STATE OF CALIFORNIA--HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

PETE WILSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
714/744 P Street
P.O. Box 942732
Sacramento, CA 94234-7320
(916) 657-2941

February 26, 1998

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons

Letter No.: 98-09

ADDITIONS TO LANGUAGE ON NOTICES OF ACTION DUE TO THE HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM

The Healthy Families program is intended to provide low cost health insurance to children with a Medi-Cal share of cost (SOC). The Department of Health Services (DHS) wants to ensure that basic enrollment information is provided to families with potentially eligible children. To meet this goal, DHS is asking counties to add specific language to those notices of action sent to families with potentially eligible children. This All County Welfare Directors Letter will also provide the criteria for identifying the notices of action which will need to have language added.

The following is the language (Spanish translation enclosed) to add to SOC notices sent to families with individuals who meet the Healthy Families' criteria:

> Individuals under the age of 19 years with a share of cost (SOC) may be eligible to the Healthy Families program. The Healthy Families program is a low cost health insurance option for those individuals under the age of 19 with a SOC. If you are interested in the Healthy Families program, please call[1] _____ for information and/or an application. Additionally, this notice should be kept as the information it contains will be needed by the Healthy Families enrollment contractor when processing a request for insurance coverage. If coverage is obtained and premiums are paid, report the information to your eligibility worker as health insurance premiums can be used to reduce your SOC.

The criteria for identifying the notices of action which need to have language added is as follows:

- The notice of action is being sent to an Aid to Families with Dependent Children Mentally Needy/Medically Indigent household;
- The household contains an individual under the age of 19 years with a SOC; and
- The household income is less than 200 percent of the poverty level for the corresponding household size.

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[1] The toll-free number, which will be maintained by the soon to be selected Healthy Families enrollment contractor, is not known at this time. When the toll-free number becomes available, the Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch will promptly distribute the toll-free number to counties.

Counties need to add the language as provided to the described notices by June 1, 1998.

We also suggest the language above be added to any suspense letters generated under the conditions listed above. Please refer any questions to Mr. Craig Yagi of my staff at (916) 657-1182.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosure

Individuos menores de 19 años de edad con parte de costo pueden ser eligibles para el programa Healthy Families. El programa Healthy Families es una opcion de seguro de salud a bajo costo para menores de 19 años de eded, con parte de costo. Si usted esta interesado(a) en el programa Healthy Families, por favor llame _____ para informacion o una solicitud. Ademas, guarde esta notificacion por que contiene informacion necesitada por el contrator de Healthy Families cuando se solicita cobertura. Si cobertura es obtenida y las primas pagadas, informe a su trabajador(a), pr que las primas pueden usarse para reducir su parte de costo.