

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



September 15, 1998

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-53-98

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL COUNTY PROBATION OFFICERS  
ALL COUNTY COUNSELS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

SUBJECT: OUT-OF-STATE GROUP HOME PLACEMENTS

The purpose of this Notice is to provide information on recently enacted legislation that established important new requirements and procedures regarding the placement of dependent children and wards in out-of-state group homes.

Senate Bill 933 (Chapter 311, Statutes of 1998) requires that out-of-state group homes used by county social services agencies or probation departments for the placement of dependent children and wards must be certified by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to California licensing standards. By August 1999, CDSS will conduct on-site inspections and program reviews to determine that all out-of-state group homes used by California probation departments or county social services agencies meet the regulatory standards required of similar in-state facilities. Group homes determined to meet those requirements will be certified for one year and will continue to be eligible for public funds for the care of California children. Subsequent re-certifications will include annual inspections and program reviews. Additional inspections, program reviews, and investigations will take place as determined by the CDSS.

Pursuant to Section 7911.1(I), only out-of-state group homes authorized by the Compact Administrator to receive state funds are eligible to receive public funds, pending CDSS certification. Effective August 18, 1998, only those out-of-state group homes on the attached list are authorized to receive public funds - county, state or federal - for the care of California dependent children and wards.

In conjunction with these new requirements, CDSS is reestablishing an Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) placement processing function within CDSS to ensure that all ICPC requests into out-of-state group homes meet California statutory requirements. This will not affect ICPC procedures for out-of-state placements into relative or non-relative foster homes. The target implementation date for placement processing by CDSS of all out-of-state group home placement requests is November 1, 1998. Procedures are now being developed, and specific additional information will be available in a subsequent All County Letter.

If you have questions regarding certification standards and procedures, please contact Dave Dodds, Chief, Advocacy Branch, Community Care Licensing Division at (916) 657-2346. Questions related to ICPC policies and procedures should continue to be directed to Ernestine Barbieri, Deputy Compact Administrator, at (916) 445-2807.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By  
Marjorie Kelly on September 15, 1998***

MARJORIE KELLY  
Deputy Director  
Children and Family Services Division

Enclosure

AUTHORIZED GROUP HOMES  
PENDING CERTIFICATION

Excelsior (Colorado)  
Colorado Boys Ranch (Colorado)  
Glen Mills (Pennsylvania)  
Mingus Mountain (Arizona)  
Rite of Passage (Nevada with the exception of the Remote training campus)  
Vision Quest (Arizona)  
Normative Services (Wyoming)  
Azelway (Texas)  
Boys/Girls Town of Missouri  
Boys Town of San Antonio  
Children's Home of Detroit  
Childea Institute (Wisconsin)  
Christie School (Oregon)  
Church of God Children's Home (North Carolina)  
Cinnamon Hills (Utah)  
Desert Hills (New Mexico)  
Devereaux (Texas)  
Devereaux (Massachusetts)  
Heritage Center (Utah)  
Kids Peace National Centers (Pennsylvania)  
Lutheran Family Services of Illinois  
Nashua Child Center (New Hampshire)  
New Hope Treatment Centers (South Carolina)  
Prairie Learning Center (North Dakota)  
Raindancer Youth Services (Utah)  
Sorenson's Ranch School (Utah)  
St. Aloysius Orphanage (Ohio)  
The Boys Ranch (New Mexico)  
Youth Dynamics, Inc. (Montana)