

Harbor Regional Center Service Policy

DAY/AFTER SCHOOL CARE

DEFINITION:

Day/after school care is defined as care and supervision for pre-school and school aged children with specialized care needs whose parents are unavailable to provide such care and supervision because they are engaged in full time work or vocational training.

PHILOSOPHY:

All families with young children, at times, experience the need for child care. In many instances, families with a son or daughter with a developmental disability are able to provide for needed child care through the assistance of family members, friends or traditional child care services.

Harbor Regional Center recognizes that some families with a developmentally disabled child are not able to meet all of their child care needs through traditional sources because some children with a developmental disability require special accommodations or other special care beyond that needed by typically developing children of similar age.

POLICY:

Harbor Regional Center may support families of pre-school and school-aged children with the purchase of that portion of day care/after-school care related to a specialized need only under the following circumstances:

- the parent of a single parent household or both parents of a two parent household are engaged in full-time employment or vocational training and providing day and or after school care will enable the continuation of employment/training; **and**
- the parents are responsible for that portion of the child care costs which the parents of a typically developing child would incur; **and**
- the child has behavioral challenges, special medical needs, or other supervision needs that require specialized care which exceed that needed to care for non-disabled children of the same age, **and**
- there are no natural or generic supports available to provide the care and supervision, **and**
- day and after school care is not available to the family through the usual resources found in communities (such as day care centers, schools, churches, YMCA etc); **and**
- the cost of such extra and specialized care is reasonable and cost-effective; **and**
- some families may be required to contribute to the additional cost of specialized child care pursuant to the Family Cost Participation Program; **and**
- the day or school care is provided in a licensed care setting.

Approved by the HRC Board of Trustees March, 2012. Approved by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) July 2012.