

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814

**REASONS 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

November 13, 1998

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO: 98-88

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

**SUBJECT: MINIMUM BASIC STANDARD OF ADEQUATE CARE (MBSAC) AND THE
 MAXIMUM AID PAYMENT (MAP) FOR THE REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE
 (RCA) PROGRAM**

This is to advise counties that California RCA recipients will receive the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in the MBSAC and MAP, equivalent to the COLA provided to California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) recipients. This instruction complies with a September 29, 1998 waiver which was granted by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement. The waiver was requested by the state because, under current RCA requirements, the RCA program follows the last Aid to Families with Dependent Children regulations which were in place when the CalWORKs program was implemented (reference All County Letter Number 97-62). This means that without the waiver, RCA recipients would have a different need standard and payment level from CalWORKs recipients.

Please be advised this waiver is limited to the MBSAC and the MAP only. It does not waive any other requirements, including the method of grant calculation, applicable to RCA recipients. The RCA program is separate from the CalWORKs program and cannot be aligned with the CalWORKs program without federal regulation changes. It is our understanding that new federal regulations are being formulated for the RCA program and are to be released for comment and subsequent adoption in the near future.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Linda Keene, Refugee Programs Branch, at (916) 654-2602.

Sincerely,

***Original Document Signed By
 Bruce Wagstaff on 11/13/98***

BRUCE WAGSTAFF
 Deputy Director
 Welfare to Work Division

c: CWDA