

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

March 16, 2007

CSS LETTER: 07-04

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS
 ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
 ALL BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: FEDERAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AND GRANT APPROVAL
 PROCESS

This letter is to notify local child support agencies (LCSAs) of grant opportunities and to detail the application process. Grants provide an excellent opportunity to test innovative approaches to improve services and better serve families. The Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) strongly encourages LCSAs to pursue grant opportunities to fund innovative projects. In order to maximize resources and to further the goals and objectives of the California Child Support Program, it is important that DCSS and the LCSAs work together.

New Grant Opportunities

The Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) has announced opportunities to apply for Section 1115 Demonstration and Special Improvement Project (SIP) Grants for projects which further the national child support mission.

Each year, OCSE determines one or more priority areas for grant proposals. This year the priority area for the SIP Grants is: Developing strategies to work effectively with incarcerated/released non-custodial parents through (1) outreach to offenders; (2) order modification; and (3) partnering with employment/reentry centers.

The three priority areas for Section 1115 Grants are: (1) Increased efficiencies in child support enforcement through reengineering business practices and increasing levels of automation; (2) Improving scores in child support performance, excluding cost-effectiveness; and (3) Improved child support results through collaboration on shared caseloads with other agencies.

Additional SIP and 1115 Grant Information

1115 Grants - Section 1115(a) of the Social Security Act provides OCSE with authority to fund demonstration grants. Only state title IV-D agencies or the state umbrella agencies of which they are a part can receive these grants. The agencies can contract with other agencies, faith- and community-based organizations, universities, or private consultants to join in these efforts. Applications will be screened and evaluated as indicated in program announcements. The Section 1115 funds awarded to each project will represent 29 percent of the total project costs. For the purposes of the demonstration project, the total expenditures will be treated as State expenditures under Title IV-D that will be reimbursed by the regular Federal match of 66 percent. Grantees must provide at least 5 percent of the total approved cost of the project.

SIP Grants - The purposes of the SIP grant program are to provide funding for projects that further the national child support mission and goals and to help improve program performance. Legislative authority for the SIP grant is Section 452(j) of the Social Security Act, which provides Federal funds for research and demonstration programs and special projects of regional or national significance relating to the operation of state child support enforcement programs. No applicant match is required. Eligible applicants include state and local public agencies, non-profit agencies (including faith-based organizations), and tribal organizations.

More information on the grants is available at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/index.html>, and at www.grants.gov.

Grant Submission Process

All LCSAs who are interested in applying for either the 1115 Demonstration or SIP grant are required to first submit a completed Grant Proposal Review Form to the Regional Administrator assigned to your LCSA by **March 30, 2007**. A list of the DCSS Regional Administrators and a Grant Proposal Review Form are attached to this letter. The completed form should include a conceptual or draft proposal for grant submission. DCSS will review each proposal and notify LCSAs about which proposals have been selected. DCSS will also work with the selected LCSAs to complete the final grant applications. SIP grant applications are due to the OCSE by May 2, 2007, and 1115 grant applications are due to the OCSE by May 9, 2007.

Any LCSA who is contacted by an outside organization seeking support or commitment for a grant proposal should first seek review of the proposal by DCSS.

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If you have general questions about these grant opportunities, please contact your Regional Administrator. Please contact Elizabeth Hepworth at (916) 464-5807 for technical questions about grant requirements.

Sincerely,

/s/ Debra Sanchez

DEBRA SANCHEZ
Acting Deputy Director
Child Support Services Division



**DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS
ASSIGNMENTS**

**REGION 1 - Northern
TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS
C. Stewart – L. Gonzales – M. Lawrence**

Butte – Mary Lawrence
Colusa - Lupe Gonzales
Del Norte - Cheryl Stewart
Glenn – Mary Lawrence
Humboldt - Cheryl Stewart
Lake – Cheryl Stewart
Lassen - Lupe Gonzales
Mendocino - Cheryl Stewart
Placer- Mary Lawrence
Plumas - Lupe Gonzales
Shasta – Mary Lawrence
Sierra Nevada● - Lupe Gonzales
(Nevada/Sierra)
Siskiyou/Modoc● - Lupe Gonzales
Sutter – Mary Lawrence
Tehama – Mary Lawrence
Trinity - Cheryl Stewart
Yolo – Lupe Gonzales
Yuba – Cheryl Stewart

**REGION 2 – Bay Area
CHERYL STEWART
(916) 464-2522**

Alameda
Contra Costa
Marin
Monterey
Napa
San Francisco
San Mateo
Santa Clara
Santa Cruz/San Benito●
Solano
Sonoma

**REGION 3 - Central
LUPE GONZALES
(916) 464-5382**

Central Sierra●
(Alpine/Amador/Calaveras)
Eastern Sierra●
(Inyo/Mono)
El Dorado
Fresno
Kings
Madera
Mariposa
Merced
Sacramento
San Joaquin
Stanislaus
Tulare
Tuolumne

**REGION 4 – Southern
TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS
A. Siler – C. Stewart – M. Lawrence**

Kern – Mary Lawrence
Imperial – Cheryl Stewart
Riverside – Annette Siler
San Bernardino – Annette Siler
San Luis Obispo – Annette Siler
Santa Barbara – Annette Siler
Ventura – Annette Siler

**REGION 5 – South Coast
MARY LAWRENCE
(916) 464-0102**

Los Angeles
Orange

**REGION 5 – South Coast
ANNETTE SILER
(916) 464-5496**
San Diego

DCSS Grant Proposal Review Form

LCSA:

LCSA contact person:

Phone number:

Email address:

Date:

Name of granting entity and type of grant(s):

Date grant proposal due:

Amount of grant sought:

Is a match required? If so, amount of match: \$

Target population:

Grant conceptual proposal (add additional pages if necessary):
