



# MEMO

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## Department of **DISABILITY & AGING**

To: 1915(c) Waiver Providers

From: Jordan Allen, Deputy Commissioner of Program Operations, DDA

Date: January 10, 2025

Subject: Memo 2025-1, Community Participation During Inclement Weather

According to TEMA, "National Weather Service forecasts show a significant winter storm moving through the state with high confidence of accumulating snowfall and moderate to major travel impacts. Most of the state will receive 3-5" of snowfall, but some areas may receive 6-8" with heavier snow bands."

In light of this, providers have asked if DDA would consider allowing billing for those people who cannot engage in Community Participation during that time. The decision has been made by DDA to allow billing for Community Participation in the 1915(c) Waivers for the time period **if** providers document working on community-based outcomes in the home during this inclement weather period.

At the direction of Governor Bill Lee, TEMA Director Patrick Sheehan has issued a State of Emergency to provide regulatory relief due to winter weather in Tennessee effective until 11:59 a.m. on Jan. 23, 2025, or during the emergency period, whichever is less. In concert with the State of Emergency timeline, DDA will allow billing to occur with appropriate documentation during this time period.

Notes must state that Community Participation was not possible due to inclement weather and state the community-based outcomes that were worked on in the home. Ensuring proper documentation is crucial to ensure no recoupments occur in future audits (QA, FAR, State and Federal Utilization reviews, etc.)

For more information about the state of emergency, safety and preparedness information and available resources, please visit [TEMA's website](#). Everyone is encouraged to stay up to date with current weather information through your local news outlets and follow guidance on staying safe during this time period.