

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



May 30, 2002

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 02-07

To: County Refugee Coordinators

This letter is to advise counties of proposed Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2002 Targeted Assistance (TA) Program allocations. The Notice of Proposed Availability of Formula Allocation Funding for FY 2002 Targeted Assistance Grants for Services to Refugees in Local Areas of High Need was published by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) in the *Federal Register* on May 28, 2002. Copies of this Notice may be accessed on the Funding Opportunities page of the Refugee Programs Branch's (RPB's) web site at <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/refugeeprogram/>. Counties are encouraged to carefully review the Proposed Notice.

California's proposed TA allocation for FFY 2002 is \$5,544,551, representing a decrease of \$859,323 from last year's final allocation of \$6,403,874. The state's allocation represents the sum of allocations to eligible California counties. County allocation amounts are determined by ORR according to a formula based on each eligible county's proportion of refugee arrivals during FFYs 1997 through 2001.

As described in the Section VI, Part A (Qualifying Counties) of the Notice, FFY 2002 represents the beginning of a new three-year period for which ORR has determined the eligibility of counties to receive TA funding. As in previous years, a county was determined eligible if it ranked among the top 50 areas in the nation according to a formula which takes into account 1) the number of refugee arrivals into the county during the most recent five-year period (FFY 1997 through FFY 2001) and 2) the five-year refugee arrival population as a percentage of the overall county population, with a relative weighting of two to one given to arrivals figures. In addition, this year, counties which did not meet the above criteria but which had received 3,000 or more refugee arrivals during the same five-year period were also determined eligible to receive TA funds. As a result of this determination, two previously eligible California counties – Fresno and Yolo – no longer qualify to receive TA funding. Six previously eligible California counties continue to be eligible: Los Angeles, Orange, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco and Santa Clara. These counties will remain qualified through FFY 2004. The ORR will not consider the eligibility of additional counties for TA funding until FFY 2005.

Section VI, Part B (Allocation Formula) of the Notice explains the basis for the estimates of the state's refugee, entrant and Havana parolee populations. The ORR data for these groups is in line with RPB data. However, as with the recent proposed Refugee Employment and Social Services Program allocations, this part notes that states which have served persons granted asylum within the 60-month period ending September 30, 2001 and/or those certified as victims of a severe form of trafficking may submit data on these groups in order to have their population estimate adjusted. The RPB recognizes that there are significant numbers of persons in California who fall into these categories. In order for the RPB to compile statewide data to submit to ORR, counties are requested to provide the following information on all asylees and/or trafficking victims who have received Refugee Program services:

- 1) Name;
- 2) Alien number;
- 3) Date of birth; and
- 4) For asylees, date asylum was granted and country of origin; or
- 5) For trafficking victims, certification letter number and date on certification letter.

Note: These data elements differ slightly from those which were recently requested to substantiate adjustment of the state's population estimate for the RESS allocation. Please review them carefully.

This information should be reported separately for asylees and trafficking victims. It should be submitted to the RPB in *Microsoft Excel* format via mail on a diskette or e-mail (RPB@dss.ca.gov), to the attention of Brad Elftmann, by close of business on June 14, 2002. The RPB will compile all counties' data and forward it to ORR with a request to adjust the state's population estimate.

General comments on the Proposed Notice are due to ORR by June 27, 2002. The RPB is reviewing it and will determine whether or not it is necessary to submit comments. If counties have comments they wish the state to offer on their behalf, they should forward them in writing to the RPB, also to the attention of Mr. Elftmann, by close of business on June 14, 2002. If counties choose to submit comments directly to ORR, they are requested to provide copies of them to the RPB.

Counties' proposed FFY 2002 TA allocations, as determined by ORR, are shown in Column 5 on the enclosed spreadsheet. A portion equal to five percent (5%) of each county's allocation has been set aside for state administration purposes. As always, counties are cautioned to use the proposed allocations for planning purposes only. Final allocations are subject to federal funds availability and may be less than amounts

indicated in the Proposed Notice. The RPB anticipates that the Final Notice will be published by ORR some time in late July or early August. At that time, the RPB will prepare the state's application for TA formula funds on behalf of all eligible counties. As a part of the application, the state must provide for each eligible county performance goals for each of the six ORR performance outcome measures: Employment Entries, 90-day Employment Retentions, Grant Reductions, Grant Terminations, Employment Entries with Health Benefits Available and Average Hourly Wage at Employment Entry. Counties should be prepared to provide this information shortly after notification of final allocation amounts.

Should you have questions on the proposed allocations, please contact Phyllis Iwasaki, Manager of the Community Development and Fiscal Services Bureau, at (916) 654-2387 or Mr. Elftmann of her staff at (916) 654-7250.

Sincerely,

***Original signed by Thuan Nguyen
on May 31, 2002***

THUAN NGUYEN, Chief
Refugee Programs Branch

Enclosure

**PROPOSED TARGETED ASSISTANCE (TA) FORMULA ALLOCATIONS
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2002**

\$ 5,544,551

| (1) County | (2) Total Five-Year Arrivals¹ | (3) ORR Allocation Based on Arrivals | (4) State Administration | (5) County Allocation | (6) County Administration | (7) Services |
|----------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | <i>FFYs 1997 - 2001</i> | | <i>@ 5% Maximum</i> | | <i>@ 15% Maximum</i> | |
| Los Angeles | 14,035 | \$ 1,801,213 | \$ 90,061 | \$ 1,711,152 | \$ 256,673 | \$ 1,454,479 |
| Orange | 3,763 | \$ 482,932 | \$ 24,147 | \$ 458,785 | \$ 68,818 | \$ 389,968 |
| Sacramento | 10,647 | \$ 1,366,406 | \$ 68,320 | \$ 1,298,086 | \$ 194,713 | \$ 1,103,373 |
| San Diego | 5,461 | \$ 700,849 | \$ 35,042 | \$ 665,807 | \$ 99,871 | \$ 565,936 |
| San Francisco | 3,866 | \$ 496,151 | \$ 24,808 | \$ 471,343 | \$ 70,702 | \$ 400,642 |
| Santa Clara | 5,431 | \$ 697,000 | \$ 34,850 | \$ 662,150 | \$ 99,323 | \$ 562,828 |
| Total | 43,203 | \$ 5,544,551 | \$ 277,228 | \$ 5,267,323 | \$ 790,099 | \$ 4,477,225 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| State Administration Funds | \$ 277,228 |
| Local Assistance Funds | \$ 5,267,323 |
| Total California TA Award | \$ 5,544,551 |

Notes:

¹ Includes Refugees (including Kurdish asylees and Amerasian immigrants from Vietnam), Entrants and Havana Parolees (For FFYs 1999 through 2001, Havana Parolees are based on actual data; for FFYs 1997 and 1998, parolees are prorated based on each county's proportion of the entrant population.)

*** Final allocations are subject to federal funds availability and may be less than the amounts shown here.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.584

Grant Award Period/Service Period: 10/1/02 - 9/30/04