

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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TTY 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 651-6309



July 27, 2016

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LOS ANGELES AND MONTEREY COUNTIES

As a result of the Sand and Soberanes fires that both started on July 22, 2016, Acting Governor Tom Torlakson, declared a State of Emergency on July 26, 2016, for Los Angeles and Monterey counties.

These fires have burned tens of thousands of acres of land, destroyed more than eighteen homes and continues to threaten thousands of structures, including additional homes, and has necessitated the evacuation of thousands of residents.

Additionally, these fires have caused power outages, road closures, disruption of rail and highway transportation, and air quality issues in the area surrounding these fires and throughout Los Angeles and Monterey counties.

The circumstances of these fires, by reason of their magnitude are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat.

Since there is a declared State of Emergency, the Department of Developmental Services (Department) is authorizing, pursuant to Title 17, California Code of Regulations section 54326 (a)(11), regional centers to pay vendors for absences that are the direct result of the fires in these counties listed above. The applicable regulation section reads as follows:

[All vendors shall...] Not bill for consumer absences for nonresidential services. The Department shall authorize payment for absences which are the direct result of situations and/or occurrences for which a State of Emergency has been declared by the Governor. If payment for absences due to a State of Emergency is authorized by the Department, the vendor shall bill only for absences in excess of the average number of absences experienced by the vendor during the 12-month period prior to the month in which the disaster occurred.

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"

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If you have questions about this correspondence, please contact me at (916) 654-3722,
or by electronic mail at Rapone.Anderson@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



RAPONE ANDERSON
Regional Center Branch Manager
Community Services Division

cc: Regional Center Chief Counselors
Regional Center Administrators
Association of Regional Center Agencies

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