March 13, 2017

Dear Providers,

The intent of this letter is to further clarify the new statutory requirements set forth in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Section 4659.2 (b) (1) related to reporting special incidents.

As noted in the North Los Angeles County Regional Center’s (“NLACRC”) previous letter dated August 25, 2016, W&I Code section 4659.2 (b) (1) was amended by the State Legislature on June 27, 2016 to require the following:

(b) (1) All regional center vendors that provide crisis or residential services or supported living services, long-term health care facilities, and acute psychiatric hospitals shall report to the agency designated pursuant to subdivision (i) of Section 4900 all of the following:

(A) Each death or serious injury of a person occurring during, or related to, the use of seclusion, physical restraint, or chemical restraint, or any combination thereof.

(B) Any unexpected or suspicious death, regardless of whether the cause is immediately known.

(C) Any allegation of sexual assault, as defined in Section 15610.63, in which the alleged perpetrator is a staff member, service provider, or facility employee or contractor.

(D) Any report made to the local law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction in which the facility is located that involves physical abuse, as defined in Section 15610.63, in which a staff member, service provider, or facility employee or contractor is implicated.

NLACRC was recently informed that the intent of this new statutory amendment is for service providers to report the above-referenced incidents within the given timeline to the Disability Rights California (“DRC”) office. Please be advised that DRC will be sending formal notices to all regional center vendors that provide crisis, residential, and supported living services, as well as long-term health care facilities and acute psychiatric hospitals, and provide fax numbers and processes for providers to submit special incident reports to DRC.
Please continue to report all incident types noted in Title 17 CCR Section 54327, which is inclusive of the incident types noted in W&I Section 4659.2 (b)(1) to NLACRC within the regulatory timelines. Below is a link to Title 17 California Code of Regulations Section 54327.

http://www.dds.ca.gov/Title17/T17SectionView.cfm?Section=54327.htm

Sincerely,

Stella Dorian

Risk Assessment Supervisor