

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET

P.O. BOX 942732

SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320



June 10, 1991

Letter No.: 91-57

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

SUBJECT: KAISER PERMANENTE'S HEALTH PLAN FOR FORMER GAIN PARTICIPANTS:
"DUES SUBSIDY PROGRAM-TRANSITION PLAN"

REFERENCE: Department of Social Services ACL 90-53

The State Department of Health Services (DHS) and the State Department of Social Services (DSS) have been working cooperatively since the release of DSS All County Letter 90-53 to encourage the counties to disseminate information regarding the availability of Kaiser Permanente's "Dues Subsidy Program - Transition Plan" (DSP-TP). This optional program provides Kaiser health care coverage at no cost or at sliding-scale fees to qualified Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) participants who were terminated from AFDC due to unsubsidized employment and either do not qualify for Transitional Medi-Cal (TMC), or are being terminated from TMC.

This program is becoming increasingly important since the twelve month coverage period under TMC has concluded for many families. Counties interested in participating can help by distributing Kaiser brochures to former GAIN participants who are terminating from Medi-Cal, so they can apply to Kaiser for coverage. Kaiser will screen them and verify their eligibility, but no medical review is required. Linking GAIN participants promptly with Kaiser is the key to the success of this innovative program.

Overview of the Kaiser Dues Subsidy Program-Transition Plan (DSP-TP):

Kaiser Permanente of Southern California (Transition Plan) and Kaiser Permanente of Northern California (Dues Subsidy Program) have offered two years of free or reduced cost health care coverage to qualified individuals who:

1. have been GAIN participants;
2. have been terminated from AFDC due to unsubsidized employment (increased hours of employment, increased wages, etc.);
3. have been terminated from Transitional Medi-Cal (TMC), or are not eligible for TMC;

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4. are within Kaiser's income and asset guidelines;
5. work for an employer who does not contribute to the cost of a medical care plan; and
6. reside within Kaiser's service area (see enclosed zip code list).

Eligible dependents of the above qualifying individuals may also be covered.

Kaiser Permanente Responsibilities

Kaiser will provide counties with materials to inform participants of the Dues Subsidy Program-Transition Plan (DSP-TP). Participants will then be responsible for contacting Kaiser North or South directly. Once Kaiser learns of an individual's interest, Kaiser will send him/her an enrollment package. Kaiser will determine eligibility (e.g., income and assets limits) for their program.

On a limited basis, Kaiser may also provide the counties with envelopes, mail services, and interim staff. However, counties need to individually work with their respective Kaiser contact person to determine what can be provided.

Welfare Department Responsibilities in Participating Counties

A. Gain Program Responsibility:

County GAIN Program staff in the Kaiser service areas will be responsible for notifying their participants of the availability of the Dues Subsidy Program-Transition Plan. Responsibilities include: distributing informational brochures to GAIN participants regarding the availability of the DSP-TP at both the participant orientation and when deregistering the participant from the GAIN program due to employment.

B. County Medi-Cal Responsibilities:

Counties should transmit Kaiser's DSP-TP information (brochure, prepaid postcard) to former GAIN participants during one or more of the following:

1. When the recipient/family is terminated from AFDC due to unsubsidized employment, and is ineligible for TMC.
2. When the family is sent a mandatory status report required under TMC.

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3. At the end of the initial six month TMC period, if a beneficiary is being terminated from TMC.
4. At the end of the additional six month TMC period.
5. Any time that a notice of action is sent to the beneficiary while on TMC.

Participant's Responsibilities

Once aware of Kaiser's DSP-TP, the interested individual is responsible for contacting Kaiser and indicating his/her interest in the program. The AFDC and/or Medi-Cal termination notice of action must be retained by the individual and brought to the Kaiser interview to verify disenrollment from Medi-Cal, residency, and employment etc.

Contact Persons

If you have questions or require further DSP-TP information, please call the respective Kaiser Permanente, Medi-Cal, or GAIN contact person(s) listed below:

- o Nancy Shemick, (415) 987-4409
Kaiser Permanente-North
- o Maritza Larreta-Moylan, (818) 405-5734
Kaiser Permanente-South
- o Jessie Mar, (916) 323-3969
DSS-GAIN Program
- o Sylvia Finberg, (916) 323-4129
DHS-Medi-Cal Program

Sincerely,



Dennis J. Boyle
Deputy Director
State Department of Social Services

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosures

cc: See next page.

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cc: GAIN Program Coordinators

Medi-Cal Liaisons

Medi-Cal Program Consultants

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Due Subsidy Program
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Oakland, CA 94612

Maritza Larreta-Moylan
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Transitional Plan
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