

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

October 12, 2001

LCSA LETTER: 01-41

TO: ALL IV-D DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: DCSS SURVEY OF COUNTY CONTRACTING PRACTICES

As you know, the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) is sponsoring an initiative to determine the feasibility of administering contracts for certain services at the statewide level. The objectives of this initiative are to:

- Identify specific types of contracts to be administered at the state level;
- Leverage statewide buying power to derive cost and service benefits on behalf of the counties; and
- Determine the administrative structures necessary to support implementation of statewide contracting.

We have targeted contracts that are primarily related to program performance, and are therefore utilized by all counties. At this time, three prospects for statewide contracting have been identified: genetic testing, service of process and contracts that target activity to a specific program area such as difficult-to-locate or aged collection cases.

At the August California IV-D Directors' Meeting, DCSS announced that you would soon be sent a survey through which you could outline contracting practices in your county. We need your input to scope the size of the initiative and to gain an improved understanding of the county processes used to support these operations.

Please complete and return the attached electronic survey by November 2, 2001. The completed survey should be sent by e-mail to Ira Androphy at Ira.Androphy@dcss.ca.gov. Detailed instructions have been provided within the survey instrument. We ask that you be as thorough and candid as possible in your responses,



LCSA Letter: 01-41

October 12, 2001

Page 2

as they will confirm the viability of attaining the desired benefits, and will therefore carry a great deal of weight in determining the direction in which the statewide contracting initiative will move.

If you have any questions on the survey, or on the statewide contracting initiative, please contact Ira at (916) 464-5513. You may also contact Mike Strazzo at (916) 464-5392, or via e-mail at Michael.Strazzo@dcss.ca.gov.

We appreciate your time and effort in answering these questions. We look forward to working with you to ensure the successful rollout of this initiative.

Sincerely,

JAN SHERWOOD
Deputy Director
Administrative Services Division

Enclosure