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Mr Brendan Smith T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

27th November 2019

Re: Forwarded PQ ref 47885/19 - DSPQ19079(10) - Additional Respite Services Adults and Children Cavan & Monaghan

Details

THE URGENT NEED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL RESPITE SERVICES IN CAVAN/MONAGHAN FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

To ask the Minister for Health when additional respite services will be provided (details supplied) in counties Cavan and Monaghan; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Brendan Smith

Dear Deputy Smith,

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to the provision of additional respite services for children and adults. I have examined the matter and I can advise that the position remains as advised in my previous response to PQ 36529/19 dated 17th September 2019;

Disability Services Respite Services for Children and Adults

I can advise that Annalee View House Respite Centre, Cavan, is a 5 bed Centre which caters for both adults and children with moderate to severe intellectual disability and associated medical conditions, autism.

Adult and Child service users avail of respite on alternate weeks, 26 weeks adult respite, 26 weeks child respite.

Unfortunately, due to an environmental issue at this Centre we are unable to facilitate respite at this time, consequently, a new proposed property for respite in Cavan Town has been identified.

Every effort is being made to support families as best as possible. Joint working is currently active between Annalee Service and the second respite service for Adults with an Intellectual Disability within Cavan Monaghan, Steadfast House, Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan, to provide overnight respite to individuals as soon as possible.

Cavan Monaghan Disability Services currently offer a day service at the weekends for children and adults. Additional Home Support is available upon request and alternative respite is being explored.

In relation to the new proposed property for Respite in Cavan Town, all documentation for the new proposed property was submitted to HIQA on 14th June 2019 and HIQA visited the site in July 2019. We are waiting on final confirmation from HIQA to open the temporary respite centre.

Steadfast House Respite Centre, Carrickmacross, is currently facilitating service users from Annalee View Respite Centre in Cootehill during their closure.

Presently child and adult service users are availing of respite day care at weekend periods. Some adult service users are also availing of respite in Steadfast House Respite Centre, which provides respite to adults with an intellectual and/or physical/sensory disability in Cavan and Monaghan. The maximum capacity within the Respite Service is 4 beds per night. On average, the service is operating at 3 weeks per month with one week closed. As per Service Level Arrangement with the Health Service Executive, Steadfast House Respite Centre provides 840 respite bed nights per annum.

St Christopher's Centre, Cavan, provides respite services for people with physical, sensory and intellectual disability 365 days a year. St Christopher's has two respite beds. This equates to 730 respite bed nights available in St Christopher's Centre, Cavan, per year. I have been advised that operational capacity for St Christopher's Centre at present is operating as normal.

Services for Older Persons Respite Services

Respite Services for Older Persons are available at the following Centres;

St. Mary's Hospital, Castleblaney – 8 respite beds

Nurse management has advised that they are able to meet the referral demand for respite for male and female clients.

John Sullivan Centre, Cavan Town – 3 respite beds

Nurse management has advised there are three Respite beds for clients with a diagnosis of Dementia and who are mobile. These are 2 male and 1 female beds.

Virginia Community Health Centre – 6 respite beds

Nurse management has advised that they are able to meet the referral demand for respite for male and female clients.

When a completed Referral is received by the Person in Charge in each Centre, respite is facilitated following contact with the family and dates planned as beds are available and to suit the family needs. This service is available all year to cover Counties Cavan and Monaghan. Emergency respite can be facilitated if there is a vacant bed in any of the centre.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Geraldine Cosgrove
General Manager, Disability Services CHO 1
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