March 1, 2012

Dear Parent/Caretaker,

On June 30th, 2011, the California Legislature passed legislation (AB104) which mandated that all Regional Centers convert "Parent Voucher" Services to "Participant-Directed" services. The Parent Voucher Services to be converted are the following:

- Day Care Services – Family Member (Service Code 405)
- Nursing Services – Family Member (Service Code 415)
- Respite Services – Family Member (Service Code 420)
- Transportation Services – Family Members (Service Code 425)

Earlier in 2011, San Andreas converted all Parent as Vendor Respite Services – Family Member *Service to Employer of Record (EOR) – Respite. All EOR – Respite services will remain in place and will not need to be converted to Participant Directed services.

The conversion of these four Parent Voucher Services to Participant-Directed services will ensure a continuation of the services your family receives while also allowing the Department of Developmental Services access to reimbursements from the federal government for these services. Under Participant-Directed services, your family will continue to receive the same services and the same hours/units of services. Additionally, you will continue to be able to use the same employee to provide those services. In fact, you will continue to be the employer, but a third party – a Financial Management Services (FMS) Agency – will assist you by:

1. Collecting and processing your worker’s timesheets.
2. Processing payments to workers.
3. Tracking, preparing and distributing monthly expenditure reports to you and San Andreas Regional Center.
4. Maintaining all records.
5. Maintaining an accounting of funds used for the services.
6. Ensuring payments do not exceed the amounts and rates authorized by San Andreas Regional Center subject to the limits of California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 58888.
7. For respite and nursing:
   a. verifying your worker’s eligibility for employment.
   b. withholding, filing and payment of applicable federal and state employment related taxes.

Under this new law, Regional Centers will no longer be able to make payments directly to you as reimbursement for these services. Instead the reimbursement payments will be made directly to the FMS Agency who, acting essentially as your worker’s payroll company, will pay you or your worker for the services already provided.

A list of our current FMS Agencies is included on the back of this letter. Please work with your Service Coordinator to select an FMS Agency before April 1, 2012.

Sincerely,

Javier Zaldívar, Mimi Kindlerlehrer,
Acting Director, Consumer Services - South Director, Consumer Services – North

"Consumers First Through Service, Advocacy, Respect and Choice"
Serving Persons with Developmental Disabilities
Financial Management Services (FMS) agencies:

- Premier Healthcare Services

San Andreas is working with two other potential FMS agencies. The names of those agencies will be provided to you, and your Service Coordinator, as soon as those agencies are available to us.

For additional information about Financial Management Services, please visit the San Andreas web site at www.sarc.org and click on “Financial Management Services” in the “Quick Links” column on the right.