



COMMISSIONER
Jon Weizenbaum

March 26, 2014

To: Local Authorities
Home and Community-based Services Program Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 14-07 (Updated)
Additional Home and Community-based Services Program Services Provided through
the Consumer Directed Services Option

The purpose of this letter is to inform Local Authorities (LAs) and Home Community-based Services (HCS) providers that effective **April 1, 2014**, individuals in the HCS program, who live in their own home or family home, may also receive cognitive rehabilitation therapy (CRT), employment assistance, and supported employment through the Consumer Directed Services (CDS) option. Nursing services will be available through the CDS option for those who live in their own home or family home on **July 1, 2014**. Currently, an individual in the HCS program may receive only supported home living and respite through the CDS option. These changes are included in amendments to the Department of Aging and Disability (DADS) rules at Title 40 of the Texas Administrative Code Chapter 41, to be proposed in the *Texas Register* in the near future. These changes are being made prior to the effective date of the rules to allow an individual in the HCS program to immediately receive additional services through the CDS option if desired.

To allow time for service plan development, DADS has updated the Individual Plan of Care (IPC), Form 3608, and the Client Assignment Registration System (CARE) system screens to include the new services available through the CDS option. A program provider or service coordinator may include CRT, employment assistance, supported employment or nursing provided through the CDS option in an IPC only if the initial, renewal, or revised IPC has an effective date of April 1, 2014, or later.

If the service planning team identifies a need for CRT and the individual elects to use the CDS option, the service coordinator will assist the individual who does not have an HCS provider, with obtaining, in accordance with the Medicaid State Plan, a neurobehavioral or neuropsychological assessment and plan of care from a qualified professional as a non-HCS program service.

DADS will issue an information letter as soon as possible with specific information on CDS nursing.

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If you have any questions about this information letter, please contact the HCS Mailbox at HCS@dads.state.tx.us

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Donna Jessee
Director
Center for Policy and Innovation

[signature on file]

Elisa J. Garza
Assistant Commissioner
Access and Intake