

Service Provider Bulletin



Quarterly Publication of San Diego Regional Center (Wanda Bardwell, Editor) (Nicole Collins, Design Layout) January 2019



In Home Respite Agencies—Please Remember

Only time spent with the client providing service can be billed. Service providers may not bill for hours that were not used by the family. The hourly rate paid by SDRC is the payment in full for providing respite during the authorized hours. No funds above the hourly rate can be requested from the family. There should not be a minimum number of hours required for an agency to provide respite. Respite usage should fit the needs of the family and the individual receiving respite. If you have any questions, please contact Resource Coordinator, Erin Silva at erin.silva@sdrc.org

Minimum Wage Increase

Due to the enactment of Senate Bill (SB) 3, the California minimum wage will increase to \$12.00 per hour, effective January 1, 2019, for employers with 26 or more employees, and to \$11.00 per hour for employers with 25 or fewer employees. As a result, a number of regional center service providers may be eligible for a rate adjustment in order to pay employees the new minimum wage.

Which Providers/Services Are Eligible?

All providers of services with rates established in the following ways may be eligible for a rate adjustment:

- Rates set by the Department of Developmental Services Department (DDS);
- Rates set by regional centers through negotiation;
- Rates established in Regulation.

How Will Rates Be Adjusted?

This depends on how the service rate was set initially.

Rates Set by the Department:

- Community-Based Day, In-Home Respite Agencies, and Work Activity Programs, may request a rate adjustment from DDS if any employee is paid less than the new minimum wage¹. More detailed information can be found at www.dds.ca.gov/minwage
- Community Care Facilities - The updated Alternative Residential Model (ARM) rate schedule, effective January 1, 2019, can be found at www.dds.ca.gov/minwage Providers with ARM rates do not need to submit rate adjustment requests.

Rates Set by Regional Centers through Negotiation:

Rates for a variety of services are set through negotiation between providers and regional centers. Providers with rates set in this manner may negotiate a rate adjustment with the regional center, if applicable to the new minimum wage increase. Providers should contact their local regional center for more information on submitting rate adjustment requests.

Rates Established in Regulation:

- In-Home Respite Worker (service code 864): The new rate, effective January 1, 2019, is \$15.74 per consumer hour.
- Voucher and Participant-Directed Respite (service codes 420 and 465): The new rate, effective January 1, 2019, is \$15.74 per consumer hour.
- Non-Mobile Supplemental Staffing: Pursuant to Title 17, Section 57530, the supplemental reimbursement rate for CBDPs will increase to \$1.44 per consumer hour.

In-Home Respite Agencies may be eligible for a rate adjustment if they pay respite workers in excess of the new minimum wage requirements in compliance with the wage enhancement authorized in Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 4690.2(b)(2).

Where Can I Get More Information?

You can contact your local regional center or review the letter from DDS to regional centers regarding the minimum wage increase or you can contact DDS for questions at (916) 654-2300.



San Diego Regional Center is sponsoring the following training session. Remember to keep written documentation of all training hours (workshops, videos, DVD's, etc.) on file. The target audience is service providers, administrators and staff. All of these classes are approved by Community Care Licensing for credit towards Administrator recertification.

LGBTQ

Presented by:
Brian Newcomer, President
Center for Personal Growth Inc.

Thursday
January 31, 2019

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

SDRC
4355 Ruffin Road
Suite 118
San Diego CA 92123

\$5 per person

The Personal and Incidental (P&I) expenses effective with the January 1, 2019, SSI/SSP payment standard increased from \$134.00 to \$136.00.

**SSI, Social Security Payments
Will Grow In 2019**

Payments to Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries are set to go up a good bit next year.

The Social Security Administration said Thursday that payments will rise 2.8 percent for 2019.

The increase is due to an automatic cost-of-living adjustment, or COLA, that's mandated by law and is based on inflation. It will take effect starting December 31, 2018 for the nation's 8 million SSI recipients and in January 2019 for the 62 million Americans benefiting from Social Security.

For individuals receiving SSI, the maximum federal payment will grow to \$771 per month, up from \$750 this year. Couples benefiting from the program will top out at \$1,157 per month compared to \$1,125 this year.

Some states provide additional funds to SSI beneficiaries, so actual payments may be higher.

This coming year's COLA is slightly higher than the 2 percent increase beneficiaries saw in 2018 and represents the largest year-over-year increase since 2012 when payments rose 3.6 percent.

source: www.disabilitycoop.com



◆PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED◆

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SDICDSI AND RETURN THIS PORTION TO:
MYRIAM GONZALEZ, COMMUNITY SERVICES, SDRC, 4355 RUFFIN ROAD, SUITE 104, SAN DIEGO CA 92123

Name of Service Provider: _____ Phone # _____

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