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STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

September 27, 2013

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 13-76

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More CWDs
- Initiated by CDSS

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CalWORKs PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE-TO-WORK COORDINATORS
ALL CONSORTIUM PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS (CalWORKs) SENATE BILL (SB) 1041 IMPLEMENTATION SURVEYS

REFERENCES: SB 1041 (CHAPTER 47, STATUTES OF 2012), ALL COUNTY LETTERS (ACLs) 12-67, 12-72, 12-67, 13-01, 13-02, 13-15, 13-37, 13-52, 13-59, ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE (ACIN) I-42-13, ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTERS (ACWDL) MAY 3, 2013, JULY 24, 2013, WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (WIC) SECTIONS 11320.3, 11454.5

The purpose of this letter is to request County Welfare Departments (CWDs) to complete the attached SB 1041 Implementation Survey. This survey will be reissued approximately three times over the next 18 to 24 months.

Background

The passage of SB 1041 resulted in significant changes to the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, including the establishment of the Welfare-to-Work (WTW) 24-Month Clock, alignment of hours to federal participation requirements, and the new birth to 23 month young child WTW exemption.

Due to the significance of the changes implemented as a result of SB 1041, it was determined that the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) would be conducting Field Monitoring Visits (FMV) to ensure that counties receive the necessary oversight and support to implement these changes. FMVs will review county implementation of program changes enacted by SB 1041 including the WTW 24-Month

Time Clock, the utilization of the new WTW Plan Activity Assignment (WTW2), the completion of the comprehensive discussions, the curing of sanctions as impacted by the alignment to federal participation hours, and the reengagement of formerly exempt participants.

Survey

In addition to the FMV, the CDSS in conjunction with stakeholders, has developed an SB 1041 Implementation Survey, for counties to complete. The intent of the survey is to collect information from counties in order to assess, monitor, and provide ongoing support throughout the SB 1041 implementation process. While the FMVs are being conducted over the next year and a half, CDSS will be requesting that each county complete an SB 1041 Implementation Survey at different intervals of the implementation process. The survey will gather data in addition to that requested at the time of each individual county FMV.

Survey Results

Information provided through these surveys will allow CDSS to gauge the progress being made by the counties in implementing SB 1041 program changes and provide added support and clarification as needed. In July 2013, an SB 1041 Implementation Oversight Workgroup convened to discuss county progress on the implementation of SB 1041 changes including future surveys. The SB 1041 Oversight Workgroup membership includes representatives from the California Welfare Directors Association, counties, the Legislature, advocates, the Department of Finance, and the Legislative Analyst's Office. Once surveys are submitted, information will be collected and analyzed by CDSS and then shared with stakeholder partners. The first set of data will be shared at the next Oversight Workgroup currently scheduled for October 31, 2013.

In order to accurately measure the outcomes of this newly implemented legislation it is imperative that the CDSS receives responses to this survey from all counties in a timely manner. Please have a representative from your county click on the Survey link below, answer each question, and then submit no later than October 14, 2013. Information on two additional surveys will be distributed prior to April 2014 and January 2015.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MYWVZT>

Field Monitoring Visits (FMVs)

More information regarding the FMVs can be found in the following documents:

- ACWDL entitled CalWORKS Welfare-To-Work County Site Visits issued on May 3, 2013, located at http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/coletters/ACWDL%205_13.pdf.
- ACWDL entitled CalWORKS WTW Field Monitoring Visits issued on

July 24, 2013, located at

http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/coletters/CWDLetter724_13.pdf .

- ACIN 1-42-13 issued on August 5, 2013, providing the tools and instructions for the FMV can be found at http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/EntRes/getinfo/acin/2013/1-42_13.pdf .

CDSS is continuing to work with counties on the scheduling of their visits. If you have questions or need additional information regarding this ACL, contact your CalWORKs Employment Bureau county consultant at (916) 654-2137.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

TODD R. BLAND
Deputy Director
Welfare to Work Division

Attachment

CalWORKs

Senate Bill (SB) 1041 Implementation Survey

(Please complete the following questions for the period
January 1, 2013 – June 30, 2013)

1. Please list the name of your county and provide the name and contact information, including email, of the person completing this survey.
2. All County Letter (ACL) 12-67 requires that clients receive a comprehensive discussion regarding the Welfare-to-Work 24-Month Time Clock. As of July 1, 2013, have you completed all of the comprehensive discussions for clients who had less than 24 months remaining on their 48-month time limit of eligibility for CalWORKs cash aid?

Yes

No

If you have not completed all comprehensive discussions, please provide the number of clients who still need to receive a comprehensive discussion, the expected date of completion for those comprehensive discussions, and your strategy for completion?

3. As of July 1, 2013, have you completed all of the comprehensive discussions as outlined in ACL 12-67 for clients who had more than 24 months remaining on their 48-month time limit of eligibility for CalWORKs cash aid?

Yes

No

If you have not completed all comprehensive discussions, please provide the number of clients who still need to receive a comprehensive discussion, the expected date of completion for those comprehensive discussions, and your strategy for completion?

4. Per ACL 12-67, due to the reduction in the mandatory hours of participation for single parent families, counties were required to determine which sanctioned clients appeared to be meeting the new program requirements. How many sanctions have been lifted by your county because a sanctioned client was meeting the new participation requirements?

5. As outlined in ACL 13-01, SB 1041 required counties to reengage clients exempt under the AB X4 4 short-term young child exemption as of December 2012. Counties have until January 1, 2015, to reengage these clients. Has your county begun reengagement?

- Yes
- No

What date do you anticipate completing reengagement?

6. In your county, how many clients were exempt under the AB X4 4 short-term young child exemption in December 2012 and became part of the reengagement population?

7. As of July 1, 2013, how many AB X4 4 exempted clients have you reengaged per ACL 13-01?

8. As of July 1, 2013, how many AB X4 4 exempted clients still need to be reengaged?

9. As of July 1, 2013, how many AB X4 4 exempt clients have been sanctioned for failure to appear per ACL 13-01?

10. If your county has collected any other aggregate data in regards to the population or trends of clients affected by SB 1041, please describe and provide the data. For example, the number of clients who changed their WTW plan based on the elimination of core requirements during the WTW 24-Month Time Clock period.