

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



April 30, 1980

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 80-27

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

ATTENTION: QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: CHANGES IN AFDC-QC COUNTY MONITORING

REFERENCE:

Beginning with the April 1980 quality control cases in the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, the statewide federal sample cases falling in the monitored counties will no longer be used for county monitoring purposes.

Counties will continue to receive a monthly AFDC quality control sample list with a sufficient number of cases, based upon the county caseload, to yield approximately 120 or 138 completed quality control reviews per six month sample period. A pre-selected random sub-sample of these cases will be reviewed by state staff after the county reviews are completed. The counties' final error rates will result from the regression formula weighting of the findings in the two samples. Appearance of the same case in both the statewide federal sample and a county sample would be rare and depend upon simple random selection.

There are several advantages in separating the statewide federal sample, completed by state staff, from the county monitoring process. This change will enable state staff to meet federally required case completion targets within the time limits imposed by federal authorities without exposing the state to unusual jeopardy through the federal re-review process. The change also permits adjustments in the size of the monitored-counties' sub-sample in order to achieve more uniform levels of reliability of the final data.

Due to time constraints, few technical changes can be made in this intricate process at this time. The Department will be publishing a quality control review guide which will outline minimum review standards for use by county staff, as well as state staff in their monitoring activities. The guide is a followup on the training provided by Quality Control Bureau staff in the fall of 1978. Aside from changes to less stringent review requirements in certain review elements, the review standards are essentially those currently in use.

No changes are being made in the routing of completed county quality control cases at this time. Counties are urged to submit completed reviews on a flow basis, and to more carefully observe the forty-five day deadline for completing each monthly sample.

Additional information will be provided as refinements are developed. Meanwhile, if you have questions, please contact your State Quality Control Bureau regional or district manager.

Sincerely,



PHILIP J. MANRIQUEZ
Deputy Director
Planning and Review Division

cc: CWDA