



CDSS

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GOVERNOR

November 6, 2008

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 08-13

TO: COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS
COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS

SUBJECT: FINAL FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2008 REFUGEE SOCIAL
SERVICES ALLOCATIONS

REFERENCE: CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NO. 93-566

This letter provides counties with final allocations for the FFY 2008 Refugee Social Services (RSS) grant.

Federal Allocation Methodology

The state's final RSS allocation is \$10,074,282, which is an increase of \$1,519,126 from last year's final allocation of \$8,555,156. The federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) determined each state's allocation based on its refugee arrivals in proportion to total arrivals (adjusted for secondary migration) for the period of October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2007. Refugee arrivals include refugees, entrants, asylees, Cuban medical parolees, Havana parolees, and trafficking victims.

Eligible Counties

Counties are eligible to receive RSS funds if they have received at least 400 refugee arrivals during the period of October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2007. Based on that threshold, eleven counties are eligible for FFY 2008 RSS funds: Alameda, Fresno, Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus. However, San Diego County does not receive RSS funding from the state due to its receipt of funds directly from ORR for the Wilson/Fish Alternative Project in that county.

Wilson/Fish Alternative Project

The Wilson/Fish Alternative Project is operated in San Diego County by Catholic Charities under direct contract with ORR. The amount of \$1,215,572 for this project in FFY 2008 was determined by ORR using a Wilson/Fish-specific funding formula and then deducting that amount from California's total FFY 2008 RSS allocation. As stated above, that amount is provided directly to San Diego Catholic Charities by ORR.

State Allocation Methodology

The state's adjusted RSS allocation, after the Wilson/Fish deduction, is \$8,858,710. After setting aside 15 percent of the state's adjusted allocation for state administrative costs, the RPB allocates the remaining \$7,529,903 for county services and administrative costs to counties in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code Section 13276.

RSS funds are allocated based on the number of refugees on aid in each eligible county, weighted according to the length of time that the refugees are in the U.S., as follows:

- 1) A weight of 1.50 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. one year or less;
- 2) A weight of 1.25 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. two years or less but more than one year; and,
- 3) A weight of 1.00 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. five years or less but more than two years.

Data used in the allocation process was obtained from the most recent Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) Report, dated August 2008. FFY 2008 final allocations are shown in the enclosed spreadsheet.

Debarment and Suspension Requirements

Federal regulations require that individuals be prohibited from receiving federal financial and non-financial assistance and benefits, if they have been debarred or suspended pursuant to 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 76. Reasons for debarment/suspension may include a conviction for committing fraud or any other crime or action that shows a lack of business integrity (see 45 CFR Part 76.305 for specific debarment/suspension criteria). The debarment/suspension requirements extend to an organization if a debarred/suspended individual is an officer, director, owner, or partner; or the individual has management or supervision responsibility of the organization.

Counties are required to comply with the debarment and suspension provisions in 45 CFR Part 76 as a condition for receiving RSS funding. When arranging RSS-funded services through a subgrant or subcontract, counties must verify that the subgrantee or subcontractor is not excluded or disqualified from participation in federal assistance programs by:

- 1) Checking the federal General Services Administration's Excluded Parties List System, which has the most current information about persons who have been excluded or disqualified for participation in federal programs. The list can be found at <http://epls.gov>; and/or
- 2) Adding a clause to the contract/agreement in which the contractor agrees to certify that he/she and his/her principals are not debarred or suspended from federal financial assistance programs and services. Example: *"For federally funded agreements in the amount of \$25,000 or more, the Contractor certifies that he/she and his/her principals are not debarred or suspended from federal financial assistance programs and activities."*

For additional information on RSS funding and program requirements, counties can review the ORR "Notice of Final FFY 2008 Formula Allocations to States for Social Services". A copy of the notice may be obtained by accessing the Funding link on the Refugee Programs Bureau's web site at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/>.

Should you have any questions regarding the final allocations, please contact me at (916) 654-4356, or Ms. Camille Ancona, Analyst, Refugee Policy Unit, at (916) 653-7785 or Camille.Ancona@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



THUAN NGUYEN, Chief
Refugee Programs Bureau

c: Graham Knaus, County Welfare Directors Association

Enclosure

FINAL REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES (RSS) ALLOCATION FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2008

*(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.93.566 - Refugee Assistance - State Administered Programs)
(Grant Period - October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2010)*

\$ 10,074,282 Final FFY 2008 RSS Standard Funds
 \$ (1,215,572) Funding for San Diego Wilson/Fish Project ¹
\$ 8,858,710 Final Adjusted State Allocation
 \$ (1,328,807) State Administrative Funds (15% of Adjusted State Allocation)
\$ 7,529,903 Final Funds to be Allocated to Counties

| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) | (11) | (12) |
|---------------|-------------------|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| County | Allocation Number | Adult refugees receiving RCA/CalWORKs who have been in the U.S. 60 months or less ² | | | | | | | Final County Allocations | Final County Administrative Costs @15% maximum | Final County RSS Service Dollars |
| | | Totals by Time in the U.S. | | | Weights | | | | | | |
| | | <1 year | 1-2 years | 2-5 years | (<1) X 1.5 | (1-2) X 1.25 | Weighted Total (cols 5 + 6 + 7) | % of Weighted Total | | | |
| Alameda | RESS0801 | 100 | 63 | 101 | 150 | 79 | 330 | 4.10% | \$ 308,726 | \$ 46,309 | \$ 262,417 |
| Fresno | RESS0802 | 15 | 19 | 363 | 23 | 24 | 410 | 5.10% | \$ 384,025 | \$ 57,604 | \$ 326,421 |
| Los Angeles | RESS0803 | 1,767 | 836 | 920 | 2,651 | 1,045 | 4,616 | 57.41% | \$ 4,322,917 | \$ 648,438 | \$ 3,674,479 |
| Merced | RESS0804 | - | 2 | 135 | - | 3 | 138 | 1.72% | \$ 129,514 | \$ 19,427 | \$ 110,087 |
| Orange | RESS0805 | 141 | 66 | 155 | 212 | 83 | 450 | 5.60% | \$ 421,675 | \$ 63,251 | \$ 358,424 |
| Sacramento | RESS0806 | 201 | 208 | 539 | 302 | 260 | 1,101 | 13.69% | \$ 1,030,844 | \$ 154,627 | \$ 876,217 |
| San Francisco | RESS0807 | 25 | 37 | 43 | 38 | 46 | 127 | 1.58% | \$ 118,972 | \$ 17,846 | \$ 101,126 |
| San Joaquin | RESS0808 | 5 | 4 | 119 | 8 | 5 | 132 | 1.64% | \$ 123,491 | \$ 18,524 | \$ 104,967 |
| Santa Clara | RESS0809 | 106 | 66 | 120 | 159 | 83 | 362 | 4.50% | \$ 338,846 | \$ 50,827 | \$ 288,019 |
| Stanislaus | RESS0810 | 140 | 97 | 44 | 210 | 121 | 375 | 4.66% | \$ 350,893 | \$ 52,634 | \$ 298,259 |
| Total | | 2,500 | 1,398 | 2,539 | 3,753 | 1,749 | 8,041 | 100.00% | \$ 7,529,903 | 1,129,487 | 6,400,416 |

Notes:

¹ The allocation for San Diego County is diverted to a Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. The amount of funding for the project was determined by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement.

² One month data from Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) File Report dated August 2008.