



Tri-Counties Regional Center

SAN LUIS OBISPO • SANTA BARBARA • VENTURA

November 1, 2011

Dear Parent, Family Member or Person Served:

Re: Vouchered Respite, Day Care, Nursing and/or Transportation Services for Persons Served by TCRC

Tri-Counties Regional Center ("TCRC") has received emergency regulations from the Department of Developmental Services ("DDS") requiring voucher recipients to use a Financial Management Services (FMS) vendor or another vendored service provider to act as an Employer of Record. Please see the enclosed description of the specific regulatory language. More information is available on the DDS website at www.dds.ca.gov.

The Federal Government is requiring the use of a FMS vendor when a person or family is participating in the funding of vouchered services. This means that TCRC can no longer pay parents or family members directly for in-home family member respite, day care, nursing or transportation services. Payments and employer responsibilities for these services must be handled by a third party.

The regulations apply to persons who are Medicaid Waiver eligible and family members or adult persons who are vendored for one or more of the following services:

Respite	Service Code 420
Day Care	Service Code 405
Nursing	Service Code 415
Transportation	Service Code 425
Vouchered Community-Based Training	Service Code 475

These five services are also referred to as "Participant-Directed Services" in the new regulations. The family member or adult person served by TCRC must be vendored for Participant Directed Services to allow the family member or adult person served to provide the services identified above.

The new options are:

- 1. Select a FMS provider vendored with TCRC:** The FMS provider will act as either an agent or a co-employer with the family member or adult person served. A summary of the FMS responsibilities are enclosed.
- 2. Select the Employer of Record ("EOR") option with an agency vendored with TCRC, including agency respite EOR:** The EOR has similar responsibilities as the FMS Co-Employer.
- 3. For respite services only:** A third option may be available through selecting Full Agency Respite with an agency vendored with TCRC.

Within the next 30 days, you will need to request an IPP planning team meeting with your service coordinator to fully discuss your needs and determine the best option for your family. **The required planning team meeting can be held over the phone.** You must inform your Service Coordinator of the option(s) you select prior to December 1, 2011. Direct reimbursements to family members will not be made for these services provided on or after this date. If you are in disagreement with the outcome of the IPP planning team meeting, your service coordinator will advise you of your rights under the Lanterman Act. It is our intention to reach an agreement with you for this transition that meets the needs of your family while adhering to the new federal requirements.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Frank Bush, MSW, LCSW
Director of Services & Supports

Enclosures

c: Omar Noorzad, Ph.D., Executive Director
TCRC Staff

Consulte el reverso para el español