

Date: August 13, 2014

To: Patsy Romero, Chief Operations Officer
 Provider: Easter Seals El Mirador
 Address: 10 Van Nu Po
 State/Zip: Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508-1461

E-mail Address: promero@eselm.org

Region: Northeast
 Survey Date: July 14 - 18, 2014
 Program Surveyed: Developmental Disabilities Waiver

Service Surveyed: **2012:** *Living Supports* (Supported Living); *Inclusion Supports* (Customized Community Supports) and *Other* (Customized In-Home Supports)
2007: *Community Living* (Supported Living and Independent Living) and *Community Inclusion* (Adult Habilitation and Community Access)

Survey Type: Focused
 Team Leader: Meg Pell, BA, Healthcare Surveyor, Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau
 Team Members: Pareatha Madison, MA, Healthcare Surveyor, Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau and Jenny Bartos, BA, Healthcare Surveyor, Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau

Dear Ms Romero;

The Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau has completed a Focused Survey due to concerns reported to the Division 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. The specific focus of the survey was to determine compliance with the agency personnel Caregiver Criminal History Screening and the Employee Abuse Registry / Consolidated On-Line Registry:

- a) Caregiver Criminal History Screening - *QMB Findings: During the Focused Survey the QMB conducted an Agency administrative review to follow up on concerns reported; to determine if the agency was complying with the NMAC requirements. Based on the findings of the Focused Survey, no concerns or deficiencies were identified in this area.*
- b) Employee Abuse Registry / Consolidated On-Line Registry - *QMB Findings: During the Focused Survey the QMB conducted an Agency administrative review to follow up on concerns reported; to determine if the agency was complying with the NMAC requirements. Based on the findings of the Focused Survey, one standard level deficiency was identified in this area.*

This Report of Findings will be shared with the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division for their use in determining your current and future provider agreements. Upon receipt of this letter and Report of Findings your agency must immediately correct all deficiencies which place Individuals served at risk of harm.

Determination of Compliance:

DIVISION OF HEALTH IMPROVEMENT
 5301 Central Avenue NE, Suite 400 • Albuquerque, New Mexico • 87108
 (505) 222-8623 • FAX: (505) 222-8661 • <http://www.dhi.health.state.nm.us>

QMB Report of Findings – Easter Seals el Mirador – Northeast Region – July 14 - 18, 2014

The Division of Health Improvement, Quality Management Bureau has determined your agency is in:

Compliance with all Conditions of Participation.

This determination is based on your agency's compliance with CMS waiver assurances at the Condition of Participation level. The attached QMB Report of Findings indicates Standard Level deficiencies identified and requires implementation of a Plan of Correction.

Plan of Correction:

The attached Report of Findings identifies the Standard Level and/or Condition of Participation deficiencies found during your agency's compliance review. You are required to complete and implement a Plan of Correction. Your agency has a total of 45 business days (10 business days to submit your POC for approval and 35 days to implement your *approved* Plan of Correction) from the receipt of this letter.

Submission of your Plan of Correction:

Please submit your agency's Plan of Correction in the space on the two right columns of the Report of Findings. (See attachment "A" for additional guidance in completing the Plan of Correction).

Within 10 business days of receipt of this letter your agency Plan of Correction must be submitted to the parties below:

- 1. Quality Management Bureau, Attention: Plan of Correction Coordinator
5301 Central Ave. NE Suite 400 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 to come into compliance. If your Plan of Correction is denied, you must resubmit a revised plan as soon as possible for approval, as your POC approval and all remedies must be completed within 45 business days of the receipt of this letter.

Failure to submit your POC within the allotted 10 business days or complete and implement your Plan of Correction within the total 45 business days allowed may 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 finding of deficient practice, you have 10 business 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 #400
Albuquerque, NM 87108
Attention: IRF request

See Attachment "C" for additional guidance in completing the request for Informal Reconsideration of Findings. The request for an IRF will not delay the implementation of your Plan of Correction which must be completed within 45 total business days (10 business days to submit your POC for approval and 35 days to implement your *approved* Plan of Correction). Providers may not appeal the nature or interpretation of the standard or regulation, the team composition or sampling methodology. If the IRF approves the modification or removal of a finding, you will be advised of any changes.

Please call the Plan of Correction Coordinator Anthony Fragua at 505-231-7436 if you have questions about the Report of Findings or Plan of Correction. Thank you for your cooperation and for the work you perform.

Sincerely,

Meg Pell, BA

Meg Pell, BA
Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor
Division of Health Improvement
Quality Management Bureau

Survey Process Employed:

QMB Report of Findings – Easter Seals el Mirador – Northeast Region – July 14 - 18, 2014

Survey Report #: Q.15.1.DDW.D0974.2.RTN.01.14.225

Entrance Conference Date: July 14, 2014

Present: **Easter Seals El Mirador**
Patsy Romero, Chief Operations Officer
DOH/DHI/QMB
Meg Pell, BA, Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor

Exit Conference Date: July 18, 2014

Present: **Easter Seals El Mirador**
Patsy Romero, Chief Operations Officer
DOH/DHI/QMB
Meg Pell, BA, Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor

Direct Support Personnel Records Reviewed Number: 23

Administrative Processes and Records Reviewed:

- Caregiver Criminal History Screening Records
- Consolidated Online Registry/Employee Abuse Registry

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

Attachment A

QMB Report of Findings – Easter Seals el Mirador – Northeast Region – July 14 - 18, 2014

Survey Report #: Q.15.1.DDW.D0974.2.RTN.01.14.225

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

Introduction:

After a QMB Compliance Survey, your QMB Report of Findings will be sent to you via e-mail.

Each provider must develop and implement a Plan of Correction (POC) that identifies specific quality assurance and quality improvement activities the agency will implement to correct deficiencies and prevent continued deficiencies and non-compliance.

Agencies must submit their Plan of Correction within ten (10) business days from the date you receive the QMB Report of Findings. (Providers who do not submit a POC within 10 business days may be referred to the Internal Review Committee [IRC] for possible actions or sanctions).

Agencies must fully implement their approved Plan of Correction within 45 business days (10 business days to submit your POC for approval and 35 days to implement your approved Plan of Correction) from the date they receive the QMB Report of Findings (Providers who fail to complete a POC within the 45 business days allowed will be referred to the IRC for possible actions or sanctions.)

If you have questions about the Plan of Correction process, call the Plan of Correction Coordinator at 505-231-7436 or email at Anthony.Fragua@state.nm.us. Requests for technical assistance must be requested through your Regional DDSD Office.

The POC process cannot resolve disputes regarding findings. If you wish to dispute a finding on the official Report of Findings, you must file an Informal Reconsideration of Findings (IRF) request within ten (10) business days of receiving your report. Please note that you must still submit a POC for findings that are in question (see Attachment "C").

Instructions for Completing Agency POC:

Required Content

Your Plan of Correction should provide a step-by-step description of the methods to correct each deficient practice to prevent recurrence and information that ensures the regulation cited is in compliance. The remedies noted in your POC are expected to be added to your Agency's required, annual Quality Assurance Plan.

If a deficiency has already been corrected, the plan should state how it was corrected, the completion date (date the correction was accomplished), and how possible recurrence of the deficiency will be prevented.

The Plan of Correction must address the six required Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) core elements to address each deficiency cited in the Report of Findings:

1. How the specific and realistic corrective action will be accomplished for individuals found to have been affected by the deficient practice.
2. How the agency will identify other individuals who have the potential to be affected by the same deficient practice, and how the agency will act to protect individuals in similar situations.
3. What QA measures will be put into place or systemic changes made to ensure that the deficient practice will not recur
4. Indicate how the agency plans to monitor its performance to make sure that solutions are sustained. The agency must develop a QA plan for ensuring that correction is achieved and

- sustained. This QA plan must be implemented, and the corrective action evaluated for its effectiveness. The plan of correction is integrated into the agency quality assurance system; and
5. Include dates when corrective action will be completed. The corrective action completion dates must be acceptable to the State.
 6. The POC must be signed and dated by the agency director or other authorized official.

The following details should be considered when developing your Plan of Correction:

- Details about how and when Consumer, Personnel and Residential files are audited by Agency personnel to ensure they contain required documents;
- Information about how Medication Administration Records are reviewed to verify they contain all required information before they are distributed, as they are being used, and after they are completed;
- Your processes for ensuring that all staff are trained in Core Competencies, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Reporting, and Individual-Specific service requirements, etc;
- How accuracy in Billing/Reimbursement documentation is assured;
- How health, safety is assured;
- For Case Management Providers, how Individual Specific Plans are reviewed to verify they meet requirements, how the timeliness of LOC packet submissions and consumer visits are tracked;
- Your process for gathering, analyzing and responding to Quality data indicators; and,
- Details about Quality Targets in various areas, current status, analyses about why targets were not met, and remedies implemented.

Note: Instruction or in-service of staff alone may not be a sufficient plan of correction. This is a good first step toward correction, but additional steps must be taken to ensure the deficiency is corrected and will not recur.

Completion Dates

- The plan of correction must include a **completion date** (entered in the far right-hand column) for each finding. Be sure the date is **realistic** in the amount of time your Agency will need to correct the deficiency; not to exceed 45 total business days.
- Direct care issues should be corrected immediately and monitored appropriately.
- Some deficiencies may require a staged plan to accomplish total correction.
- Deficiencies requiring replacement of equipment, etc., may require more time to accomplish correction but should show reasonable time frames.

Initial Submission of the Plan of Correction Requirements

1. The Plan of Correction must be completed on the official QMB Survey Report of Findings/Plan of Correction Form and received by QMB within ten (10) business days from the date you received the report of findings.
2. For questions about the POC process, call the POC Coordinator, Anthony Fragua at 505-231-7436 for assistance.
3. For Technical Assistance (TA) in developing or implementing your POC, contact your Regional DDSD Office.
4. Submit your POC to Anthony Fragua, POC Coordinator in any of the following ways:
 - a. Electronically at Anthony.Fragua@state.nm.us (*preferred method*)
 - b. Fax to 505-222-8661, or
 - c. Mail to POC Coordinator, 5301 Central Avenue NE, Suite 400, Albuquerque, NM 87108
5. Do not submit supporting documentation (evidence of compliance) to QMB until after your POC has been approved by the QMB.

6. QMB will notify you when your POC has been “approved” or “denied.”
 - a. During this time, whether your POC is “approved,” or “denied,” you will have a maximum of 45 business days from the date of receipt of your Report of Findings to correct all survey deficiencies.
 - b. If your POC is denied, it must be revised and resubmitted as soon as possible, as the 45 business day limit is in effect.
 - c. If your POC is denied a second time your agency may be referred to the Internal Review Committee.
 - d. You will receive written confirmation when your POC has been approved by QMB and a final deadline for completion of your POC.
 - e. Please note that all POC correspondence will be sent electronically unless otherwise requested.
7. Failure to submit your POC within 10 business days without prior approval of an extension by QMB will result in a referral to the Internal Review Committee and the possible implementation of monetary penalties and/or sanctions.

POC Document Submission Requirements

Once your POC has been approved by the QMB Plan of Correction Coordinator you must submit copies of documents as evidence that all deficiencies have been corrected, as follows.

1. Your internal documents are due within a maximum of 45 business days of receipt of your Report of Findings.
2. It is preferred that you submit your documents via USPS or other carrier (scanned and saved to CD/DVD disc, flash drive, etc.). If the documents do not contain protected Health information (PHI) the preferred method is that you submit your documents electronically (scanned and attached to e-mails).
3. All submitted documents must be annotated; please be sure the tag numbers and Identification numbers are indicated on each document submitted. Documents which are not annotated with the Tag number and Identification number may not be accepted.
4. Do not submit original documents; Please provide copies or scanned electronic files for evidence. Originals must be maintained in the agency file(s) per DDS Standards.
5. In lieu of some documents, you may submit copies of file or home audit forms that clearly indicate cited deficiencies have been corrected, other attestations of correction must be approved by the Plan of Correction Coordinator prior to their submission.
6. When billing deficiencies are cited, you must provide documentation to justify billing and/or void and adjust forms submitted to Xerox State Healthcare, LLC. for the deficiencies cited in the Report of Findings. In addition to this, we ask that you submit:
 - Evidence of an internal audit of billing/reimbursement conducted for a sample of individuals and timeframes of your choosing to verify POC implementation;
 - Copies of “void and adjust” forms submitted to Xerox State Healthcare, LLC. to correct all unjustified units identified and submitted for payment during your internal audit.

Revisions, Modifications or Extensions to your Plan of Correction (post QMB approval) must be made in writing and submitted to the Plan of Correction Coordinator, prior to the due date and are approved on a case-by-case basis. No changes may be made to your POC or the timeframes for implementation without written approval of the POC Coordinator.

Attachment B

Department of Health, Division of Health Improvement QMB Determination of Compliance Process

The Division of Health Improvement, Quality Management Bureau (QMB) surveys compliance of the Developmental Disabilities Waiver (DDW) standards and state and federal regulations. QMB has grouped the CMS assurances into five Service Domains: Level of Care; Plan of Care; Qualified Providers; Health, Welfare and Safety; and Administrative Oversight (note that Administrative Oversight listed in this document is not the same as the CMS assurance of Administrative Authority. Used in this context it is related to the agency's operational policies and procedures, Quality Management system and Medicaid billing and reimbursement processes.)

The QMB Determination of Compliance process is based on provider compliance or non-compliance with standards and regulations identified in the QMB Report of Findings. All deficiencies (non-compliance with standards and regulations) are identified and cited as either a Standard level deficiency or a Condition of Participation level deficiency in the QMB Reports of Findings. All deficiencies require corrective action when non-compliance is identified.

Within the QMB Service Domains there are fundamental regulations, standards, or policies with which a provider must be in essential compliance in order to ensure the health and welfare of individuals served known as Conditions of Participation (CoPs).

The Determination of Compliance for each service type is based on a provider's compliance with CoPs in three (3) Service Domains.

Case Management Services:

- Level of Care
- Plan of Care
- Qualified Providers

Community Inclusion Supports/ Living Supports:

- Qualified Provider
- Plan of Care
- Health, Welfare and Safety

Conditions of Participation (CoPs)

A CoP is an identified fundamental regulation, standard, or policy with which a provider must be in compliance in order to ensure the health and welfare of individuals served. CoPs are based on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Home and Community-Based Waiver required assurances. A provider must be in compliance with CoPs to participate as a waiver provider.

QMB surveyors use professional judgment when reviewing the critical elements of each standard and regulation to determine when non-compliance with a standard level deficiency rises to the level of a CoP out of compliance. Only some deficiencies can rise to the level of a CoP. (See the next section for a list of CoPs.) The QMB survey team analyzes the relevant finding in terms of scope, actual harm or potential for harm, unique situations, patterns of performance, and other factors to determine if there is the potential for a negative outcome which would rise to the level of a CoP. A Standard level deficiency becomes a CoP out of compliance when the team's analysis establishes that there is an identified potential for significant harm or actual harm. It is then cited as a CoP out of compliance. If the deficiency does not rise to the level of a CoP out of compliance, it is cited as a Standard Level Deficiency.

The Division of Health Improvement (DHI) and the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) collaborated to revise the current Conditions of Participation (CoPs). There are seven Conditions of Participation in which providers must be in compliance.

CoPs and Service Domains for Case Management Supports are as follows:

Service Domain: Level of Care

Condition of Participation:

1. **Level of Care:** The Case Manager shall complete all required elements of the Long Term Care Assessment Abstract (LTCAA) to ensure ongoing eligibility for waiver services.

Service Domain: Plan of Care

Condition of Participation:

2. **Individual Service Plan (ISP) Creation and Development:** Each individual shall have an ISP. The ISP shall be developed in accordance with DDSD regulations and standards and is updated at least annually or when warranted by changes in the individual's needs.

Condition of Participation:

3. **ISP Monitoring and Evaluation:** The Case Manager shall ensure the health and welfare of the individual through monitoring the implementation of ISP desired outcomes.

CoPs and Service Domain for ALL Service Providers is as follows:

Service Domain: Qualified Providers

Condition of Participation:

4. **Qualified Providers:** Agencies shall ensure support staff has completed criminal background screening and all mandated trainings as required by the DDSD.

CoPs and Service Domains for Living Supports and Inclusion Supports are as follows:

Service Domain: Plan of Care

Condition of Participation:

5. **ISP Implementation:** Services provided shall be consistent with the components of the ISP and implemented to achieve desired outcomes.

Service Domain: Health, Welfare and Safety

Condition of Participation:

6. **Individual Health, Safety and Welfare: (Safety)** Individuals have the right to live and work in a safe environment.

Condition of Participation:

7. **Individual Health, Safety and Welfare (Healthcare Oversight):** The provider shall support individuals to access needed healthcare services in a timely manner. Nursing, healthcare services and healthcare oversight shall be available and provided as needed to address individuals' health, safety and welfare..

QMB Determinations of Compliance

Compliance with Conditions of Participation

The QMB determination of *Compliance with Conditions of Participation* indicates that a provider is in compliance with all Conditions of Participation, (CoP). The agency has obtained a level of compliance such that there is a minimal potential for harm to individuals' health and safety. To qualify for a determination of Compliance with Conditions of Participation, the provider must be in compliance with all Conditions of Participation in all relevant Service Domains. The agency may also have Standard level deficiencies (deficiencies which are not at the condition level) out of compliance in any of the Service Domains.

Partial-Compliance with Conditions of Participation

The QMB determination of *Partial-Compliance with Conditions of Participation* indicates that a provider is out of compliance with Conditions of Participation in one (1) to two (2) Service Domains. The agency may have one or more Condition level tags within a Service Domain. This partial-compliance, if not corrected, may result in a serious negative outcome or the potential for more than minimal harm to individuals' health and safety. The agency may also have Standard level deficiencies (deficiencies which are not at the condition level) in any of the Service Domains.

Providers receiving a repeat determination of Partial-Compliance for repeat deficiencies at the level of a Condition in any Service Domain may be referred by the Quality Management Bureau to the Internal Review Committee (IRC) for consideration of remedies and possible actions or sanctions.

Non-Compliance with Conditions of Participation

The QMB determination of *Non-Compliance with Conditions of Participation* indicates a provider is significantly out of compliance with Conditions of Participation in multiple Service Domains. The agency may have one or more Condition level tags in each of 3 relevant Service Domains. This non-compliance, if not corrected, may result in a serious negative outcome or the potential for more than minimal harm to individuals' health and safety. The agency may also have Standard level deficiencies (deficiencies which are not at the condition level) in any of the Service Domains

Providers receiving a repeat determination of Non-Compliance will be referred by Quality Management Bureau to the Internal Review Committee (IRC) for consideration of remedies and possible actions or sanctions.

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

Introduction:

Throughout the QMB Survey process, surveyors are openly communicating with providers. Open communication means surveyors have clarified issues and/or requested missing information before completing the review through the use of the signed/dated "Document Request," or "Administrative Needs," etc. forms. Regardless, there may still be instances where the provider disagrees with a specific finding. Providers may use the following process to informally dispute a finding.

Instructions:

1. The Informal Reconsideration of the Finding (IRF) request must be received in writing to the QMB Deputy Bureau Chief **within 10 business days** of receipt of the final Report of Findings.
2. 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>
3. The written request for an IRF must specify in detail the request for reconsideration and why the finding is inaccurate.
4. The IRF request must include all supporting documentation or evidence.
5. If you have questions about the IRC process, email the IRF Chairperson, Crystal Lopez-Beck at crystal.lopez-beck@state.nm.us for assistance.

The following limitations apply to the IRF process:

- The written request for an IRF and all supporting evidence must be received within 10 business 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 or requested 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 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 DHI/QMB determination of compliance or the length of their DDSD provider contract.

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

The IRF Committee will review the request, 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 removed or modified, it will be noted and removed or modified from the Report of Findings. 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.

Agency: Easter Seals El Mirador – Northeast Region
Program: Developmental Disabilities Waiver
Service: *2012: Living Supports* (Supported Living); *Inclusion Supports* (Customized Community Supports) and *Other* (Customized In-Home Supports)
2007: Community Living (Supported Living and Independent Living) and *Community Inclusion* (Adult Habilitation and Community Access)
Monitoring Type: Focused Survey
Survey Date: July 14-18, 2014

Standard of Care	Deficiencies	Agency Plan of Correction, On-going QA/QI and Responsible Party	Date Due
<p>Service Domain: Qualified Providers – <i>The State monitors non-licensed/non-certified providers to assure adherence to waiver requirements. The State implements its policies and procedures for verifying that provider training is conducted in accordance with State requirements and the approved waiver.</i></p>			
<p>Tag # 1A26 Consolidated On-line Registry Employee Abuse Registry</p>	<p>Standard Level Deficiency</p>		
<p>NMAC 7.1.12.8 REGISTRY ESTABLISHED; PROVIDER INQUIRY REQUIRED: Upon the effective date of this rule, the department has established and maintains an accurate and complete electronic registry that contains the name, date of birth, address, social security number, and other appropriate identifying information of all persons who, while employed by a provider, have been determined by the department, as a result of an investigation of a complaint, to have engaged in a substantiated registry-referred incident of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a person receiving care or services from a provider. Additions and updates to the registry shall be posted no later than two (2) business days following receipt. Only department staff designated by the custodian may access, maintain and update the data in the registry.</p>	<p>Based on record review, the Agency did not maintain documentation in the employee's personnel records that evidenced inquiry into the Employee Abuse Registry prior to employment for 1 of 23 Agency Personnel.</p> <p>The following Agency Personnel records contained evidence that indicated the Employee Abuse Registry check was completed after hire:</p> <p>Direct Support Personnel (DSP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #213 – Date of hire 2/11/2008, completed 2/22/2008. 	<p>Provider: State your Plan of Correction for the deficiencies cited in this tag here: →</p> <p>Provider: Enter your ongoing Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement processes as it related to this tag number here: →</p>	

<p>A. Provider requirement to inquire of registry. A provider, prior to employing or contracting with an employee, shall inquire of the registry whether the individual under consideration for employment or contracting is listed on the registry.</p> <p>B. Prohibited employment. A provider may not employ or contract with an individual to be an employee if the individual is listed on the registry as having a substantiated registry-referred incident of abuse, neglect or exploitation of a person receiving care or services from a provider.</p> <p>D. Documentation of inquiry to registry. The provider shall maintain documentation in the employee's personnel or employment records that evidences the fact that the provider made an inquiry to the registry concerning that employee prior to employment. Such documentation must include evidence, based on the response to such inquiry received from the custodian by the provider, that the employee was not listed on the registry as having a substantiated registry-referred incident of abuse, neglect or exploitation.</p> <p>E. Documentation for other staff. With respect to all employed or contracted individuals providing direct care who are licensed health care professionals or certified nurse aides, the provider shall maintain documentation reflecting the individual's current licensure as a health care professional or current certification as a nurse aide.</p> <p>F. Consequences of noncompliance. The department or other governmental agency having regulatory enforcement authority over a provider may sanction a provider in accordance with applicable law if the provider fails to make an appropriate and timely inquiry of the registry, or fails to maintain evidence of such inquiry, in connection with the hiring or contracting of an</p>			
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<p>employee; or for employing or contracting any person to work as an employee who is listed on the registry. Such sanctions may include a directed plan of correction, civil monetary penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5000) per instance, or termination or non-renewal of any contract with the department or other governmental agency.</p>			
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Date: October 16, 2014

To: Patsy Romero, Chief Operations Officer
Provider: Easter Seals El Mirador
Address: 10 Van Nu Po
State/Zip: Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508-1461

E-mail Address: promero@eselm.org

Region: Northeast
Survey Date: July 14 - 18, 2014
Program Surveyed: Developmental Disabilities Waiver

Service Surveyed: **2012:** *Living Supports* (Supported Living); *Inclusion Supports* (Customized Community Supports) and *Other* (Customized In-Home Supports)
2007: *Community Living* (Supported Living and Independent Living) and *Community Inclusion* (Adult Habilitation and Community Access)

Survey Type: Focused

Dear Ms. Romero:

The Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau has received, reviewed and approved the supporting documents you submitted for your Plan of Correction. The documents you provided verified that all previously cited survey Deficiencies have been corrected.

The Plan of Correction process is now complete.

Furthermore, your agency is now determined to be in Compliance with all Conditions of Participation.

To maintain ongoing compliance with standards and regulations, continue to use the Quality Assurance (self-auditing) processes you described in your Plan of Correction.

Consistent use these Quality Assurance processes will enable you to identify and promptly respond to problems, enhance your service delivery, and result in fewer deficiencies cited in future QMB surveys.

Thank you for your cooperation with the Plan of Correction process, for striving to come into compliance with standards and regulations, and for helping to provide the health, safety and personal growth of the people you serve.

Sincerely,

Tony Fragua

Tony Fragua
Plan of Correction Coordinator
Quality Management Bureau/DHI

Q.15.1.DDW.D0974.2.RTN.09.14.289