STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

GRAY DAVIS, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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December 27, 1999

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

Letter No.: 99-77

PERSONAL CARE SERVICES PROGRAM (PCSP) SYSTEMS CHANGES

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties that do not use the Case Management Information and Payroll System (CMIPS) to transmit In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) aid code information to the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) to begin making Electronic Data Systems (EDP) changes to accommodate the expansion of PCSP to the Medically Needy. As described below, these counties will need to be able to transmit new PCSP aid codes and IHSS share-of-cost (SOC) information to MEDS.

Background

As stated in All County Welfare Directors Letter No. 99-13, dated March 29, 1999, PCSP has been expanded to the aged, blind, or disabled-medically needy population. The California Department of Health Services started claiming federal financial participation as of April 1, 1999. This change allowed approximately 18,000 current IHSS Income Eligibles to shift to federally funded PCSP, and is expected to result in net annual savings of $20.8 million State General Fund and $18.5 million in county funds. Income Eligibles will continue to receive services under IHSS Residual if they have services provided by a spouse/parent provider, are advance pay status or receive protective supervision services. Because of the difference in eligibility rules between IHSS (which uses SSI/SSP rules) and Medi-Cal, a SOC buy-out was included with the implementing legislation. This will make it necessary to track the difference in the IHSS and Medi-Cal SOC.

PCSP Aid Codes

The new PCSP aid codes will be 1F, 2F, and 6F effective March 1, 2000. These aid codes will be displayed on the special programs segment of MEDS and will serve as an indicator of PCSP eligibility only. The Medi-Cal eligible aid code must be posted before the PCSP aid code will be accepted. A regular Medi-Cal aid code and SOC will be displayed on the MEDS main screen. County EDP systems must be prepared to transmit this aid code information to MEDS for those IHSS Income Eligibles who were converted to PCSP.

Addition of IHSS SOC Information

In addition to the PCSP aid codes, county EDP systems must be programmed to send IHSS SOC information to MEDS. Counties should prepare a transaction that uses MEDS data element 0719-Medi-Cal SOC. This data element is five bytes in length. This information will be displayed on the special programs segment of MEDS, along with the PCSP aid codes.

If you have any questions, you may call Lea Shalabi of my staff at (916) 654-5689.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

ANGELINE MRVA, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch