

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, M.S. 19-31
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-7964



July 8, 1981

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-87-81

TO: ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ADOPTION AGENCIES

SUBJECT: RECRUITMENT - SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

The Department of Social Services and a local television station are developing a series of television announcements which will focus on recruiting homes for specific special needs children who are available for adoption. The program will be aired once a week during the evening news.

The television station will travel within one hour of the Sacramento area to film the children, if necessary. If your agency would like to take advantage of this service, you would be responsible for making the arrangements to transport the child to the filming area. For example, if the child is in San Mateo County, your agency must bring him/her to Vallejo for the filming. When a child is selected, specific arrangements will be worked out with each agency.

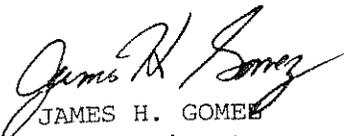
We are requesting local adoption agencies to refer hard-to-place children under their care to the Department to be screened as possible participants in this program.

To assist you in the referral process, we have included a list of criteria to use to select the children and a referral questionnaire to complete which will provide the screening committee with identifying and background information on the children. The screening committee will be composed of State and local agency personnel.

Please return completed questionnaires to Al Colon, Chief, Relinquishment Adoptions Bureau, 744 P Street, M.S. 19-31, Sacramento, California 95814.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact your adoptions program consultant.

Sincerely,


JAMES H. GOMEZ
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA

Attachment



CRITERIA FOR SELECTION FOR REFERRAL FOR
TELEVISION PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILD MUST:

1. Be freed from all parents and ready for placement for adoption.
2. Not be the object of any type of action, (legal or otherwise), by a parent who is trying to regain custody of the child.
3. Be a hard-to-place/special needs child.
4. Be willing to consent to participate in the program, if at an age at which such consent would be appropriate. If a dependent of the court, the court should be willing to consent to the child's participation in the program.
5. Be able to accept the possibility that a home might not be found as a result of the television presentation.
6. Not be in a foster-adopt home.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE CRITERIA, THE CHILD SHOULD, IF POSSIBLE:

1. Exemplify or be typical of a larger group of children under the agency's care.
2. Be a child who probably would not be placed for adoption without media exposure.
3. Be in a situation in which foster parents and the social worker are supportive of his participation in the program.

REFERRAL QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name:
2. Date of Birth:
3. Sex:
4. Race/ethnicity:
5. Is the child part of a sibling group?

If so, what is the placement status of the other siblings?

Should they be placed together?
6. Length of time in foster care, (include number of foster homes, time in present home, adjustment to foster care).
7. Is the child a court dependent?
8. Brief summary of previous adoptive placements, if any.
9. Description of child's problems, (emotional, physical, mental, behavioral, etc.).

REFERRAL QUESTIONNAIRE
(continued)

10. Description of child's personality and temperament, (include strengths and weaknesses).

11. Has the child had media exposure before?

If so, what was his/her reaction?

12. What are child's strengths in terms of his/her ability to cope with not finding a home after the media exposure?

13. Describe the type of home/family this child needs.

14. Why was this child selected for referral?

15. Are the natural parents or other significant relatives in this area? Please specify the relation between the relatives and the child.

AGENCY _____

CONTACT PERSON _____

Phone _____