

COMMISSIONER Chris Traylor

September 30, 2011

To: Community Based Alternatives Providers

Community Living Assistance and Support Services Providers

Medically Dependent Children Program Providers

Primary Home Care Program Providers Community Attendant Services Providers

Family Care Providers

Consumer Directed Services Agencies

Subject: Information Letter No. 11-115

Electronic Visit Verification Pilot Expansion

On August 19, 2011, the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) announced expansion of the current Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) Pilot in DADS Region 9 (Midland, Odessa, San Angelo and the surrounding areas) to DADS Region 2 (Abilene, Wichita Falls and the surrounding areas) and Region 4 (Longview, Tyler and the surrounding areas). DADS is using an EVV system to verify that individuals are receiving services for which the state is being billed. The EVV Pilot is also expected to ease provider administrative burden. The pilot is scheduled to be fully operational in Regions 2 and 4 by February 1, 2012.

The EVV Pilot will be mandatory for all providers, attendants, Consumer Directed Service Agencies (CDSAs), Consumer Directed Services (CDS) employers and employees for the following services:

- personal assistance services and in-home respite services in the Community Based Alternatives program;
- residential habilitation and in-home respite services in the Community Living Assistance and Support Services program;
- in-home respite services and adjunct support services in the Medically Dependent Children Program;
- Primary Home Care program as described in 40 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Section 47.3(20);
- Community Attendant Services as described in Section 47.3(3); and
- Family Care services as described in Section 47.3(11).

If your attendants or the individuals you serve change providers or CDSAs in your region, they will still be required to participate in the EVV pilot.

DADS has implemented rules to govern EVV system operations. DADS proposed new 40 TAC Chapter 68, Electronic Visit Verification to the DADS Council on November 17, 2010. DADS also proposed amendments to 40 TAC Chapter 41 to incorporate EVV system operations in relation to the CDS option. These rules became effective January 1, 2011 and currently only impact providers and CDSAs in DADS Regions 9, 2 and 4.

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As the next step to the implementation of the EVV Pilot, you will be contacted shortly by Sandata (www.sandata.com). Sandata will be using a survey tool to gather key information to support implementation and training activities, including information regarding your agency's computer set-up, as well as current scheduling and billing processes.

The survey will be available Monday, October 3, 2011. You may access the survey via the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/EVVSurvey. Thank you in advance for your participation in this data collection process.

In addition, introductory webinars and town hall meetings have been scheduled to provide information about the EVV pilot. Please visit the <u>DADS EVV training website</u> for dates, times, locations and registration information.

Please monitor the <u>DADS EVV website</u> for additional updates. The EVV website will be the primary source of information regarding the EVV Pilot and will be updated regularly.

Please direct questions regarding EVV to the following areas of DADS:

• EVV Pilot: CPC@dads.state.tx.us.

• Rules and Policies: PDO@dads.state.tx.us

• CDS Option: CDS@dads.state.tx.us

Sincerely,

(Signature on file) (Signature on file)

Teresa Richard Wes Yeager Director Director

Center for Policy and Innovation Center for Program Coordination