



CCWRO Welfare News

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News Briefs

✓ Los Angeles County's Call Center requires callers to enter their customer ID and PIN before they are able to talk to anyone. This is in lieu of calling the assigned caseworker. Would not having a customer ID and PIN keep someone from reporting income to avoid an overpayment? Why do beneficiaries of Los Angeles County public benefits have to enter an ID and PIN number before they can talk to their public servants?

✓ Los Angeles County continues the long-standing practice of denying CalFresh benefits to the elderly whose income is between 133% and 200% of the federal poverty level. In addition, DPSS compute benefits based on the actual shelter costs. DPSS has not programmed the computer to comply with state law, thus, the law is often being violated. DPSS has tried training and issuing flyers to no avail. Meanwhile, there are many low income elderly being denied CalFresh benefits or underpayments. What does DPSS plan to do? More flyers and trainings. DPSS refuses to review all cases with elderly households members to insure that they received full shelter deductions.

✓ Los Angeles County refuses to accept applications from asylum applicants, U-Visa applicants and other immigrants. According to legal services advocates of Los Angeles County, DPSS orally deny these folks without issuing notices of action. Oral denials are illegal if any person enters the county welfare department and asks to apply for benefits.

✓ Effective November 1, 2015, San Francisco County will provide diapers as a CalWORKs benefit. When the program is in full operation it will serve 1,300 families at the cost of \$479,000 a year. The program will be operated by Help a Mother Out. www.helpamotherout.org

✓ Effective October 1, 2015 there will be no cost-of-living increase for SNAP/CalFresh. The shelter cost will go up to \$504, which is a \$14 increase.

About 6,000 children will endure a 24-month penalty this Christmas.

According to the Brown Administration, All County Letter 15-59, a Christmas present for about 6,000 impoverished CalWORKs children already living in deep poverty, will take effect by December 31, 2015. That is when the 24-month clock, passed by California's Democratic Legislature, joins only two other anti-poor states, Arkansas and Idaho, to limit CalWORKs to 24-months. Federal law allows the state up to 60-months. Over 31 red states adopted the 60-month timeline. Just in time for Christmas, California has a gift for poor kids – more poverty. Putting it in human terms, Ms. Jones and her 3 year-old who currently receive \$569 as month will get \$350 in January. Her rent is \$500 – can't pay the rent means homelessness with a three-year old. Now that is compassion California style.

Number of children in each county hitting the 24-month clock by Christmas

County	Children	County	Children
Alameda	360	Sacramento	688
Calaveras	2	San Benito	10
Colusa	6	San Bernardino	126
Contra Costa	46	San Diego	504
Del Norte	20	San Francisco	42
El Dorado	8	San Joaquin	120
Fresno	278	San Luis Obispo	12
Imperial	66	San Mateo	8
Kern	16	Santa Barbara	40
Kings	20	Santa Clara	32
Lake	8	Santa Cruz	16
Lassen	16	Shasta	6
Los Angeles	2180	Solano	68
Madera	16	Sonoma	20
Marin	4	Stanislaus	136
Mariposa	2	Sutter	16
Mendocino	6	Tulare	464
Merced	46	Tuolumne	2
Monterey	10	Ventura	42
Napa	4	Yolo	30
Orange	28	Yuba	12
Placer	8	Statewide Total	5826
Riverside	282		



County Client Abuse Report

Los Angeles County Contends That A Person Who Completed The CalFresh Redetermination Was a No Show - Los Angeles CalFresh beneficiary B10XS86 received a letter that he has a 9-2-15 telephone redetermination interview with his worker at the DPSS Lancaster district office. The worker never called. He called the "call center" who made an appointment for him on 9-14-15 at 9 am. That morning, he checked in and at 10 am nobody had called him. He went to the window and finally, a supervisor talked to him. The supervisor assigned another worker to complete the redetermination process including the interview. He then went home. On 9-17-15 he received a notice of action that his CalFresh benefits will stop because he no showed for his appointment. "That is a blatant lie" said Mr. B10XS86, "I not only showed up, but I completed the interview."

Placer County Still Imposing the IHSS 7% Reduction - Ms. 1173977 received a notice of action dated 9-14-15 from the Placer County IHSS office saying that her authorized hours have been reduced by 7.0 percent. This was a genuine CMIPS II-generated notice of action. Seems like the IHSS authority in Placer County was not aware of the fact that the 7% reduction was repealed on 7-1-15 by the State Legislature.

CALHEERS – Turns A Refugee Medi-Cal Case to Restricted Scope Medi-Cal - Ms. 1B52G38 arrived in the United States as a refugee in 1994 and received Medi-Cal. She received a notice of action from Covered California that her Medi-Cal has been changed to "restricted-scope" on 6-01-15. Somehow CalHEERS not only redesignated her Medi-Cal eligibility but also assigned her a new CalHEERS case number.

Conflicting NOAs From Sacramento County – Ms. 1B4SP09 received a CalWork's notice of action dated 8-24-15 stating, "As of 09-01-15, the County is changing your monthly cash aid from \$670 to \$444. Here's why: Your family income has changed. When your family income changes, your cash aid amount also changes. Ms. 1B4SP09 received another notice of action, also dated 8-24-15. This

one states "You recently told the County facts about your case. The county looked at these facts and has figured out that your cash aid will not change at this time." Which one can Ms. 1B4SP09 believe?

Los Angeles County Refuses To Replace Lost Benefits Timely and Is At Least 58 Days Late - In the case of Ms. SH# 14318155, the County of Los Angeles forwarded the demand for reimbursement of \$201.31 for the month of September 2014, to the Auditor Controller's Office after determining that Ms. SH# 14318155 is entitled for replacement of lost benefits. As of December 8, 2014 the claim was still pending with the Auditor Controller's office.

ACL 13-67 indicates that if the investigation is not completed within 25 days, the county must issue repayment of the lost or stolen benefits pending the completion of the investigation. Los Angeles County still refused to issue replacement benefits to Ms. SH# 14318155 when she appeared for a state hearing.

San Luis Obispo County Endangered the Life Of an Eight Year Old Child With Autism – Ms. 15055286, is an 8 year old boy who resides with his parents and two siblings. Ms. 15055286 is autistic and has speech and language impairments. After receiving protective supervision for several years the County decided to stop protective supervision effective 3-1-15. Fortunately, Ms. 15055286 timely filed for a state hearing and received Aid Paid Pending. The judge ruled that the county did not have enough evidence to stop protective supervision. .

San Diego County Denies IHSS Services To A Child Eligible For Services – Mr. 15055354 applied for IHSS on 12-16-14. On 2-13-15 the county social worker attempted to conduct an assessment.

At the time of the application, Minor Child 15055354 was living in a motel. Later he and his mother moved into a women's shelter. On 2-19-15, San Diego County mailed a Notice of Action informing his mother that his application for IHSS services was being denied because he does not live in his own home.

San Diego County's position was that the denial was correct because a women's shelter is not a home under the applicable regulations. Further, while the claimant was living at his own home at the time of the application, he is required to live in a home (though not necessarily the same one) throughout the application/evaluation process. A person is eligible for IHSS-R who is living in his/her own home and who meets all SSI/SSP eligibility criteria, except for income in excess of SSI/SSP eligibility standards. (§30-755.113)

San Diego County made several mistakes in this case. According to the state regulation EAS §30-759.2 "Applica-

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tions shall be processed, including eligibility determination and needs assessment, and notice of action mailed no later than 30 days following the date the written application is completed. ... Services shall be provided, or arrangements for their provision shall have been made, within 15 days after an approval notice of action is mailed."

San Diego County defined "home" too narrowly. Prior to March 27, 2000, a person's "own home" was defined in state regulations as the place in which an individual chooses to reside. An individual's "own home" does not include an acute care hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility/Intermediate Care Facility, community care facility, or board and care facility. A person receiving an SSI/SSP payment for a nonmedical out-of-home living arrangement is not considered to be living in his or her own home. (§30-701(o)(2)), renumbered from §30-753(o)(2), November 14, 1998; revised March 27, 2000)

The regulations cited above were revised but then reinstated because the amended regulations had been issued without meeting the requirements of the Administrative Procedures Act. (*Lubahn v. Saenz*, Preliminary Injunction, Sacramento Superior Court, June 2, 2000)

Under state law, the purpose of the IHSS Program is to provide those supportive services to Aged, Blind and Disabled persons who are unable to perform the services themselves and "who cannot safely remain in their homes or abodes of their own choosing unless these services are provided." (WIC §12300(a))

Mr. 15055354 requested a state hearing and the judge held that San Diego County was wrong to deny IHSS services to Mr. 15055354. The Judge held that a women's shelter is not an acute care hospital, Skilled Nursing Facility/Intermediate Care Facility, community care facility, or board and care facility and as such, constituted a home for purposes of receiving IHSS services.

Los Angeles County Violates The Law And Endangers The Lives Of Disabled Children - On June 18, 2014, Ms. 15062072 applied for IHSS benefits on behalf of her three-year-old grandson (applicant). On December 15, 2014, the county sent a notice of action that denied this application. State regulation 30-759.2 provides that an application shall be processed within 30 days. This application was processed over 150 days late.

On February 3, 2015, the claimant filed a hearing request to contest the denial of the applicant's IHSS application. During a pre-hearing review of the claimant's file, the county determined that the claimant's IHSS application was denied in error.

On April 17, 2015, the claimant and the county entered into a conditional withdrawal agreement, where the county agreed to rescind the December 15, 2014 notice of action and the denial of the claimant's IHSS application; conduct an assessment of the applicant's IHSS needs; and conduct an assessment of the applicant's need for protective supervision effective June 18, 2014.

On May 22, 2015, the claimant asked that her hearing request be reopened because the county did not comply with the terms of the conditional withdrawal agreement dated April 17, 2015. This request was granted.

The hearing was held on July 2, 2015 in Los Angeles County. The claimant, the applicant, and a county representative were present at the hearing. At the hearing the county agreed to rescind the action and hopefully issue benefits after more than a year from the date of application.

Sacramento Denies CalFresh Application Without A Notice Of Action - On July 31, 2015 Sacramento County was informed that RN 504064 applied for CalFresh benefits on 3-3-15. On 4-6-15 CalWIN shows that the case was denied, but no notice of action was ever mailed to the applicant.

Merced County CalFresh Interviews Plus 30 Days From The Date Of Application & Does Not Use The CW 2200 - Mr. RN 503041 applied for CalFresh on 2-3-15. On 2-3-15 the applicant was given an appointment date for 3-10-15. EAS § 63-300.46 states:

"The CWD shall schedule all interviews as promptly as possible to ensure eligible households receive an opportunity to participate within 30 days after the application is filed. The special circumstances of the household, including households with working members, must be considered to the extent practicable, when interviews are scheduled. If a household misses its scheduled interview, the CWD shall send the household a Notice of Missed Interview (NOMI). The CWD shall reschedule if the household requests another interview within 30 days of the initial application filed."

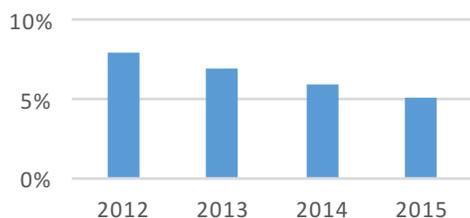
The application was denied on 3-23-15 for allegedly failure to provide verification. The DSS report does not reveal whether Merced County used the CW 2200 to request the verification. **ACL 14-26** mandates that the counties use the CW 2200 when requesting verification.

Legal Service Practice Pointer: Any termination for failure to provide verification without the CW 2200 is an defective negative action and the county should rescind the negative action.

WtW Update plus SB 1041 Impact Analysis July, 2015 California Welfare-to-Work Program Outcomes REPORT

	July, 2012	July, 2013	July, 2014	July, 2015
Number of Unduplicated Participants Participating in a WtW Activity	116,000	119,946	123,637	116,709
Sanctioned Previously and Currently	49,108	51,876	62,973	59,348
Noncompliance this Month	24,927	25,073	27,470	29,897
Good Cause this Month	14,200	13,319	16,516	17,138
Set for Sanctions this Month or Next Month	10,727	11,754	10,954	12,759
TOTAL Number of Families Being Sanctioned and to be Sanctioned Next Month	59,835	63,630	73,927	72,107
PERCENTAGE Unduplicated Participants being sanctioned this month and next month	52%	53%	60%	62%
Secondary Education	317	122	110	100
Self-Initiated Program (SIP)	9,395	8,204	7,457	5,893
TOTAL Participants in Secondary Education - College	9,712	8,326	7,585	5,993
Percentage of Secondary Education	8%	7%	6%	5%
Dollar Loss to CalWORKs Families Due to Sanctions this Month Estimates at \$125 Per Sanction	\$7,479,375	\$7,953,	\$9,240,875	\$9,013,375
Number of Unduplicated Participants Who Entered Employment That Resulted In Termination of CalWORKs	4116	4,108	3,336	4,240
Percentage of Unduplicated Participants Who Entered Employment That Resulted In Termination of CalWORKs	4%	3%	3%	4%
Total Cost for Employment Services & Child Care	\$2,284,070,000	\$2,284,070,000		
Taxpayer Cost Per Unduplicated Participants Who Entered Employment That Resulted In Termination of CalWORKs	\$46,243	\$46,334	\$57,056	\$44,891

WtW Secondary Education Non-Core the Only Possible Non-Core Activity



How much do Californians spent and what do they get? A lot of sanctions and very few jobs.

Is this Welfare-to-Work or Welfare-to-Sanction?

FACT: California leads the nation in child poverty. \$2.2 billion could be better used to lift California's children out of poverty rather than more sanctions.

WtW Sanctions of Unduplicated Participants

