

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



May 10, 2001

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-32-01

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS**REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL**

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: REFERRAL OF CalWORKs CASES TO MEDI-CAL AND FOOD STAMPS

REFERENCE: MPP 40-103.44, MPP 40-109.3, MPP 40-115.232, MPP 40-131.12
MPP 40-159.2, MPP 40-171.212, MPP 40-171.221 MPP 40-181.1(h) MPP
40-183.31, MPP 40-183.4, MPP 81-215.332

The purpose of this All County Information Notice (ACIN) is to serve as a reminder to county welfare departments (CWDs) of the importance of continuing Medi-Cal and Food Stamp benefits to families that remain eligible for these programs. These programs play an important role in California's strategy to support CalWORKs' and working poor families' efforts to achieve self-sufficiency. Concerns have been raised that families whose CalWORKs aid has been denied or discontinued are not accessing other programs to which they may be eligible.

CWDs are required by statute (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 11004 and 11057) and directed by regulation to identify service needs of applicants and recipients and to provide prompt referral to those services. Any required additional investigation necessary to determine eligibility must be completed promptly so that there is no interruption in aid benefits to the family.

Referral to the Medi-Cal and Food Stamp programs must occur for all denied or discontinued CalWORKs cases for a determination of continued eligibility in those programs. Continuation of benefits is also required when the individual is approved for Diversion Assistance and the CalWORKs application is denied. It is important for CWDs to make these referrals to ensure that all needy families and their children receive the assistance to which they are eligible.

The Department of Health Services, jointly with the California Department of Social Services is currently in the process of drafting an All County Welfare Director's Letter (ACWDL) regarding the implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 87. SB 87 prescribes specific processes for the continuation of Medi-Cal benefits when a case is denied or discontinued from CalWORKs. This ACWDL will be released in the near future.

If you have questions regarding this ACIN, contact Linda Lattimore at (916) 653-5830.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Charr Lee Metsker

On May 10, 2001

CHARR LEE METSKER, Chief

CalWORKs Employment and Eligibility Branch

c: CWDA
CSAC