



COMMISSIONER
Chris Traylor

November 2, 2011

To: Community Based Alternatives Home and Community Support Services Agency
Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 11-137
Cost Containment Initiative Update

In Information Letter No. 11-101, dated September 8, 2011, the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) notified home and community support services agencies (HCSSA) with Community Based Alternatives (CBA) contracts of cost containment measures effective December 1, 2011. The letter addressed new service limits for selected CBA services and the process for requesting an exception to a service limit. You may review the letter by clicking on the following link: <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/communications/2011/letters/IL2011-101.pdf>

In response to stakeholder feedback, DADS has implemented a second level review as part of the cost containment initiative for a:

- service for which DADS first level review indicates there should be a denial of the service limit exception; and
- voluntary service reduction request based on a new service limit.

DADS will work with a provider, as necessary, to determine if additional information is available to support an exception request prior to denial. If a voluntary service reduction request has been submitted, DADS will contact the individual or legally authorized representative and provider to ensure the individual is fully aware of the exception process.

If, as a result of the second level review, DADS final decision regarding an exception request is delayed beyond December 1, 2011, the provider will continue to deliver, and be able to bill for, the service at the current level until the final decision is issued.

If you have any questions about this information letter, please contact the CBA mailbox at cba@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[Signature on file]

Teresa Richard
Director
Center for Policy and Innovation

[Signature on file]

Gary Jessee
Assistant Commissioner
Access and Intake