

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



July 11, 2007

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

FROM: ERIC FUJI
Deputy Director
Administration Division

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2007-08 BUDGET

The purpose of this letter is to provide information and direction to you concerning the impact of a late budget on programs supervised by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and administered by county welfare departments.

CDSS has reviewed the impact of late enactment of a State budget and concluded that without a budget, the State may only make payments that are authorized under the State constitution, a continuing appropriation, or required in order to comply with federal law. State and federal funds, including funds for administration, will continue to be provided in the absence of a State budget for programs mandated by federal law, such as Food Stamps, including California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) for Legal Immigrants, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), the federal Foster Care program, Child Welfare Services, In-Home Supportive Services, federal Adoption Program, Refugee Cash Assistance, Promoting Safe and Stable Families and Probation IV-E Pass Through.

In the absence of a State budget for programs that are not mandated by federal law, no State or federal funds can be provided. These programs are Adult Protective Services, County Services Block Grant, Community Care Licensing, Emancipated Youth, Foster Parent Training and Recruitment, Group Home Monthly Visits, Independent Living Program, Kinship Support Services and Foster Care Emergency, Options for Recovery and Recruitment, Specialized Training for Adoptions Programs, Support and Therapeutic Options Program, state-only Adoptions Assistance, Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants, state-only Foster Care, Specialized Services, Sacramento Adoptions Opportunity and Seriously Emotionally Disturbed Children.

State programs are subject to the rules that apply to the State's budget process. For this reason no State funds can be provided for state-only Foster Care without enactment of a budget. However, under the provisions of Section 11207 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, State law provides an independent obligation on the part of the counties to continue administering the state-only Foster Care program even though

ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

Page Two

CDSS is not legally able to advance the funds. Therefore, counties should take all steps necessary to ensure that the state-only Foster Care program continues.

We will continue to provide you information concerning budget developments and further direction concerning program implementation, as available.

If you have any questions, please contact Doug Park, Chief of the Fiscal Systems and Accounting Branch, at (916) 657-3390.

c: County Welfare Directors Association