



New Mexico Human Services Department

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INCOME SUPPORT DIVISION INTRADEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

ISD-GI-09-27
DATE: June 29, 2009

TO: All ISD

FROM: *Jen* Helen Nelson, Deputy Director
Income Support Division

RE: Reporting Suspected or Known Abuse or Neglect of a Child and the TANF Program

The Code of Federal Regulations mandates that disclosure of information concerning applicants and recipients of public assistance programs must be limited to purposes directly connected with administering the program. There is one exception regarding the confidentiality of applicants and recipients specific to the TANF program.

Specifically, the Code of Federal Regulations at 45 CFR §205.50(G) provides an exception to applicants' and recipients' confidentiality for reporting information of known or suspected instances of physical or mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, or negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child for the TANF program only.

Suspected or known abuse or neglect of a child is to be reported if the information is obtained during the course of the administration of the TANF program. To report suspected or known abuse or neglect, the Children, Youth and Families Department sponsors a 24 hour hotline for reporting at (505) 841-6100.

Please note there is NOT an exception for reporting suspected or known abuse or neglect, for the SNAP and Medicaid programs. In these instances, contact the ISD Policy and Program Development Bureau or the duty attorney at the Office of General Counsel for further guidance.

If you have questions about this memorandum, please contact Karmela Martinez at 505.827.7274 or karmela.martinez@state.nm.us.