

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO CALIFORNIA

For the
Agenda of:
September 13, 2007
9:30 a.m.

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Department of Health and Human Services
Subject: Report Back on the IHSS Residual Caseload
Contact: Lynn Frank, Director, 875-2002

Background

The Board asked for additional information regarding the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Residual cases and the County costs. The Department is requesting 19 positions to address the Child – IHSS Case need, Overdue Renewals, Current Caseload Size. While these positions will assist with the Residual issue, it will not significantly impact the Residual problem.

Discussion

There are two types of IHSS program services funding: IHSS Plus Waiver/PCSP and Residual.

- ◆ IHSS Plus Waiver and PCSP are Federal Financial Participation (FFP) services and are funded by the federal government at 50 percent; state at 32.5 percent; and the county at 17.5 percent. The majority of the cases are supported by this funding composition.
- ◆ Recipients are in the Residual status caseload, because they do not qualify for Federal Financial Participation. The true Residual cases are IHSS recipients who are not full FFP Medi-Cal eligible. For Residual (non-FFP) recipients, the State pays 65 percent and the County pays 35 percent of the costs. Medi-Cal eligibility determination impacts the funding mix for IHSS services.

Other situations that fall into the Residual status are:

- They hold alien status with prior federal funding participation
- They are Inter-county transfer cases without local Medi-Cal authorization
- They lost Medi-Cal and regained it in the same month
- Discrepancies with social security numbers, case numbers, birthdates; and other data match problems
- Eligibility is terminated because of problems associated with the annual Medi-Cal or SSI renewal

IHSS reviewed all of the Residual cases for May 2007 and identified that 90 percent of the Residual cases were created by the factors listed above. The remaining 10 percent are true FFP in-eligible participants.

- **Costs to the County**

- On average, there are approximately 250 plus Residual cases every month.
- Of those, 90% have lost their FFP status and fallen into the Residual category. The State IHSS Plus Waiver/PCSP Adjustment Report for the last four quarters shows the cost of the Residual caseload as follows:

Residual Case Costs

	Quarterly Actual Costs	County Cost at 35%	County Cost at 17.5%	Difference
2006 3 rd Quarter	\$507,060	\$177,471	\$88,736	\$88,735
2006 4 th Quarter	\$581,360	\$203,476	\$101,738	\$101,738
2007 1 st Quarter	772,653	\$270,429	\$135,214	\$135,215
2007 2 nd Quarter	\$666,178	\$233,162	\$116,581	\$116,581
Annual Total	\$2,527,251	\$884,538	\$442,269	\$442,269

The annualized, potential cost savings to the County the difference between the 35 and 17.5 percent for the 90 percent of the Residual cases that should be eligible for FFP status is \$398,042.

The faster we can get cases off Residual status, the smaller the County cost. Last year, IHSS was authorized additional funding to provide additional eligibility positions to enhance this effort. The factors still affecting this effort are:

- IHSS lacks support staff capacity to effectively monitor the discrepancy reports and act quickly to identify problems and reduce overall County costs
- IHSS social workers are carrying caseloads of 240 recipients and lack the ability to quickly resolve the discrepancies

Respectfully submitted,

LYNN FRANK, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

APPROVED:
TERRY SCHUTTEN
County Executive

By: _____
PENELOPE CLARKE, Administrator
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