



Respite Care Checklist

- **Take your time.** Choosing a provider is an important decision. They are there to provide the services you want and need.
- **Shop around.** Visit more than one respite care provider. If you can, talk with people who have used them before. Shop for the provider you want.
- **Listen to your feelings.** Be sure you feel good about the provider.
- **Be assertive.** Ask all the questions you want to ask. Let the provider know what you expect and want.
- Do they have effective communication skills?
- How long have they been providing respite care?
- Do they fully answer your questions?
- Are you and your family treated with respect?
- If there is a problem, how does it get resolved?
- The provider does not criticize or offer negative comments of other service providers, agencies, or people while talking to you
- How is the agency able to provide respite care services in an emergency situation?

Qualifications, references, experiences

- Has the provider received all the required training?
- When did they last receive training? What type?
- Have they had a criminal background check?
- Has the provider worked for someone else you can talk to?
- Ask them why they are qualified to work for you.

Other things to consider

- Do they look tired or overworked?
- How many consumers does the provider serve?

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