Date

(Name of complaint commissioner)

(Establishment concerned)

(Address)

RE : Complaint regarding the amount of respite funding obtained from the program ‘Soutien aux familles’ for my child (name)

Mr/Ms (name of complaint commissioner),

The purpose of this letter is to file a complaint with your establishment. I have a child with a diagnosis of autism named (name), who is XX years old. My complaint regards the amount of funding I obtained this year for respite by the program ‘Soutien aux familles’. The amount is clearly insufficient to obtain the minimal respite I require. I am therefore requesting that the amount be increased.

The reason for this is that over the past XX years, the amount of my funding has decreased/not increased, while the needs of my child have only grown, and the fees for respite funding have also increased.

Here are some examples of fees associated with existing respite services :

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Autisme Montréal | Emergo | Corporation l’Espoir | East Foundation |
| Specialized weekend respite service | 230$ | 244$ | N/A | 350$  |
| Specialized summer day camps | 850$ for 4 weeks | 520$ for 4 nights and 1385$ for 11 nights | 720$ for 4 weeks | 950$ for 4 weeks |
| Specialized babysitting service | 3h = minimum of 32$ | N/A | N/A | N/A |

My son/daughter (name) has a diagnosis of autism, (select among the following: is non-verbal, has an intellectual disability, is hyperactive, has behaviour problems, is aggressive, has destructive behaviours, has sleep problems, does not understand danger, needs constant supervision, self-mutilates, is not toilet trained, and requires assistance in all daily living activities (hygiene, getting dressed, going to the bathroom, eating), etc.

My degree of exhaustion is enormous, it is essential for my child to participate in specialized and structured services in order for me to obtain the desperately necessary respite I require. This is the reason for which I am asking for the amount of funding from the ‘Soutien aux familles’ program to be revised, while taking into account the real costs associated in obtaining these services.

While the government of Quebec has announced a surplus of $1,8 billion, it is unacceptable for me to have to struggle to obtain respite services with such little funding, when my child has such high needs.

I await your answer regarding this complaint, and thank you for the attention you will provide to my letter.

Sincerely,

Signature

Name (relation to child)

Address/email/ telephone number

cc: : Autisme Montréal actions@autisme-montreal.com

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