

CHILDREN'S RESPITE HOME

About Skills Society

Skills Society is one of the largest disability rights and service organizations in the Edmonton area, providing support services to children and adults with developmental disabilities, survivors of brain injuries, and their families. Skills Society's vision is a community where every individual is a valued citizen deserving respect, dignity and rights. Our person-centred approach involves working alongside the people we support, helping them create meaningful goals and exploring opportunities for learning, growth, and inclusion. All our services aim at strengthening belonging and support individual choice and opportunity.

About the Children's Respite Home at Skills Society

Nestled in the Woodcroft neighbourhood of northwest Edmonton, the Skills Society's Children's Respite Home offers out-of-home respite care for children with disabilities under the age of 18. Services are adaptable to meet a diverse range of support needs, and all support is provided by well-trained, experienced staff within a safe and supportive environment.

Skills Society works with Children and Family Services to determine eligibility and all children and families supported by Skills Society have a current and active contract with the Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) Program – part of Alberta's Ministry Seniors, Community and Social Services.

Our Respite Supports and Services

We offer hourly, overnight, and 24-hour respite, depending on the child's FSCD contract. The child's well-being and satisfaction are at the forefront of our services; we are committed to creating a safe, welcoming environment, actively engaging with them and participating in their chosen activities. Our staffing ratios are carefully managed to meet the needs of the child, ensuring an enjoyable experience during their time at Woodcroft and the surrounding community.



The children are supported to participate in a wide array of activities, both in the home and in the community, based on their interests and preferences. Some examples include:

- **Recreational activities** like swimming, hiking, indoor/outdoor playgrounds and spray parks;
- **Visits to local attractions** such as the zoo, Fort Edmonton Park, Telus World of Science and Edmonton events and festivals;
- **Home-based activities**, including board games, video games, trampoline, and swing set; and
- **Exploring local amenities** like libraries and theatres.

All meals and recreational activities are provided, relieving families of having to bring food or money.

As part of our person-centered approach, the child and their parent(s) or Guardian complete an intake package before the first visit. This package helps us better understand and to get to know the child and their interests, strengths, and needs, ensuring a positive and supportive experience. We also encourage children to bring personal items that will make their stay more comfortable, like their favourite stuffy, toy, or a blanket.

Additional Key Information

Scheduling: Our scheduling process is highly flexible, and we work with families to accommodate requests as best as we can. While we encourage scheduling well in advance to ensure optimal staffing, we also do our best to accommodate last-minute requests when necessary.

Transportation: Children and youth must be dropped off and picked up from Woodcroft by a parent, Guardian, or an adult designated by the family.

Medication: All medications must be properly labeled by a pharmacy, and any over the counter medications require a doctor's standing order.

Questions?

For more information, please contact us via email at woodcroft2@shaw.ca or by phone at 780-975-1097.

