



INLAND REGIONAL CENTER

P. O. Box 19037, San Bernardino, CA 92423-9037

Telephone: (909) 890-3000

Fax: (909) 890-3001

March 13, 2020

Good afternoon ICF Provider Community,

Please read this email carefully as it provides important updates to the current situation unfolding around COVID-19 and efforts being undertaken to mitigate its spread.

The following applies to all ICF/DD-N and ICF/DD-CNC homes:

As of today, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is now requiring Regional Centers to direct providers of ICF/DD-Ns and ICF/DD-CNCs to keep all consumers at home and, for the foreseeable future, to not allow them to attend their day programs in order to minimize their exposure to COVID-19. This directive applies to all ICF/DD-Ns and ICF/DD-CNCs. Please ensure that you reach out to any involved transportation agencies so that they are aware that, effective immediately, none of your consumers will be attending day program until further notice is given.

The following applies to all ICF/DD-H homes:

For ICF/DD-H consumers wanting to attend their day programs, please continue to evaluate on a house by house, case by case basis to assess the risk and make a determination. For those ICF/DD-H consumers who have a higher susceptibility to respiratory illnesses or who are immunocompromised, they should be kept home until it has been deemed safe for them to return to day program. For those consumers being kept at home, please ensure that you notify any involved transportation agencies so that they know not to pick up. For those consumers who are not of advanced age and are relatively healthy (i.e. not susceptible to respiratory illnesses and are not immunocompromised), they may still attend their day program at your discretion.

Please keep in mind that this situation remains highly fluid and a different directive could be issued by DDS, CDPH or IRC at any time.

Thanks again for your continued service and for remaining vigilant in this uncertain time.

Brian Tremain
ICF Program Manager
Inland Regional Center

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 240, MS 2-13
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 654-1897



March 12, 2020

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE ON DAY SERVICES FOR CONSUMERS AT
HIGH RISK FOR SERIOUS ILLNESS DUE TO COVID-19

Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 4639.6 authorizes the Director of the Department of Developmental Services (Department) to issue directives to regional centers as the Director deems necessary to protect consumer rights, health, safety, or welfare, or in accordance with WIC section 4434. Regional centers must comply with any directive issued by the Director pursuant to this section.

Pursuant to WIC section 4639.6, to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and consistent with the California Department of Public Health's recommendations for individuals who are at higher risk for serious illness, the Director of the Department is directing regional centers to take immediate action to ensure consumers who have compromised immune systems or who are more susceptible to respiratory illness, and/or who reside in the following home types, remain home rather than attend day services outside the home:

- Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs
- Intermediate Care Facilities/Developmentally Disabled-Nursing
- Intermediate Care Facilities/Developmentally Disabled-Continuous Nursing

This remains in effect for 30 days unless extended by the Director of the Department. Enclosed is the Department's March 12, 2020, correspondence to regional centers regarding Governor Gavin Newsom's declared State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak and authorizing, pursuant to Title 17, California Code of Regulations section 54326(a)(11), regional centers to pay vendors for absences that are a direct result of the COVID-19 outbreak in California.

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact Christine Gephart at (916) 698-9567 or chris.gephart@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

NANCY BARGMANN
Director

Enclosure

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies

“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 340, MS 3-12
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 651-6309



March 12, 2020

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: STATE OF EMERGENCY STATEWIDE

On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency for California, as a result of the global COVID-19 outbreak that began in December 2019. The State of California has been working in close collaboration with the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with the United States Health and Human Services Agency, and with local health departments since December 2019, to monitor and plan for the potential spread of COVID-19 to the United States.

The Governor's proclamation states, in part, that experts anticipate that while a high percentage of individuals affected by COVID-19 will experience mild flu-like symptoms, some will have more serious symptoms and require hospitalization, particularly individuals who are elderly or already have underlying chronic health conditions. It is imperative to prepare for and respond to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases in California, to implement measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare to respond to an increasing number of individuals requiring medical care.

As a result of the State of Emergency declared for California, 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 COVID-19 outbreak in California. 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"

Regional Center Executive Directors
March 12, 2020
Page two

If you have questions about this correspondence, please contact me at ernie.cruz@dds.ca.gov
or (916) 838-8960.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

ERNIE CRUZ
Assistant Deputy Director
Office of Community Operations

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies