



# **Carers**

A carer includes anyone who takes on a caring role of someone with a disability or illness. Caring may include help and support in any of the daily activities of the person being cared for. Commonly, carers are responsible for the management of medications, and provide emotional, social or financial support.

If you are caring for someone with cystic fibrosis (CF), you are considered a carer, and are entitled to access various supports. This can include parents, grandparents, partners, siblings and other.

## **Cystic Fibrosis WA (CFWA)**

CFWA offer a range of support services to carers, including:

- A range of annual <u>respite events</u> designed to engage and connect carers, including parents retreat, parents and carers dinner, sibling and offspring camp, sibs day out, grandparents morning tea and ladies high tea.
- Home Care Workers who can provide in-home assistance with airway clearance, routines, practical support and occasional respite for parents.
- <u>Social worker</u> available for assistance with general support and guidance.
- Hospital Care Packs for inpatients.
   Hospital visits from the CFWA team
   can be arranged on request to offer
   carer support.
- <u>Subsidies</u> to assist with the costs associated with caring for someone with CF.



- School and community CF education.
- Support to <u>regional families</u> including outreach visits for education and social events.
- A huge range of <u>information</u> resources.

#### **Carers WA**

Carers WA offer a range of services, including:

- Counselling
- Workshops
- Emotional and social support
- Young Carers program
- Carers retreat, and more.

#### Centrelink

Centrelink have a few allowances which some carers may be eligible to access:

 <u>Carer Allowance:</u> When a child is born with CF, the parent/s automatically become eligible for the carers allowance if you are an Australian resident.

- <u>Carer Payment</u>: An income tested benefit. The recipient must reach a qualifying score to determine eligibility.
- <u>Carer Adjustment Payment</u>: If there are exceptional circumstances and extreme hardship you may be eligible for the Carer Adjustment Payment which allows a one-off payment of up to \$10,000.

### **Useful Resources**

- Parents and Other Carers (CFWA)
- Carers WA
- Young Carers Program (Carers WA)
- Carers Advisory Council
- <u>Centrelink</u>
- CFWA Factsheets

Cystic Fibrosis WA The Niche 11 Aberdare Road Nedlands WA 6009

T: +61 8 6224 4100 E: info@cfwa.org.au

Disclaimer: This publication is for general education and information purposes. Contact a qualified healthcare professional for any medical advice needed.

© Cystic Fibrosis Western Australia 2020

Last reviewed July 2020.