



EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER

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DATE: August 21, 2009

TO: Service Providers of Camping Services, Social Recreation Activities, Educational Services and Non-medical Therapies

FROM: Frances Jacobs, Manager of Community Services Department

RE: Legislative Changes Impacting Services/Supports –
Temporary Suspension for Purchase of Specified Services

Vendors of the above-referenced services will likely be affected by Trailer Bill Language (TBL) ABX4 9, Chapter 9, Statutes of 2009, that was enacted July 28, 2009 and effective immediately.

Please refer to TBL Section 13, Welfare and Institutions Code 4648.5 which was added to suspend "the purchase of camping services and associated travel expenses, social recreation activities, except for those activities vendored as community-based day programs, educational services for children three to 17, inclusive, years of age, non-medical therapies, including, but not limited to, specialized recreation, art, dance and music pending the implementation of the Individual Choice Budget and certification by the Director of Developmental Services that the Individual Choice Budget has been implemented and will result in state budget savings sufficient to offset the costs of providing" the aforementioned services.

Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC) has reviewed this trailer bill language and believes that in relation to the above noted categories the vendors assigned to the following service codes by ELARC may be impacted by this change: Camping services (850) and associated travel expenses; Developmental Specialist (670); Educational Psychologist (670); Teacher (674); Teacher's Aide (676); Teacher of Special Education (678); Tutor (680); Art Therapist (691); Dance Therapist (692); Music Therapist (693); Recreational Therapist (694); Sport's Club (008); Community Integration Training Program (055); Community Activities Support Services (063); Parent Coordinated Personal Assistance (093); Personal Assistance (062); Specialized Recreational Therapy (106); School for the Deaf/Blind (015); Educational Services (107); Coordinator of Volunteers (072); and, Special Olympics (084). This information is not provided to vendors as the sole criteria that will determine whether regional center will terminate funding.

The regional center will be reviewing cases to ascertain whether consumers are receiving services that meet the condition as described above. Consumers identified as a result will be issued NPA's (Notice of Proposed Action's) which they may appeal. As a service Provider, you will need to communicate directly with the service coordinator assigned to the consumer cases you are authorized to deliver services to for an update on the status of authorizations. On a case by case basis the IPP will be reviewed based on the intent of the related change in legislation to determine a course of action.

Each decision to terminate or to continue funding service will be made on an individual case basis. Though service codes were created to categorize the types of services that a regional center may purchase as precisely as possible, the precise nature of the service and how it is used varies from vendor to vendor and regional center to regional center. Consequently, determination of how a particular service is authorized is made on a case-by-case basis to determine whether it meets the criteria of TBL. Though

the regional center will make the determination, we encourage all vendors to become familiar with the trailer bill language by logging on to the DDS website at www.dds.ca.gov for a summary of the budget reductions. Additionally, we urge you to log on to www.leginfo.ca.gov for a complete review of the trailer bill language. Only by thoroughly understanding the changes in the law can you decide on a course of action to take.

The regional center appreciates the services that you provide and the work that you do, and we hope that we will be able to continue to be partners in supporting people with developmental disabilities.

Finally, the regional center requests to be able to have a dialogue with you before you take any action to terminate services or to notify consumers that you intend to terminate services. Please contact Frances Jacobs, Manager of Community Services Department at (626) 299-4730 regarding this or if you have any questions or would like additional information.

cc: Gloria Wong, Executive Director
Felipe Hernandez, Chief of Consumer Services
Patricia Alvarez, Chief of Administrative Services
Martin Cogan, Supervisor of Community Services Unit
Tammy Bacrach, Chair of Vendor Advisory Committee
vendor file