

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



August 25, 1989

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-59-89

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: ADULT SERVICES ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Adult Services Annual Conference is scheduled for November 8, 9 and 10, 1989. The location of this year's conference will be at the Asilomar Conference Center in Pacific Grove, California. The title of this year's program is "ADULT SERVICES - WHERE THE IMPOSSIBLE IS ROUTINE." The program offers three general sessions and nine workshops addressing various issues related to adult and elderly services. A program is attached describing the workshops offered.

We urge you to support your staff's participation as this conference provides valuable learning experiences to persons working in adult services. The County Welfare Directors Association's (CWDA) Adult Services Regional Committees have put considerable time and effort into designing a program to meet County needs.

The program and registration materials were mailed to each County in late July. For those interested in attending, the registration form and payment must be returned by September 8, 1989. If you have any questions concerning registration, please contact Ms. Annette Nelson, at (916) 934-7714 or Ms. Susana Wilson at (707) 463-2437 for any questions related to the program.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda S. McMahon".

LINDA S. McMAHON  
Director

Attachment

cc: CWDA  
Lee Hunter, Contra Costa Co. SDSS  
Annette Nelson, Glenn Co. SDSS  
Susana Wilson, Mendocino Co. SDSS

## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS - 1989 ASILOMAR CONFERENCE

- A. Investigating and Taking a Case through Court
- This workshop will provide training on how to work within the criminal justice system; the process and stages through which cases pass; why some cases belong in the criminal justice system and some don't. It will also cover how to work with the various law enforcement agencies in your community, particularly with the District Attorney; case investigation techniques; the role of the prosecution.
- B. Assessing and Planning APS Interventions
- Participants will learn how to develop and implement assessment skills in order to diminish inappropriate documentation. They will learn how to form clinical impressions based on assessing the mental health status, medical history, social history and current functioning level of the client. Liability issues will be addressed.
- C. Financial Abuse
- This workshop will concentrate on financial abuse of the frail elderly and dependent adults. Discussion will include such topics as: indicators of financial abuse; documenting and preparing cases for court; types of legal strategies that can be used to protect this population; differentiating between good estate planning and abusive situations.
- D. Fair Hearings: "Everything You Have Wanted to Know about State Hearings and Have Been Afraid to Ask"
- Social Services Staff will gain insight into the Hearing purpose, process, preparation and presentation, including a Hearing overview, appeal process, Goldberg vs. Kelly, evidence and basis of decisions, and the specifics of IHSS and County's role.
- E. Risk Assessments: Their Application to IHSS (Sacramento Model)
- This workshop will include an overview of the dynamics of abuse, neglect and exploitation of dependent adults and elders as that relates to the Risk Assessment Form used in Sacramento County.
- The presenters will explain how the Risk Assessment Form is used as a reflector of the worker's assessment in the areas of abuse/neglect, danger of institutionalization, health issues, and social functioning/isolation. They will show how the risk reading score is obtained and how it is a measurement of client vulnerability. Participants will complete Risk Assessment Forms from case examples.
- F. The End of the Road: Working with the Difficult IHSS Client
- The difficult IHSS client continually tests the casework skill and endurance of the social worker. Constantly testing program limitations, the worker is continually confronted with the perceived inadequacy of his/her response.
- The skilled presenter, in a two-part workshop (participants must sign up for both parts), will assist the participant to understand and experience the anger and frustration of both the IHSS client and the worker. The worker will be helped to understand the dynamics of the situation as well as the appropriateness of limit-setting. This instructional and experiential program will utilize the University of Michigan game "The End of the Line" in assisting the worker to valuable insights into the relationship between "helpers" and persons in need of help.
- G. Working with the Younger Disabled
- Presenters will discuss statewide services available to disabled younger adults. Emotional and control problems unique to the younger disabled that create obstacles to service delivery will also be covered, along with strategies for working affectively with this population.
- H. Building a Community Support System
- In many communities across this state where competition for limited funding has grown more intense and gaps in service have widened, the service professional has frequently become more and more isolated. Within this context, the traditional single-discipline professional affiliations may seem less relevant in meeting client needs and in meeting the support needs for professionals. The development of multi-disciplinary coalitions/networks have fostered the development of new services, new approaches, better planning, professional support and renewed advocacy. Three coalition models will be presented to demonstrate the need and benefits.
- I. Supervising Adult Services Units
- This workshop will present positive, concrete strategies and techniques for the Adult Services Unit Supervisor to use in support of line staff.