

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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

May 11, 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.: 99-21

**ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER (ACWDL) NO. 99-12: OUTSTATIONED
ELIGIBILITY WORKER (EW) PROGRAM PETITIONS AND REPORTING UPDATE
DATED MARCH 25, 1999**

The purpose of this ACWDL is to remind counties of the value of the mail-in application process as it relates to outstationing and counties' partnerships with Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHC) and Disproportionate Share Hospitals (DSH). The target populations for mail-in Medi-Cal overlaps with the population currently being served by outstationed eligibility workers.

The annual outstationing letter sent to all newly identified FQHC and DSH facilities, acquaints those facilities with the opportunities of developing outstationing partnerships with counties.

In response to concerns that the FQHCs and DSHs should be further educated about the opportunity to participate in Healthy Families/Medi-Cal for Children and Pregnant women, the Department of Health Services (DHS) has sent an additional letter to those facilities. The letter presents the positive changes to Medi-Cal and the new Healthy Families Program which now make it possible for more pregnant women and children to qualify for Medi-Cal. Working families may qualify. The fact that applicants are no longer required to go to the county welfare office to apply is emphasized. Facilities are also being encouraged to become Enrollment Entities with Certified Application Assistants to assist families in completing and mailing of the applications. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

We see enormous potential in strengthening partnerships between the counties and the FQHCs and DSHs at the local level to achieve the goal of providing health care to all California's uninsured children and pregnant women. DHS appreciates the cooperation and support of the counties in accomplishing this goal.

All County Welfare Directors
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If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please contact
Ms. Judy Hamilton of my staff at (916) 657-3184.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
GLENDA ARELLANO for

Angeline Mrva, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosure

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P Street
P.O. Box 942732
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Dear Hospital/Clinic Administrator:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with additional important information regarding outstationing. This letter is a follow-up to our previous letter dated February 4, 1999, sent to all newly qualified Disproportionate Share Hospitals and Federally Qualified Health Centers.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB) would like to make you aware of the availability of the recently revised joint Healthy Families/Medi-Cal for Children and Pregnant Women mail-in application.

Recent changes to Medi-Cal and the addition of the new Healthy Families Program now make it possible for more children and pregnant women than ever before to qualify for no cost or very low-cost health care. Many working families whose employment does not offer health insurance, or offers health insurance at unaffordable premium rates, can now qualify for health insurance at no cost or for as low as \$4 per child, up to a maximum of \$27 per family per month. Eligibility depends upon the family's size and income. The application is very simple and is mailed in. **A very important change is that applicants are no longer required to apply in person at the county welfare office.**

To facilitate the success of this program, DHS and MRMIB have made provisions for facilities who are interested in assisting persons to become enrolled in health care coverage, to become Enrollment Entities with Certified Application Assistants. Certified Application Assistants are persons who have been trained to assist applicants complete and submit their application for health care. For each successful enrollment into either no-cost Medi-Cal or the low-cost Healthy Families Program, the Enrollment Entity will receive a \$50 assistance fee.

Join us in our effort to provide health coverage for uninsured children and pregnant women. Your participation will make a significant difference. If your facility is interested in becoming an Enrollment Entity, or has further questions, please contact Richard Health and Associates at 1-888-237-6248 for more information.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
GLENDA ARELLANO for

Angeline Mrva, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch