

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



July 8, 2002

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 02-11

TO: COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: EXTENDING THE REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT SOCIAL SERVICES (RESS)
WAIVER

The federal Office of Refugee Settlement (ORR) granted a waiver for RESS monies to be used to fund services to refugees who have been in the United States for longer than 60 months. This waiver is due to expire on September 30, 2002.

In order to continue to provide services to refugees who have been in the country for longer than 60 months, California intends to ask ORR to extend this waiver for another year. To make the strongest case possible for the waiver to remain in place, we are asking you to provide the following information regarding refugees and asylees:

1. A description of economic conditions in your county.
2. Number of refugees/asylees over 60 months.
3. Number of refugees/asylees that were assisted under the current waiver.
4. An explanation of how services would benefit the refugees/asylees over 60 months.
5. Reasons why other funds cannot be used to address their needs, specifically why CalWORKs funds cannot be used.
6. Success stories of refugees/asylees who have been assisted under the current waiver.

Please provide the information to your County Consultant by July 24. The information provided will form the basis of the waiver extension request that we will send to ORR. If you have any questions, please contact your County Consultant.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Thuan Nguyen
7/8/02

THUAN NGUYEN, Chief
Refugee Programs Branch