

ACCC CHILDCARE SUBMISSION

Family Day Care, Educators Association of South Australia represents the Family Day Care Educators in South Australia

Family daycare educators do not make a significant profit after deducting expenses. Most Family Day Care Educators are sole traders. Family Day suits many families due to the smaller number of children in care.

Many family daycare Educators do not charge above the Family Day Care CCS (Childcare Subsidy) CAP of \$12.72. In fact, several do charge the Cap which includes their service levy to be deducted and some charge a bit below the cap to suit their social economic area and often to retain families.

CCS CAP

What is not understood is that the Childcare Subsidy for a centre-based care is a higher rate of \$13.73. Family Day Care is required to supply resources to meet the needs for the children's development sometimes at considerable cost. With the expectation of the National Quality standard requires Family Day Care to meet far more compliance areas. These can be quite expensive items to meet the compliance, for example appropriate fencing and meeting glass Australian Standard as well as many another requirement for meeting safety for children.

Family Day Care Australia our National peak Body has been asking for consideration for the same CCS Cap as Centre based - Care Centres for some time now without any satisfactory outcome.

We feel this difference disadvantages families to use Family Day Care as Centre based Centres attracts an extra \$1.01 per hour. With only 4 preschool children in Family Day Care also limits the income. Some Educators provide before, and after school care (OSHC), reaching a limit of seven children which does assist extra income as well as those who do overnight and weekend work to meet the needs of shift workers.

When the Commonwealth Government abolished the Service Provider funding some years ago there was no choice for Service Providers but to add a levy to Educators. This hourly levy varies from service to service. Educators also add this to their fee charge.

BENEFIT FOR FAMILIES AND EDUCATORS

To enable Family Day Care to be a more profitable career path for educators - giving a good quality service - there is a need to charge above the CCS Cap.

Ultimately families need to pay the extra but if the Family Day Care Cap was equal to centre-based care it would be a great assistance to families.

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President

FDC Educators Association of SA Inc.

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