



November 23, 2011

RE: Annual Parental Fee

Dear Family Member/Family Member:

Recently there was a change in state law (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4785) that establishes an annual family fee for certain families whose children are residing in the family home and receiving services from the regional center.

Effective July 1, 2011, parents of qualifying children under 18 years of age must pay an annual fee based on adjusted gross family income. The annual fee applies to parents whose gross adjusted income is at or above 400 percent of the federal poverty level based on family size who have a child to whom all of the following apply:

- The child has a developmental disability or is eligible for services under the California Early Intervention Services Act (Title 14 commencing with Section 95000 of the Government Code)
- The child is less than 18 years of age
- The child lives with his or her parent
- The child or family receives services beyond eligibility determination, needs assessment and services coordination
- The child does not receive Medi-cal

If your family only receives respite, day care, or camping services from the regional center and a cost for participation is assessed under the Family Cost Participation Program, you are not subject to the Annual Fee.

Families are required to be assessed for the annual fee at the time of their child's annual review or IPP each year. Since your Annual Review date has passed for this year, you are receiving this notice.

Enclosed you will find a form specific to your family and indicating the amount due. This amount should be sent directly to the State of California, Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS) in Sacramento. Please forward this amount and the Annual Family Program Fee – Payment Form to DDS in the enclosed envelope.

Based on the chart in Annual Family Program Fee (enclosed), if you think you may qualify for a lower fee please talk to your case manager about the documentation necessary to make that determination. You should refer to the enclosed Annual Family Program Fee for more information.