



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &  
Conarthaí Príomhchúraim  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte

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Deputy Mark Wall,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

10<sup>th</sup> June 2025

PQ: 26740/25

To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of the number of hours of specifically Family Carer in-home respite only the HSE has delivered, by CHO, for the year to date in 2025, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Wall,

I refer to your parliamentary question, which was passed to the HSE for response.

Family Carers Ireland are a national charity that provide various supports and services, including respite, for family carers in Ireland. They offer in-home respite care, training, information on rights and entitlements, and other services to improve the quality of life for both carers and those receiving care. Family Carers Ireland also offer two distinct respite services:

- a) The Emergency Respite Scheme
- b) General Respite

The Emergency Respite Scheme is delivered by Family Carers Ireland and managed through a national service agreement with the HSE (National Dementia Services) to the value of €600k. The Emergency Respite Scheme commenced in June 2021 and has proved to be a very successful and important service for many carers across Ireland. The Scheme provides respite in the event of emergency situations. Emergency situations may be defined as:

- Actual or imminent carer burnout.
- Family crisis e.g. death or illness of a close relative, end-of-life situations.
- Necessary medical appointments and hospital admissions.
- Crisis healthcare (physical, psychological, or emotional) including substance abuse and suicide stabilisation interventions.
- Unexpected care transitions e.g. new employment or living arrangements.
- Other situations that on assessment are deemed to meet the criteria of an emergency

event warranting the provision of respite support



Family Carers Ireland also deliver general in-home respite care, which allows carers to take a break from their caring responsibilities. These breaks can be short, such as a few hours a week, or longer, like a weekend. General respite care is managed through local Service Level Agreements within each Heath Region.

The number of emergency respite and general respite hours delivered by Family Carer Ireland, per CHO, from January to April in 2025 is outlined below in table 1.

**Table 1: Emergency Respite Scheme & General Respite Hours Delivered by Family Carers Ireland Per CHO (Jan-April 2025)**

CHO	Emergency Respite Scheme Hrs. Delivered (National SLA)	General Respite Hrs. Delivered (Local SLA)	Total Hrs Delivered Per CHO
CHO1	120	685	805
CHO2	580	1,456	2,036
CHO3	1,152	4,735	5,887
CHO4	56	0	56
CHO5	62	1,740	1,802
CHO6	0	0	0
CHO7	48	576	624
CHO8	161	3,308	3,469
CHO9	216	897	1,113
Total	2,395	13,397	15,792

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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**Geraldine Crowley,  
Assistant National Director,  
Enhanced Community Care Programme &  
Primary Care Contracts**