

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 340, MS 3-12  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TTY 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)  
(916) 651-6309



July 30, 2018

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LAKE, MENDOCINO AND NAPA  
COUNTIES

As a result of the River and Ranch Fires that started July 27, 2018, and the Steele Fire that started July 28, 2018, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. declared a State of Emergency on July 28, 2018, for Lake, Mendocino and Napa Counties.

These fires have destroyed homes and continue to threaten homes and other structures, necessitating the evacuation of residents.

Additionally, these fires have forced the closure of roadways, and continue to threaten critical infrastructure.

The circumstances of these fires, by reason of their magnitude, are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat.

Since there is a declared State of Emergency, the Department of Developmental Services (Department) is authorizing, pursuant to Title 17, California Code of Regulations section 54326 (a)(11), regional centers to pay vendors for absences that are the direct result of these fires in the counties listed above. The applicable regulation section reads as follows:

*[All vendors shall...] Not bill for consumer absences for nonresidential services. The Department shall authorize payment for absences which are the direct result of situations and/or occurrences for which a State of Emergency has been declared by the Governor. If payment for absences due to a State of Emergency is authorized by the Department, the vendor shall bill only for absences in excess of the average number of absences experienced by the vendor during the 12-month period prior to the month in which the disaster occurred.*

**"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"**

Regional Center Executive Directors  
July 30, 2018  
Page two

If you have questions about this correspondence, please contact me at (916) 654-3722,  
or by electronic mail at [Rapone.Anderson@dds.ca.gov](mailto:Rapone.Anderson@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rapone Anderson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

RAPONE ANDERSON  
Regional Center Branch Manager  
Community Services Division

cc: Regional Center Chief Counselors  
Regional Center Administrators  
Association of Regional Center Agencies