



INTERIM COMMISSIONER  
Jon Weizenbaum

August 24, 2012

To: Medically Dependent Children Program Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 12-75  
Respite Settings for the Medically Dependent Children Program

This information letter applies to the Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) and is being issued to clarify how respite can occur in places other than the individual's residence.

Respite is a service which provides temporary relief for the primary caregiver from caregiving activities when the primary caregiver would usually perform such activities. Respite, which is typically provided in the residence of the individual, may also be provided in other community settings except for limitations documented in [Title 40 of the Texas Administrative Code, Part 1, Chapter 51, Subchapter B, Service Limitations](#). Other community settings may include a park, respite provider's home or a relative's home. All respite settings must be located within the State of Texas.

Respite provided in these settings should not be confused with out-of-home respite which is provided in the following licensed and/or contracted settings:

- special care facilities
- licensed day care facilities
- hospitals
- nursing facilities
- camps accredited by the American Camping Association
- foster families approved by a Department of Family and Protective Services child placing agency

For questions regarding the content of this letter, please contact the Department of Aging and Disability Services at [mdcp@dads.state.tx.us](mailto:mdcp@dads.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,

*[signature on file]*

Chris Adams  
Director  
Center for Policy and Innovation