Medical Respite Program Development and NIMRC Certification Readiness

Last reviewed October 2026 · https://www.integralhs.com/medical-respite-nimrc-certification-readiness

What to have ready

- The 2026 Edition of the Standards for Medical Respite Care Programs, which NHCHC presents as the foundation for NIMRC certification (NHCHC [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/program-standards/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- Records showing the program has served clients for at least a year, or a decision to use the readiness pathway if it is still in development or under three years of operation (NIMRC certification page [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/nimrc/certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- A current, accurate profile in NIMRC's directory of medical respite programs (NIMRC eligibility [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/nimrc/certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- A named certification team with time set aside. NIMRC's page estimates 40 to 60 total hours over six months and says the time varies by program (NIMRC [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/nimrc/certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- For a jointly run program, your partner agreements and a decision on which organization leads the certification process and which is the Joint Venturer (NIMRC [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/nimrc/certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- Evidence of how clients take part in program operations, since client engagement is one of the things certification looks at (NIMRC [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/nimrc/certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- Your current referral, admission and discharge procedures, in whatever form they exist, to compare against the Standards, since fidelity to the Standards is one of the things certification looks at (NIMRC [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/nimrc/certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- A plan for hosting a site visit, one of the components of the process (NIMRC [https://nhchc.org/medical-respite/nimrc/certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).