



COMMISSIONER
Chris Traylor

March 18, 2011

To: Day Activity and Health Services (DAHS) Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 11-27
DAHS Services in Mexico

Due to the level of violence and persistent security concerns along the Texas/Mexico border Federal and State agencies have issued repeated warnings about travel to Mexico, including:

- September 10, 2010 - The U.S. Department of State issued a warning regarding travel to Mexico, which is posted at: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_4755.html.
- January 12, 2011 - The Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) Enterprise suspended travel of its employees to Mexico on state business via a bulletin which is posted at: <http://www.hhs.state.tx.us/news/bulletins/B-11-001.pdf>; and
- January 28, 2011 - The Texas Department of Public Safety issued their fourth communication within a year warning Texans to "avoid travel to Mexico." The warning is posted at: http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/director_staff/public_information/pr012811a.pdf.

Similarly, the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) is concerned about the health and safety of individuals authorized to receive Day Activity and Health Services (DAHS). Accordingly, DADS will not reimburse any DAHS provider for transporting individuals to Mexico, services provided while in Mexico, or staff time spent in Mexico with an individual who receives DAHS.

This policy is effective April 1, 2011.

In accordance with your contract you must comply with this information letter for services provided after March 31, 2011. Effective April 1, 2011, DADS will recoup any identified funds paid to a DAHS provider that were used to transport an individual to, or provide services in, Mexico. DAHS providers must always act to ensure the health and safety of individuals they serve. Placing individuals in situations where health and safety is at risk may result in other actions or sanctions in addition to recoupment.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

William Campbell
Section Manager
Access and Intake - Community Services Contracts
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