

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

P.O. Box 419064, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9064

Reason for this Transmittal

- State Law or Regulation Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order or Settlement Change
- Clarification requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by DCSS

September 19, 2001

LCSA LETTER: 01-32

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLANS

The Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) has received additional input and clarification from the Child Support Directors Association and local child support agencies on county performance on the federal performance measures for the first three quarters of Federal Fiscal Year 2001. As a result of the input, this letter provides modification and clarification of the instructions covered in LCSA Letter 01-17. The input has been very helpful.

LCSA Letter 01-17 dated August 27, 2001, required counties to submit performance improvements plans if their performance on the federal performance measures *Collections on Current Support* or *Cases with Collections on Arrears* fell within five percent of the federal performance standard (45%) when averaged over the three quarter period. DCSS was aware that the data on *Cases with Collections on Arrears* was based on an average of three quarters of data and would not provide a completely accurate measure of county performance. However, it was the best information available to DCSS to predict performance.

Since the release of the letter, DCSS has had an ongoing dialogue with consortia counties relative to better ways to measure cases with collection on arrears. In fact, the CASES consortia has been able to provide data for that measure based on the methodology used for the final federal report (not an average of three quarters but a cumulative count as of a point in time). This data changes the performance measure for many CASES counties, often no longer reflecting performance under the required level. Therefore, if a county is able to provide revised data to this office through their Regional Administrator prior to September 30, 2001, that indicates the county's performance is above 45 percent for any quarter or point in time for *Cases with Collections on Arrears*, a performance improvement plan for that measure will not be expected. If the county's performance on *Collections on Current Support* is below 45 percent; obviously, the plan would only cover that measure.

DCSS-RP-2001-PER-0004



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www.childsup.cahwnet.gov

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If you would like additional information, or if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Linda Patterson, Performance Evaluation and Analysis Manager, at (916) 464-5035.

Sincerely,

LEORA GERSHENZON
Assistant Director