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Governor

State of Connecticut  
Department of Developmental Services



Peter H. O'Meara  
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Deputy Commissioner

**Department of Developmental Services (DDS)  
Respite Center Statement**

In the past, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has been able to open our Respite Centers for seven days a week for several weeks in the summer. It had been possible because DDS received the funding to hire summer workers to add to our existing Respite Center staff who provide respite support five days a week throughout the rest of the year.

As a result of the budget deficit in Connecticut, the full number of summer positions could not be approved. The department is glad that it can continue to have the Respite Centers open all summer but find it unfortunate that we will need to keep the centers on the five day schedule rather than being able to stay open all week. DDS knows that the longer period had given many families the opportunity to plan a week long vacation with other family members however, we hope you will be able to adjust your plans and take advantage of the department's Respite Centers schedules.

This is a temporary adjustment DDS is making for this year. A decision will be made next spring for the summer of 2010 when the department has its budget allocation for the next fiscal year to determine if DDS can return to the seven day a week schedule for the summer months.

We apologize for any hardship this causes your family and appreciate your understanding.