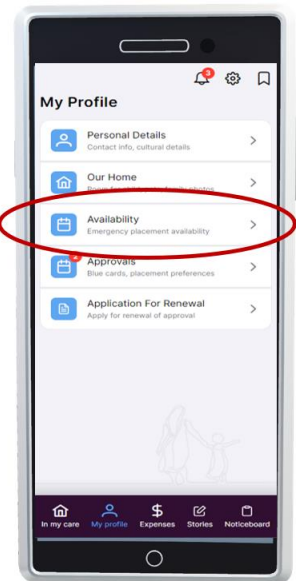


# Carer Connect – Ready Response pilot.

## Information for foster carers

### What is the Ready Response pilot?

- The ability for you to nominate when you can provide short-term emergency and/or same day care arrangements.
- Your nominated availability will be shared with your agency and the Department to help improve care arrangement responses.
- When needed the Department may contact you directly to discuss an emergent care arrangement request based on your nominated availability.
- Additional financial support for up to 7 days will be provided when care arrangements are supported by identifying your availability using the app and when you are nominated by agencies or contracted directly by the department.



### Why are we piloting Ready Response?

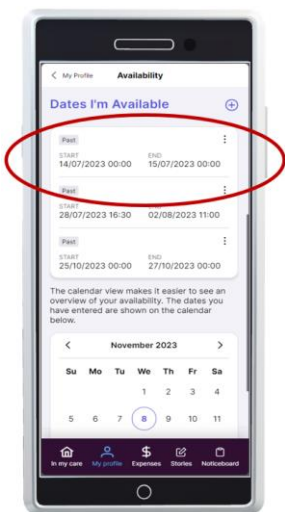
To reduce the number of children and young people needing to be placed in short term residential care due to limited carer capacity.

### Who is participating in the pilot (which regions)?

The following regions are participating in the pilot: North Queensland, Sunshine Coast and Central, Brisbane Moreton Bay, South East and South West.

### When does the pilot start:

Go live date will be 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 / **Activation of pilot** is from **4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**



### What makes you eligible as a foster carer for Ready Response?

- have a current approved Foster Carer Agreement that supports emergency care (same day and/or after-hours considerations).
- be registered and use Carer Connect to identify your availability in advance and let us know how you would want to be contacted via the app.
- agree for your regional PSU/PSS or Child Safety After Hours Service to contact you directly about any placement requests.
- input your availability in Carer Connect up to 1 month in advance, including if you can care for sibling groups and provide transport (these are options)
- participation is **voluntary** and **carer led**, that means that you will have control over your own availability.

### Important to remember:

Foster carers must continue to respond to a care arrangement request via the usual referral process with their foster care agency. Agencies will be notified of availability promoted by carers and may nominate carers as a Ready Response care arrangement option through normal processes. Ready Response will only be used by the Department in response to emergent need.

