

CCWRO Weekly New Welfare News - #2002-02

January 7, 2002

HEADLINES

CDSS RECOMMENDS SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CONSIDER CONTACTING CLIENTS BEFORE MAILING LETTERS TO EMPLOYERS FOR IEVS VERIFICATION

CWD VICTIMS OF THE WEEK –

STATISTICS OF THE WEEK- June, 2001 WtW 25 and 25A Report

**ATTACHMENT - New CCWRO Public Assistance Tables Effective 1/2002-
Changes in the SSI/CAPI programs.**

CDSS RECOMMENDS SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CONSIDER CONTACTING CLIENTS BEFORE MAILING LETTERS TO EMPLOYERS FOR IEVS VERIFICATION

In a letter dated July 27, 2000, CDSS issued a report regarding Santa Cruz county's IEVS program. One of the issues addressed in the report was the fact that in Santa Cruz County "...EW III's contact the employer instead of the client when there is a discrepancy in the wage amounts reported by the client and the abstract. ..."

RECOMMENDATION: Santa Cruz County should consider contacting the client before the employer, because clients may feel uncomfortable if their employer knows they are receiving public assistance when there may not be a discrepancy. This also gives the client the opportunity to clear the discrepancy first and, if the client does not cooperate, the Eligibility Worker (EW) III could contact the employer and discontinue the client for failure to cooperate. Most counties use this procedure."

The sad fact is that most counties do not use this procedure. Most counties mail a letter to the employer alerting the employer that they have a welfare recipient working for them and the letter is generally mailed from the welfare fraud unit, which implies that the employer may have a criminal working for her or him.

This kind of barbaric and unlawful behavior has costs thousands of welfare recipients and former welfare recipients their jobs.

What does your county do? You can find out by mailing a request, under the California Public records Act to receive all forms and policies and procedures for processing the IEVS abstracts in your county. If you need a copy of this report, please contact us and we can mail you a copy.

CWD VICTIMS OF THE WEEK –

Ms. LS of Sacramento County is a recipient of CalWORKs and a refugee from the former Soviet Union. She has been attending English as a Second Language (ESL) classes with her husband.

Her husband recently got a job. Now that her husband is working, the county has stopped paying her ESL transportation supportive services and his transportation supportive services. They never received a notice of action stating that the transportation supportive services would stop. They thought, in America there was due process.

In addition, Sacramento County has been taking \$307 a month out of their welfare benefits alleging that one of their kids was receiving social security benefits. All she knows about social security is that it's an office where you go to get a social security number. They have been in America for less than a year. Their child cannot get SSA benefits. Ms. LS has a filed for fair hearing to restore her transportation benefits.

STATISTICS OF THE WEEK –

As promised, below are the sanction rates county-by-county starting with the county with the highest rate of sanctions for the month of June, 2001. The only county not reporting any sanctions is Los Angeles County. There may be a problem with the Los Angeles LEADER computer system, which has been a nightmare for clients, welfare workers and administrators.

Statewide	15%	Riverside	27%
Humboldt	68%	San Luis Obispo	25%
Merced	58%	Mariposa	24%
Glenn	51%	Sutter	24%
Fresno	49%	Siskiyou	23%
Calaveras	48%	Tulare	23%
Lake	47%	Inyo	23%
San Joaquin	44%	Santa Barbara	22%
Plumas	37%	Nevada	21%
Trinity	36%	Napa	21%
Mendocino	34%	Placer	20%
Tehama	32%	Kern	20%
Alameda	31%	Tuolumne	19%
Sonoma	29%	San Bernardino	18%
Marin	29%	Ventura	18%
Contra Costa	28%	Yolo	18%
Mono	28%	Shasta	18%
San Diego	27%	Stanislaus	16%
Santa Clara	27%	Madera	15%
		Alpine	14%

Del Norte	14%	Sacramento	5%
Monterey	14%	Yuba	4%
Amador	14%	San Benito	4%
San Francisco	12%	El Dorado	4%
Kings	12%	Modoc	3%
Solano	12%	Imperial	2%
Orange	10%	Los Angeles	Not reporting
Butte	9%	Sierra	0%
Colusa	9%		
San Mateo	9%		
Santa Cruz	7%		
Lassen	6%		

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