



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

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LME/MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # J437

DATE: November 14, 2022
TO: Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs)
FROM: Deb Goda, Associate Director, Behavioral Health and I/DD, NC Medicaid
Renee Rader, Assistant Director of Policy and Programs, MH/DD/SAS
SUBJECT: **Clarification on the use of 1915 (b)(3) Respite**

This bulletin provides guidance on the use of 1915 (b)(3) Respite. 1915 (b)(3) Respite is provided consistent with the NC Innovations waiver definition.

The NC Innovations waiver defines respite as follows:

Respite services provide periodic or scheduled support and relief to the primary caregiver(s) from the responsibility and stress of caring for the individual. NC Innovations respite may also be used to provide temporary relief to individuals who reside in Licensed and Unlicensed AFLs, but it may not be billed on the same day as Residential Supports. This service enables the primary caregiver to meet or participate in planned or emergency events, and to have planned time for him/her and/or family members. This service also enables the individual to receive periodic support and relief from the primary caregiver(s) at his/her choice. Respite may be utilized during school hours for sickness or injury. Respite may include in and out-of-home services, inclusive of overnight, weekend care, or emergency care (family emergency based, not to include out of home crisis). The primary caregiver(s) is the person principally responsible for the care and supervision of the beneficiary and must maintain his/her primary residence at the same address as the beneficiary.

The waiver also notes that for provider agencies who operate private Respite Homes:

Private home respite services serving individuals outside their private homes are subject to licensure under NC G.S. 122C Article 2 when: more than two individuals are served concurrently, or either one

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or two children, two adults, or any combination thereof are served for a cumulative period of time exceeding 240 hours per calendar month.

If you have any questions, please contact Kenneth Bausell at Kenneth.Bausell@ddhs.nc.gov.

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