from a physician or mental health professional, as well as the submission of an updated treatment plan from the respite provider.

It is recommended that respite services be provided in conjunction with mental health services.