

California
Department of
Child Support
Services

PRESS RELEASE

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TOP PERFORMING COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT AGENCIES RECOGNIZED BY STATE

Awards Spotlight Local Performance in Providing Services to Families

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) announced today awards to California's top performing county child support agencies for federal fiscal year 2008. The top performing county child support agencies – Mariposa, San Luis Obispo, Kings, Alameda, San Diego, Lake, Shasta, Santa Clara and Los Angeles – represent 40 percent of the state's caseload and collected nearly \$545 million that has been distributed directly to families.

"Maximizing every opportunity to work effectively and efficiently at the local and state level strengthens our ability to serve families and increase child support collections," said DCSS Director Jan C. Sturla. "Congratulations to our awardees and to all of our county and regional agencies. Our work gives families a pathway to financial self-sufficiency – helping children thrive."

Five counties were recognized for top overall performance by caseload size: Mariposa (very small), San Luis Obispo (small), Kings (medium), Alameda (large) and San Diego (very large). Top overall performance is based on average rankings in the areas of Percent of Collections on Current Support, Percent of Cases with a Child Support Order, Percent of Cases with Arrears Collections, Cost Effectiveness and Paternity Establishment.

DCSS annually presents county awards by caseload size in the area of top overall performance and in the area of most improved performance in collections on current support – dollars that go directly to families. Also recognized were five county child support agencies that showed the most improvement for FFY 2008 in the category of Percent of Collections on Current Support by caseload size: Los Angeles (very large), Santa Clara (large), Shasta (medium), Lake (small) and Mariposa (very small).

About the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS)

DCSS is responsible for ensuring that all functions necessary to establish, collect and distribute child support are effectively and efficiently implemented. In 2008, California's child support state program collected over \$2 billion and served 1.8 million children. Child support program services are delivered through 52 county and regional child support agencies. For more information, visit our website: http://www.childsup.ca.gov.

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