



**Alfredo Vigil, MD**  
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF

*Building a Healthy New Mexico!*

**Bill Richardson, Governor**

**Katrina Hotrum**  
Deputy Secretary

**Duffy Rodriguez**  
Deputy Secretary

**Jessica Sutin**  
Deputy Secretary

**Karen Armitage, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer

Date: September 1, 2009

To: Tom Johansen, Executive Director  
Provider: Casa Connect, LLC  
Address: P.O. Box 1292  
State/Zip: Corrales, NM 87048

E-mail Address: corralestj@yahoo.com

Region: Metro  
Survey Date: August 10 – 11, 2009  
Program Surveyed: Developmental Disabilities Waiver  
Service Surveyed: Community Living (Supported Living & Family Living) & Community Inclusion (Adult Habilitation)

Survey Type: Routine  
Team Leader: Nadine Romero, LBSW, Healthcare Surveyor, Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau

Team Members: Cynthia Nielsen, RN, Healthcare Surveyor, Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau

Dear Mr. Johansen,

The Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau has completed a quality review survey of the services identified above. The purpose of the survey was to determine compliance with federal and state standards; to assure the health, safety, and welfare of individuals receiving services through the Developmental Disabilities Waiver; and to identify opportunities for improvement.

**Quality Management Approval Rating:**

The Division of Health Improvement is granting your agency a “STANDARD” certification for basic compliance with DDS Standards and regulations.

**Plan of Correction:**

The attached Report of Findings identifies deficiencies found during your agency’s survey. You are required to complete and implement a Plan of Correction (POC). Please submit your agency’s Plan of Correction (POC) in the space on the two right columns of the Report of Findings. See attachment A for additional guidance in completing the POC. The response is due to the parties below within 10 working days of the receipt of this letter:

1. Quality Management Bureau, Attention: Plan of Correction Coordinator  
5301 Central Ave. NE Suite 900 Albuquerque, NM 87108
2. Developmental Disabilities Supports Division Regional Office for region of service surveyed.

Upon notification from QMB that your Plan of Correction has been approved, you must implement all remedies and corrective actions within 45 working days. If your plan of correction is denied, you must resubmit a revised plan ASAP for approval. All remedies must still be completed within 45 working days of the original submission.

*“Assuring safety and quality of care in New Mexico’s health facilities and community-based programs.”*

**David Rodriguez, Division Director • Division of Health Improvement**

Division of Health Improvement • Quality Management Bureau • 5301 Central Ave NE • Suite 900 • Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108  
(505) 222-8623 • FAX: (505) 841-5815

DHI Quality Review Survey Report – Casa Connect, LLC - Metro Region - August, 10 – 11, 2009

Report #: Q10.01.30028311.METRO.001.RTN.01

Failure to submit, complete or implement your POC within the required time frames will result in the imposition of a \$200 per day Civil Monetary Penalty until it is received, completed and/or implemented.

**Request for Informal Reconsideration of Findings (IRF):**

If you disagree with a determination of noncompliance (finding) you have 10 working days upon receipt of this notice to request an IRF. Submit your request for an IRF in writing to:

QMB Deputy Bureau Chief  
5301 Central Ave NE Suite #900  
Albuquerque, NM 87108  
Attention: IRF request

A request for an IRF will not delay the implementation of your Plan of Correction which must be completed within 45 working days. Providers may not appeal the nature or interpretation of the standard or regulation, the team composition, sampling methodology or the Scope and Severity of the finding.

If the IRF approves the change or removal of a finding, you will be advised of any changes.

This IRF process is separate and apart from the Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) and Fair Hearing Process for Sanctions from DOH.

Please call the Team Leader at 505-222-8688 if you have questions about the survey or the report. Thank you for your cooperation and for the work you perform.

Sincerely,

*Nadine Romero, LBSW*

Nadine Romero, LBSW  
Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor  
Division of Health Improvement  
Quality Management Bureau

## Survey Process Employed:

Entrance Conference Date: August 10, 2009

Present: **Casa Connect, LLC**  
Tom Johansen, Executive Director  
Jolene Cunningham, Co-owner

**DOH/DHI/QMB**  
Nadine Romero, LBSW, Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor  
Cynthia Nielsen, RN Healthcare Surveyor

Exit Conference Date: August 11, 2009

Present: **Casa Connect, LLC**  
Tom Johansen, Executive Director

**DOH/DHI/QMB**  
Nadine Romero, LBSW, Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor  
Cynthia Nielsen, RN, Healthcare Surveyor

Homes Visited Number: 2

Administrative Locations Visited Number: 1

Total Sample Size Number: 2  
2- Non-Jackson Class Members  
1- Supported Living  
1- Family Living  
1- Adult Habilitation

Persons Served Interviewed Number: 2

Records Reviewed (Persons Served) Number: 2

Administrative Files Reviewed

- Billing Records
- Medical Records
- Incident Management Records
- Personnel Files
- Training Records
- Agency Policy and Procedure
- Caregiver Criminal History Screening Records
- Employee Abuse Registry
- Human Rights Notes and/or Meeting Minutes
- Nursing personnel files
- Evacuation Drills
- Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance Plan

CC: Distribution List: DOH - Division of Health Improvement  
DOH - Developmental Disabilities Supports Division  
DOH - Office of Internal Audit  
HSD - Medical Assistance Division

## Provider Instructions for Completing the QMB Plan of Correction (POC) Process

- After a QMB Quality Review, your Survey Report will be sent to you via certified mail. You may request that it also be sent to you electronically by calling George Perrault, Plan of Correction Coordinator at 505-222-8624.
- Within 10 business days of the date you received your survey report, you must develop and send your Plan of Correction response to the QMB office. (Providers who do not pick up their mail will be referred to the Internal Review Committee [IRC]).
- For each Deficiency in your Survey Report, include specific information about HOW you will correct each Deficiency, WHO will fix each Deficiency (“Responsible Party”), and by WHEN (“Date Due”).
- Your POC must not only address HOW, WHO and WHEN each Deficiency will be corrected, but must also address overall systemic issues to prevent the Deficiency from reoccurring, i.e., Quality Assurance (QA). Your description of your QA must include specifics about your self-auditing processes, such as HOW OFTEN you will self-audit, WHO will do it, and WHAT FORMS will be used.
- Corrective actions should be incorporated into your agency’s Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement policies and procedures.
- You may send your POC response electronically to George.Perrault@state.nm.us, by fax (505-841-5815), or by postal mail.
- Do not send supporting documentation to QMB until after your POC has been approved by QMB.
- QMB will notify you if your POC has been “Approved” or “Denied”.
- Whether your POC is “Approved” or “Denied”, you have a maximum of 45 business days to correct all survey Deficiencies from the date of receipt of your Survey Report. If your POC is “Denied” it must be revised and resubmitted ASAP, as the 45 working day limit is in effect. Providers whose revised POC is denied will be referred to the IRC.
- The POC must be completed on the official QMB Survey Report and Plan of Correction Form, unless approved in advance by the POC Coordinator.
- The following Deficiencies must be corrected within the deadlines below (after receipt of your Survey Report):
  - CCHS and EAR: 10 working days
  - Medication errors: 10 working days
  - IMS system/training: 20 working days
  - ISP related documentation: 30 working days
  - DDSD Training 45 working days
- If you have questions about the POC process, call the QMB POC Coordinator, George Perrault at 505-222-8624 for assistance.
- For Technical Assistance (TA) in developing or implementing your POC, contact your local DDSD Regional Office.
- Once your POC has been approved by QMB, the POC may not be altered or the dates changed.
- Requests for an extension or modification of your POC (post approval) must be made in writing and submitted to the POC Coordinator at QMB, and are approved on a case-by-case basis.
- When submitting supporting documentation, organize your documents by Tag #s, and annotate or label each document using Individual #s.
- Do not submit original documents, hard copies or scanned and electronically submitted copies are fine. Originals must be maintained in the agency/client file(s) as per DDSD Standards.
- Failure to submit, complete or implement your POC within the required timeframes will result in a referral to the IRC and the possible imposition of a \$200 per day Civil Monetary Penalty until it is received, completed and/or implemented.

**QMB Scope and Severity Matrix of survey results**

Each deficiency in your Report of Findings is scored on a Scope and Severity Scale. The culmination of each deficiency’s Scope and Severity is used to determine degree of compliance to standards and regulations and level of QMB Certification.

			SCOPE		
			Isolated 01% - 15%	Pattern 16% - 79%	Widespread 80% - 100%
<b>SEVERITY</b>	<b>High Impact</b>	Immediate Jeopardy to individual health and or safety	<b>J.</b>	<b>K.</b>	<b>L.</b>
		Actual harm	<b>G.</b>	<b>H.</b>	<b>I.</b>
	<b>Medium Impact</b>	No Actual Harm Potential for more than minimal harm	<b>D.</b>	<b>E.</b>	<b>F. (3 or more)</b>
			<b>D. (2 or less)</b>		<b>F. (no conditions of participation)</b>
	<b>Low Impact</b>	No Actual Harm Minimal potential for harm.	<b>A.</b>	<b>B.</b>	<b>C.</b>

Scope and Severity Definitions:

Key to Scope scale:

Isolated:

A deficiency that is limited to 1% to 15% of the sample, usually impacting no more than one or two individuals in the sample.

Pattern:

A deficiency that impacts a number or group of individuals from 16% to 79% of the sample is defined as a pattern finding. Pattern findings suggest the need for system wide corrective actions.

Widespread:

A deficiency that impacts most or all (80% to 100%) of the individuals in the sample is defined as widespread or pervasive. Widespread findings suggest the need for system wide corrective actions as well as the need to implement a Continuous Quality Improvement process to improve or build infrastructure. Widespread findings must be referred to the Internal Review Committee for review and possible actions or sanctions.

Key to Severity scale:

Low Impact Severity: (Blue)

Low level findings have no or minimal potential for harm to an individual. Providers that have no findings above a “C” level may receive a “Quality” Certification approval rating from QMB.

Medium Impact Severity: (Tan)

Medium level findings have a potential for harm to an individual. Providers that have no findings above a “F” level and/or no more than two F level findings and no F level Conditions of Participation may receive a “Merit” Certification approval rating from QMB.

High Impact Severity: (Green or Yellow)

High level findings are when harm to an individual has occurred. Providers that have no findings above “I” level may only receive a “Standard” Approval rating from QMB and will be referred to the IRC.

High Impact Severity: (Yellow)

“J, K, and L” Level findings:

This is a finding of Immediate Jeopardy. If a provider is found to have “I” level findings or higher, with an outcome of Immediate Jeopardy, including repeat findings or Conditions of Participation they will be referred to the Internal Review Committee.

## **Guidelines for the Provider Informal Reconsideration of Finding (IRF) Process**

### **Introduction:**

Throughout the process, surveyors are openly communicating with providers. Open communication means that surveyors have clarified issues and/or requested missing information before completing the review. Regardless, there may still be instances where the provider disagrees with a specific finding.

To informally dispute a finding the provider must request in writing an Informal Reconsideration of the Finding (IRF) to the QMB Deputy Bureau Chief **within 10 working days** of receipt of the final report.

The written request for an IRF **must be completed on the QMB Request for Informal Reconsideration of Finding Form** (available on the QMB website: <http://dhi.health.state.nm.us/qmb>) and must specify in detail the request for reconsideration and why the finding is inaccurate. The **IRF request must include all supporting documentation or evidence that was not previously reviewed during the survey process.**

### **The following limitations apply to the IRF process:**

- The request for an IRF and all supporting evidence must be received in 10 days.
- Findings based on evidence requested during the survey and not provided may not be subject to reconsideration.
- The supporting documentation must be new evidence not previously reviewed by the survey team.
- Providers must continue to complete their plan of correction during the IRF process
- Providers may not request an IRF to challenge the Scope and Severity of a finding.
- Providers may not request an IRF to challenge the sampling methodology.
- Providers may not request an IRF based on disagreement with the nature of the standard or regulation.
- Providers may not request an IRF to challenge the team composition
- Providers may not request an IRF to challenge the QMB Quality Approval Rating and the length of their DDSD provider contract.

A Provider forfeits the right to an IRF if the request is not made within 10 working days of receiving the report and does not include all supporting documentation or evidence to show compliance with the standards and regulations.

QMB has 30 working days to complete the review and notify the provider of the decision. The request will be reviewed by the IRF committee. The Provider will be notified in writing of the ruling, no face to face meeting will be conducted.

When a Provider requests that a finding be reconsidered, it does not stop or delay the Plan of Correction process. **Providers must continue to complete the Plan of Correction, including the finding in dispute regardless of the IRF status.** If a finding is successfully reconsidered, it will be noted and will be removed or modified from the report. It should be noted that in some cases a Plan of Correction may be completed prior to the IRF process being completed. The provider will be notified in writing on the decisions of the IRF committee.

### **Administrative Review Process:**

If a Provider desires to challenge the decision of the IRF committee they may request an Administrative Review by the DHI and DDSD Director. The Request must be made in writing to the QMB Bureau Chief and received within 5 days of notification from the IRF decision.

### **Regarding IRC Sanctions:**

The Informal Reconsideration of the Finding process is a separate process specific to QMB Survey Findings and should not be confused with any process associated with IRC Sanctions.

If a Provider desires to Dispute or Appeal an IRC Sanction that is a separate and different process. Providers may choose the Informal Dispute Resolution Process or the Formal Medicaid Fair Hearing Process to dispute or appeal IRC sanctions, please refer to the DOH Sanction policy and section 39 of the provider contract agreement.

**Agency:** Casa Connect, LLC - Metro Region  
**Program:** Developmental Disabilities Waiver  
**Service:** Community Living (Supported Living & Family Living) & Community Inclusion (Adult Habilitation)  
**Monitoring Type:** Routine  
**Date of Survey:** August 10 – 11, 2009

Statute	Deficiency	Agency Plan of Correction and Responsible Party	Date Due
<b>Tag # 1A03 CQI System</b>	<b>Scope and Severity Rating: C</b>		
Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007 <b>CHAPTER 1 I. PROVIDER AGENCY ENROLLMENT PROCESS</b> <b>I. Continuous Quality Management System:</b> Prior to approval or renewal of a DD Waiver Provider Agreement, the Provider Agency is required to submit in writing the current Continuous Quality Improvement Plan to the DOH for approval. In addition, on an annual basis DD Waiver Provider Agencies shall develop or update and implement the Continuous Quality Improvement Plan. The CQI Plan shall be used to 1) discover strengths and challenges of the provider agency, as well as strengths, and barriers individuals experience in receiving the quality, quantity, and meaningfulness of services that he or she desires; 2) build on strengths and remediate individual and provider level issues to improve the provider's service provision over time. At a minimum the CQI Plan shall address how the agency will collect, analyze, act on data and evaluate results related to: (1) Individual access to needed services and supports; (2) Effectiveness and timeliness of implementation of Individualized Service Plans; (3) Trends in achievement of individual outcomes in the Individual Service Plans; (4) Trends in medication and medical incidents leading to adverse health events; (5) Trends in the adequacy of planning and coordination of healthcare supports at both	Based on record review, the Agency failed to update and implement their Continuous Quality Management System on an annual basis.  The Agency's Continuous Quality Improvement Plan provided during the on-site survey (August 10 - 11, 2009) was not dated. No evidence was found indicating when the document had been updated.		



- supervisory and direct support levels;
- (6) Quality and completeness documentation; and
- (7) Trends in individual and guardian satisfaction.

**7.1.13.9 INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY BASED SERVICE PROVIDERS:**

**E. Quality Improvement System for Community Based Service Providers:** The community based service provider shall establish and implement a quality improvement system for reviewing alleged complaints and incidents. The incident management system shall include written documentation of corrective actions taken. The community based service provider shall maintain documented evidence that all alleged violations are thoroughly investigated, and shall take all reasonable steps to prevent further incidents. The community based service provider shall provide the following internal monitoring and facilitating quality improvement system:

- (1) community based service providers funded through the long-term services division to provide waiver services shall have current incident management policy and procedures in place, which comply with the department's current requirements;
- (2) community based service providers providing developmental disabilities services must have a designated incident management coordinator in place;
- (4) community based service providers providing developmental disabilities services must have an incident management committee to address internal and external incident reports for the purpose of looking at internal root causes and to take action on identified trends or issues.

Tag # 1A05 (CoP) General Requirements	Scope and Severity Rating: F		
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 1 II. PROVIDER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS:</b> The objective of these standards is to establish Provider Agency policy, procedure and reporting requirements for DD Medicaid Waiver program. These requirements apply to all such Provider Agency staff, whether directly employed or subcontracting with the Provider Agency. Additional Provider Agency requirements and personnel qualifications may be applicable for specific service standards.</p> <p><b>A. General Requirements:</b></p> <p>(2) The Provider Agency is required to develop and implement written policies and procedures that maintain and protect the physical and mental health of individuals and which comply with all DDS policies and procedures and all relevant New Mexico State statutes, rules and standards. These policies and procedures shall be reviewed at least every three years and updated as needed.</p>	<p>Based on record review and interview, the Agency failed to review and update its written policies and procedures every three years or as needed.</p> <p>The following polices and procedures provided during the on-site survey (August 10 - 11, 2009) showed no evidence of being reviewed every three years or being updated as needed:</p>		

Tag # 1A09 Medication Delivery (MAR)	Scope and Severity Rating: E	
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 1 II. PROVIDER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS:</b> The objective of these standards is to establish Provider Agency policy, procedure and reporting requirements for DD Medicaid Waiver program. These requirements apply to all such Provider Agency staff, whether directly employed or subcontracting with the Provider Agency. Additional Provider Agency requirements and personnel qualifications may be applicable for specific service standards.</p> <p><b>E. Medication Delivery:</b> Provider Agencies that provide Community Living, Community Inclusion or Private Duty Nursing services shall have written policies and procedures regarding medication(s) delivery and tracking and reporting of medication errors in accordance with DDSD Medication Assessment and Delivery Policy and Procedures, the Board of Nursing Rules and Board of Pharmacy standards and regulations.</p> <p>(2) When required by the DDSD Medication Assessment and Delivery Policy, Medication Administration Records (MAR) shall be maintained and include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The name of the individual, a transcription of the physician's written or licensed health care provider's prescription including the brand and generic name of the medication, diagnosis for which the medication is prescribed;</li> <li>Prescribed dosage, frequency and method/route of administration, times and dates of administration;</li> <li>Initials of the individual administering or assisting with the medication;</li> <li>Explanation of any medication irregularity;</li> <li>Documentation of any allergic reaction or adverse medication effect; and</li> <li>For PRN medication, an explanation for the</li> </ol>	<p>Medication Administration Records (MAR) were reviewed for the months of April, May &amp; June, 2009</p> <p>Based on record review, 1 of 2 individuals had Medication Administration Records, which contained missing medications entries and/or other errors:</p> <p>Individual #1</p> <p>April 2009 Medication Administration Record did not contain the time the medication should be given. MAR indicated time as "AM, PM and/or Bedtime":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portia .15mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Strattera 80mg (1 times daily)</li> <li>• Lactulose 15 – 30ml (every other day)</li> <li>• Doxycycline 100mg (2 times daily)</li> <li>• Loratadine 10mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Melatonin 3mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Metrogel 1.% (2 times daily)</li> <li>• Multi-Vitamin (1 time daily)</li> </ul> <p>May 2009 Medication Administration Record did not contain the time the medication should be given. MAR indicated time as "AM, PM and/or Bedtime":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portia .15mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Strattera 80mg (1 times daily)</li> <li>• Lactulose 15 – 30ml (every other day)</li> </ul>	

<p>use of the PRN medication shall include observable signs/symptoms or circumstances in which the medication is to be used, and documentation of effectiveness of PRN medication administered.</p> <p>(3) The Provider Agency shall also maintain a signature page that designates the full name that corresponds to each initial used to document administered or assisted delivery of each dose;</p> <p>(4) MARs are not required for individuals participating in Independent Living who self-administer their own medications;</p> <p>(5) Information from the prescribing pharmacy regarding medications shall be kept in the home and community inclusion service locations and shall include the expected desired outcomes of administering the medication, signs and symptoms of adverse events and interactions with other medications;</p> <p><b>NMAC 16.19.11.8 MINIMUM STANDARDS:</b>  <b>A. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION, STORAGE, HANDLING AND RECORD KEEPING OF DRUGS:</b></p> <p>(d) The facility shall have a Medication Administration Record (MAR) documenting medication administered to residents, <b>including over-the-counter medications</b>. This documentation shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Name of resident;</li> <li>(ii) Date given;</li> <li>(iii) Drug product name;</li> <li>(iv) Dosage and form;</li> <li>(v) Strength of drug;</li> <li>(vi) Route of administration;</li> <li>(vii) How often medication is to be taken;</li> <li>(viii) Time taken and staff initials;</li> <li>(ix) Dates when the medication is discontinued or changed;</li> <li>(x) The name and initials of all staff administering medications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doxycycline 100mg (2 times daily)</li> <li>• Loratadine 10mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Melatonin 3mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Metrogel 1.% (2 times daily)</li> <li>• Multi-Vitamin (1 time daily)</li> </ul> <p>June 2009  Medication Administration Record did not contain the time the medication should be given. MAR indicated time as "AM, PM and/or Bedtime":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portia .15mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Strattera 80mg (1 times daily)</li> <li>• Lactulose 15 – 30ml (every other day)</li> <li>• Doxycycline 100mg (2 times daily)</li> <li>• Loratadine 10mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Melatonin 3mg (1 time daily)</li> <li>• Metrogel 1% (2 times daily)</li> <li>• Multi-Vitamin (1 time daily)</li> </ul>		
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**Model Custodial Procedure Manual**

***D. Administration of Drugs***

Unless otherwise stated by practitioner, patients will not be allowed to administer their own medications. Document the practitioner's order authorizing the self-administration of medications.

All PRN (As needed) medications shall have complete detail instructions regarding the administering of the medication. This shall include:

- symptoms that indicate the use of the medication,
- exact dosage to be used, and
- the exact amount to be used in a 24 hour period.

Tag # 1A11 (CoP) Transportation P&P	Scope and Severity Rating: F		
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 1 II. PROVIDER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS:</b> The objective of these standards is to establish Provider Agency policy, procedure and reporting requirements for DD Medicaid Waiver program. These requirements apply to all such Provider Agency staff, whether directly employed or subcontracting with the Provider Agency. Additional Provider Agency requirements and personnel qualifications may be applicable for specific service standards.</p> <p><b>G. Transportation:</b> Provider agencies that provide Community Living, Community Inclusion or Non-Medical Transportation services shall have a written policy and procedures regarding the safe transportation of individuals in the community, which comply with New Mexico regulations governing the operation of motor vehicles to transport individuals, and which are consistent with DDSD guidelines issued July 1, 1999 titled "Client Transportation Safety". The policy and procedures must address at least the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Drivers' requirements,</li> <li>(2) Individual safety, including safe locations for boarding and disembarking passengers, appropriate responses to hazardous weather and other adverse driving conditions,</li> <li>(3) Vehicle maintenance and safety inspections,</li> <li>(4) Staff training regarding the safe operation of the vehicle, assisting passengers and safe lifting procedures,</li> <li>(5) Emergency Plans, including vehicle evacuation techniques,</li> <li>(6) Documentation, and</li> <li>(7) Accident Procedures.</li> </ol> <p><b>Department of Health (DOH) Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) Policy</b> Training Requirements for Direct Service Agency</p>	<p>Based on record review, the Agency failed to have a written policies and procedures regarding the safe transportation of individuals in the community, which comply with New Mexico regulations governing the operation of motor vehicles to transport individuals.</p> <p>Review of Agency's policies and procedures found no evidence of the Agency's transportation policy &amp; procedure.</p>		

Staff Policy **Eff Date:** March 1, 2007

**II. POLICY STATEMENTS:**

I. Staff providing direct services shall complete safety training within the first thirty (30) days of employment and before working alone with an individual receiving services. The training shall address at least the following:

1. Operating a fire extinguisher
2. Proper lifting procedures
3. General vehicle safety precautions (e.g., pre-trip inspection, removing keys from the ignition when not in the driver's seat)
4. Assisting passengers with cognitive and/or physical impairments (e.g., general guidelines for supporting individuals who may be unaware of safety issues involving traffic or those who require physical assistance to enter/exit a vehicle)
5. Operating wheelchair lifts (if applicable to the staff's role)
6. Wheelchair tie-down procedures (if applicable to the staff's role)
7. Emergency and evacuation procedures (e.g., roadside emergency, fire emergency)

Tag # 1A11 (CoP) Transportation Training	Scope and Severity Rating: D		
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 1 II. PROVIDER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS:</b> The objective of these standards is to establish Provider Agency policy, procedure and reporting requirements for DD Medicaid Waiver program. These requirements apply to all such Provider Agency staff, whether directly employed or subcontracting with the Provider Agency. Additional Provider Agency requirements and personnel qualifications may be applicable for specific service standards.</p> <p><b>G. Transportation:</b> Provider agencies that provide Community Living, Community Inclusion or Non-Medical Transportation services shall have a written policy and procedures regarding the safe transportation of individuals in the community, which comply with New Mexico regulations governing the operation of motor vehicles to transport individuals, and which are consistent with DDSD guidelines issued July 1, 1999 titled "Client Transportation Safety". The policy and procedures must address at least the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Drivers' requirements,</li> <li>(2) Individual safety, including safe locations for boarding and disembarking passengers, appropriate responses to hazardous weather and other adverse driving conditions,</li> <li>(3) Vehicle maintenance and safety inspections,</li> <li>(4) Staff training regarding the safe operation of the vehicle, assisting passengers and safe lifting procedures,</li> <li>(8) Emergency Plans, including vehicle evacuation techniques,</li> <li>(9) Documentation, and</li> <li>(10) Accident Procedures.</li> </ol> <p><b>Department of Health (DOH) Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) Policy</b> Training Requirements for Direct Service Agency</p>	<p>Based on record review, the Agency failed to provide staff training regarding the safe operation of the vehicle, assisting passengers and safe lifting procedures for 1 of 7 Direct Service Personnel.</p> <p>No documented evidence was found of the following required training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation (DSP # 40)</li> </ul>		



Staff Policy **Eff Date:** March 1, 2007

**II. POLICY STATEMENTS:**

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3. General vehicle safety precautions (e.g., pre-trip inspection, removing keys from the ignition when not in the driver's seat)
4. Assisting passengers with cognitive and/or physical impairments (e.g., general guidelines for supporting individuals who may be unaware of safety issues involving traffic or those who require physical assistance to enter/exit a vehicle)
5. Operating wheelchair lifts (if applicable to the staff's role)
6. Wheelchair tie-down procedures (if applicable to the staff's role)
7. Emergency and evacuation procedures (e.g., roadside emergency, fire emergency)

Tag # 1A20 DSP Training Documents	Scope and Severity Rating: D		
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 1 IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PROVIDER AGENCY SERVICE</b></p> <p><b>PERSONNEL:</b> The objective of this section is to establish personnel standards for DD Medicaid Waiver Provider Agencies for the following services: Community Living Supports, Community Inclusion Services, Respite, Substitute Care and Personal Support Companion Services. These standards apply to all personnel who provide services, whether directly employed or subcontracting with the Provider Agency. Additional personnel requirements and qualifications may be applicable for specific service standards.</p> <p><b>C. Orientation and Training Requirements:</b> Orientation and training for direct support staff and his or her supervisors shall comply with the DDSD/DOH Policy Governing the Training Requirements for Direct Support Staff and Internal Service Coordinators Serving Individuals with Developmental Disabilities to include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Each new employee shall receive appropriate orientation, including but not limited to, all policies relating to fire prevention, accident prevention, incident management and reporting, and emergency procedures; and</li> <li>(2) Individual-specific training for each individual under his or her direct care, as described in the individual service plan, prior to working alone with the individual.</li> </ol>	<p>Based on record review, the Agency failed to ensure that Orientation and Training requirements were met for 1 of 6 Direct Service Personnel.</p> <p>Review of Direct Service Personnel training records found no evidence of the following required DOH/DDSD trainings and certification being completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive Behavior Supports Strategies (DSP #43)</li> </ul>		

Tag # 6L13 (CoP) - CL Healthcare Reqts.	Scope and Severity Rating: E		
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 6. VI. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNITY LIVING</b></p> <p><b>G. Health Care Requirements for Community Living Services.</b></p> <p>(1) The Community Living Service providers shall ensure completion of a HAT for each individual receiving this service. The HAT shall be completed 2 weeks prior to the annual ISP meeting and submitted to the Case Manager and all other IDT Members. A revised HAT is required to also be submitted whenever the individual's health status changes significantly. For individuals who are newly allocated to the DD Waiver program, the HAT may be completed within 2 weeks following the initial ISP meeting and submitted with any strategies and support plans indicated in the ISP, or within 72 hours following admission into direct services, which ever comes first.</p> <p>(2) Each individual will have a Health Care Coordinator, designated by the IDT. When the individual's HAT score is 4, 5 or 6 the Health Care Coordinator shall be an IDT member, other than the individual. The Health Care Coordinator shall oversee and monitor health care services for the individual in accordance with these standards. In circumstances where no IDT member voluntarily accepts designation as the health care coordinator, the community living provider shall assign a staff member to this role.</p> <p>(3) For each individual receiving Community Living Services, the provider agency shall ensure and document the following:</p> <p>(a) Provision of health care oversight consistent with these Standards as detailed in Chapter One section III E: Healthcare Documentation by Nurses For Community Living Services, Community</p>	<p>Based on record review, the Agency failed to provide documentation of annual physical examinations and/or other examinations as specified by a licensed physician for 1 of 2 individuals receiving Community Living Services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Annual Physical (#1)</b></li> <li>• <b>Vision Exam</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Individual #1 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, the exam was completed on 6/7/08 and follow-up was to be complete 6/7/09. No evidence of current exam was found.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

<p>Inclusion Services and Private Duty Nursing Services.</p> <p>b) That each individual with a score of 4, 5, or 6 on the HAT, has a Health Care Plan developed by a licensed nurse.</p> <p>(c) That an individual with chronic condition(s) with the potential to exacerbate into a life threatening condition, has Crisis Prevention/ Intervention Plan(s) developed by a licensed nurse or other appropriate professional for each such condition.</p> <p>(4) That an average of 3 hours of documented nutritional counseling is available annually, if recommended by the IDT.</p> <p>(5) That the physical property and grounds are free of hazards to the individual's health and safety.</p> <p>(6) In addition, for each individual receiving Supported Living or Family Living Services, the provider shall verify and document the following:</p> <p>(a) The individual has a primary licensed physician;</p> <p>(b) The individual receives an annual physical examination and other examinations as specified by a licensed physician;</p> <p>(c) The individual receives annual dental check-ups and other check-ups as specified by a licensed dentist;</p> <p>(d) The individual receives eye examinations as specified by a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist; and</p> <p>(e) Agency activities that occur as follow-up to medical appointments (e.g. treatment, visits to specialists, changes in medication or daily routine).</p>			
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Tag # 6L14 Residential Case File	Scope and Severity Rating: F		
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 6. VIII. COMMUNITY LIVING SERVICE PROVIDER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <p><b>A. Residence Case File:</b> For individuals receiving Supported Living or Family Living, the Agency shall maintain in the individual's home a complete and current confidential case file for each individual. For individuals receiving Independent Living Services, rather than maintaining this file at the individual's home, the complete and current confidential case file for each individual shall be maintained at the agency's administrative site. Each file shall include the following:</p> <p>(1) Complete and current ISP and all supplemental plans specific to the individual;</p> <p>(2) Complete and current Health Assessment Tool;</p> <p>(3) Current emergency contact information, which includes the individual's address, telephone number, names and telephone numbers of residential Community Living Support providers, relatives, or guardian or conservator, primary care physician's name(s) and telephone number(s), pharmacy name, address and telephone number and dentist name, address and telephone number, and health plan;</p> <p>(4) Up-to-date progress notes, signed and dated by the person making the note for at least the past month (older notes may be transferred to the agency office);</p> <p>(5) Data collected to document ISP Action Plan implementation</p> <p>(6) Progress notes written by direct care staff and by nurses regarding individual health status and physical conditions including action taken in response to identified changes in condition for at</p>	<p>Based on record review, the Agency failed to maintain a complete and confidential case file in the residence for 2 of 2 Individuals receiving Family Living Services or Supported Living Services.</p> <p>The following was not found, incomplete and/or not current:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISP Signature Page (#2)</li> <li>• Addendum A (#2)</li> <li>• <b>Special Health Care Needs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Meal Time Plan (#1)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

<p>least the past month;</p> <p>(7) Physician's or qualified health care providers written orders;</p> <p>(8) Progress notes documenting implementation of a physician's or qualified health care provider's order(s);</p> <p>(9) Medication Administration Record (MAR) for the past three (3) months which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The name of the individual;</li> <li>(b) A transcription of the healthcare practitioners prescription including the brand and generic name of the medication;</li> <li>(c) Diagnosis for which the medication is prescribed;</li> <li>(d) Dosage, frequency and method/route of delivery;</li> <li>(e) Times and dates of delivery;</li> <li>(f) Initials of person administering or assisting with medication; and</li> <li>(g) An explanation of any medication irregularity, allergic reaction or adverse effect.</li> <li>(h) For PRN medication an explanation for the use of the PRN must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Observable signs/symptoms or circumstances in which the medication is to be used, and</li> <li>(ii) Documentation of the effectiveness/result of the PRN delivered.</li> </ul> </li> <li>(i) A MAR is not required for individuals participating in Independent Living Services who self-administer their own medication. However, when medication administration is provided as part of the Independent Living Service a MAR must be maintained at the individual's home and an updated copy must be placed in the agency file on a weekly basis.</li> </ul> <p>(10) Record of visits to healthcare practitioners including any treatment provided at the visit and a record of all diagnostic testing for the current</p>			
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ISP year; and  
(11) Medical History to include: demographic data, current and past medical diagnoses including the cause (if known) of the developmental disability and any psychiatric diagnosis, allergies (food, environmental, medications), status of routine adult health care screenings, immunizations, hospital discharge summaries for past twelve (12) months, past medical history including hospitalizations, surgeries, injuries, family history and current physical exam.

Tag # 6L25 (CoP) Residential Health & Safety (Family Living)	Scope and Severity Rating: F		
<p>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 6. VIII. COMMUNITY LIVING SERVICE PROVIDER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <p><b>L. Residence Requirements for Family Living Services and Supported Living Services</b></p> <p>(1) Supported Living Services and Family Living Services providers shall assure that each individual's residence has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Battery operated or electric smoke detectors, heat sensors, or a sprinkler system installed in the residence;</li> <li>(b) General-purpose first aid kit;</li> <li>(c) When applicable due to an individual's health status, a blood borne pathogens kit;</li> <li>(d) Accessible written procedures for emergency evacuation e.g. fire and weather-related threats;</li> <li>(e) Accessible telephone numbers of poison control centers located within the line of sight of the telephone;</li> <li>(f) Accessible written documentation of actual evacuation drills occurring at least three (3) times a year. For Supported Living evacuation drills shall occur at least once a year during each shift;</li> <li>(g) Accessible written procedures for the safe storage of all medications with dispensing instructions for each individual that are consistent with the Assisting with Medication Administration training or each individual's ISP; and</li> <li>(h) Accessible written procedures for emergency placement and relocation of individuals in the event of an emergency evacuation that makes the residence unsuitable for occupancy. The emergency evacuation procedures shall address, but are not limited to, fire, chemical and/or</li> </ul>	<p>Based on observation, the Agency failed to ensure that each individual's residence met all requirements within the standard for 1 of 1 Family Living residences.</p> <p>The following items were not found, not functioning or incomplete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessible written procedures for the safe storage of all medications with dispensing instructions for each individual that are consistent with the Assisting with Medication Administration training or each individual's ISP (#2)</li> </ul>		



hazardous waste spills, and flooding.

**ADDITIONAL FINDINGS: Reimbursement Deficiencies**

**BILLING  
TAG #1A12**

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007 **Chapter 1. III. PROVIDER AGENCY DOCUMENTATION OF SERVICE DELIVERY AND LOCATION**

**B. Billable Units:** The documentation of the billable time spent with an individual shall be kept on the written or electronic record that is prepared prior to a request for reimbursement from the HSD. For each unit billed, the record shall contain the following:

- (1) Date, start and end time of each service encounter or other billable service interval;
- (2) A description of what occurred during the encounter or service interval; and
- (3) The signature or authenticated name of staff providing the service.

Billing for Community Living (Supported Living & Family Living) and Community Inclusion (Adult Habilitation) services was reviewed for 2 of 2 individuals. Progress notes and billing records supported billing activities for the months of April, May & June, 2009.