

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



June 24, 1994

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 94-53

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS  
ALL COUNTY ILP COORDINATORS

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: TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT PROGRAMS OUT-OF-HOME  
PLACEMENT PILOT PROGRAM

Reference: Assembly Bill (AB) 1198 (Chapter 799, Statutes of 1993)

AB 1198 establishes a five-year pilot project creating Transitional Housing Placement Programs (THPPs) for foster youth in three counties who are also participating in the Independent Living Program (ILP).

Independent Living Program

Requirements governing the ILP are outlined in Division 31, Child Welfare Services Program of the Manual of Policies and Procedures which requires each foster youth, age 16 or over, to have a written, transitional independent living plan. The goal of the ILP plan is to identify the programs, services, and employment which will prepare foster youth for independent living. Program requirements for ILP stipulate that a copy of the transitional independent living plan be provided to each foster youth receiving independent living services. Where ILP services are not appropriate the case plan must document the reasons why they are not appropriate. The ILP services shall be inappropriate only if the foster youth is physically or mentally not able to benefit from such services.

Transitional Housing Placement Pilot Program

As part of the pilot project the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is responsible for developing a licensing category and emergency regulations to accommodate THPPs.

AB 1198 specifies the three different types of program services which can be used for THPPs. The THPP services may include any of the following:

1. Programs in which one or more participants in the program live in an apartment with an adult employee of the licensee; or
2. Programs in which a participant lives independently in an apartment rented or leased by the licensee located in a building in which one or more adult employees of the licensee reside and provide supervision; or
3. Programs in which a participant lives independently in an apartment rented or leased by a licensee under the supervision of the licensee if the CDSS provides approval.

Commencing with the 1994-95 Fiscal Year (FY), AB 1198 requires the CDSS to develop THPPs. The CDSS must pilot THPPs in three counties to provide supervised apartment living services to foster youth who are 17 and 18 years old, who are in out-of-home placement under the supervision of the county welfare department or the county probation department and who are participating in the ILP. Foster youth over 18 years may participate if the requirements in the Welfare and Institutions Code, section 11403, are met.

In order to comply with AB 1198, the CDSS must perform the following tasks:

1. Develop and implement licensing regulations for community care facilities participating in the pilot THPPs in three counties commencing with FY 1994-95;
2. Develop, implement and maintain a rate setting system for licensed community care facilities participating in THPPs;
3. Adopt and maintain regulations that establish a method for determining the rates for facilities participating in THPPs;
4. Approve a plan submitted by the county's ILP prior to the approval of supervised THPPs in a county; and
5. Make information available to the Legislature upon request regarding services rendered.

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Application Instructions for the Transitional Housing Placement Program

Counties interested in being considered as a pilot county for the THPP must submit a letter of intent by JULY 31, 1994 to:

California Department of Social Services  
Joyce Lewis, Manager, Services/Training Unit  
Foster Care Policy Bureau  
744 P Street, MS 19-78  
Sacramento, California 95814

The letter of intent should include the following:

1. The recommendation of the county Board of Supervisors to provide THPP services within the county;
2. An estimate of the number of foster youth who may potentially be served by the THPPs and their duration within the facility;
3. A plan for providing specific THPP services to participating foster youth;
4. An assurance that the foster youth who will be participating in the THPPs are concurrently participating in the ILP;
5. Information on the proposed location, if known, of the housing and the location of nearby schools, transportation and employment if applicable;
6. A plan for providing statistical information upon request to the CDSS;
7. A plan for providing information to the CDSS for evaluation and program review to be used for determining the future growth of THPPs; and
8. Any supporting information as appropriate.

The information received will be reviewed by the CDSS Foster Care Policy Bureau. Counties will be approved as pilot participants on the basis of their ability to meet the criteria and requirements specified in AB 1198 and an evaluation of their letter of intent information.

If you have questions regarding THPPs, contact Joyce Lewis, Manager, Services/Training Unit at (916) 445-0813.

Sincerely,



MARJORIE KELLY  
Deputy Director  
Children & Family Services

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c: County Welfare Directors Association  
California State Foster Parent Association