

January 6, 1999

Sharon M. Fujii, Regional Administrator
Administration for Children and Families
Region IX
50 United Nations Plaza, Room 450
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear Ms. Fujii:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Demographic and Financial Characteristics Tables you sent us November 13, 1998. Last month I sent you a letter describing our initial analyses of those tables stating that many of the tables did not give an accurate portrayal of California's demographics. We have completed our more detailed analyses and have determined that there are a number of errors. These include the following.

- Some children are miscoded as adults, and as a result, many of the tables describing the characteristics of family members are incorrect.
- The number of medically insured families is too low; the number should be about 100%.
- The percentage of unknowns in many categories is too high since some children were miscoded as adults.
- Citizenship is miscoded for both adults and children.

The erroneous data portrayed in these tables are due to imprecise and incorrect mapping instructions for converting the state file to the federal file. We corrected these mapping instructions as of December 30, 1998. Data we sent for the last quarter of FFY 98 more accurately reflect the characteristics of TANF recipients. We will be working with your staff to re-transmit corrected data for prior quarters in FFY 98.

Sincerely,

LOIS VAN BEERS, Chief
CalWORKs Data Systems Design Taskforce

c: Bruce Wagstaff

bc: Joeana Carpenter

Carl Laya
Chron