

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



July 26, 2006

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-53-06

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION OF IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES RECIPIENTS AND ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES CLIENTS AS A RESULT OF PROLONGED HIGH TEMPERATURES STATEWIDE

REFERENCE: GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER PRESS RELEASE 7/26/06

The purpose of this All-County Information Notice (ACIN) is to bring to your attention to the Governor's Press Release issued July 26, 2006 requesting that all county welfare departments assess the safety of all In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) recipients and Adult Protective Services (APS) clients as a result of the prolonged heat wave California is experiencing.

It is imperative that counties act immediately to contact IHSS recipients to evaluate their safety and well-being due to the heat, and if recipients cannot be reached by phone counties should deploy appropriate county staff to visit recipients. When evaluating APS clients, they must be contacted only by appropriate county APS staff in order to maintain confidentiality. Counties may also authorize additional hours under MPP 30-757.11(k) Miscellaneous Domestic Services to verify the existence and operation of temperature control devices in a recipient's home when this service need is identified and documented by the caseworker as necessary for the recipient to remain safely in his or her own home. Under situations where the individual is at the maximum allowed time per task for this service, utilize MPP 30-758.4 Exceptions to Time per Task.

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To reimburse IHSS providers counties can utilize an SOC 312 Special Preauthorized Transaction. Counties should use the W/X15 Supplement/Emergency Transaction to make these payments.

Additionally, IHSS providers should be encouraged when providing authorized services to pay particular attention to whether a recipient is in any distress due to the heat and to notify the appropriate APS agency or emergency services authority if they observe a need for intervention.

The Governor has committed the state to pay it's share for the additional county staff time associated with these activities. He has directed the Department of Social Services to work with the counties to ensure that these activities occur. Adult Programs Division (APD) will require counties to document and inform APD daily of the number of people contacted by phone or in person or if the recipient/client could not be reached. In addition counties should include in their documentation a brief comment on the safety and well-being of the individual contacted, (e.g., required medical help). County reports/documents should be e-mailed daily to APD staff Jennifer.Posehn@dss.ca.gov.

For county reimbursement, counties should report all county staff time for this activity through their normal county expense claim. Any questions regarding this information should be directed to Eileen Carroll, Chief of the Adult Programs Operations Bureau, at (916) 229-4000.

Sincerely,

EVA L. LOPEZ
Deputy Director
Adult Programs Division