

# CCWRO Weekly New Welfare News

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## In Brief

### ● **CWDA Annual Meeting with no WiFi or access to Blackberry email.**

CWDA held their 2008 Annual Meeting at the Tenaya Lodge in Merced County this year. Awards were given to Merced County for a great conference. Sources tell us that the lodge did not have wifi and blackberries were generally not working. People had to drive to certain "hot spots" to see their email messages.

### ● **Welfare Officials are collecting "focal points" of suggestions for Barak Obama.**

Welfare officials nationally are collecting suggestions for changes in the TANF law and regulations that would benefit the welfare bureaucracy and they are calling it "focal points." There are some who believe in the Reagan "trickle down" theory that happy welfare bureaucrats would mean happy clients. They are confused. TANF welfare officials have proven record of who they care about - they only using 30% of TANF federal and state money for "payments to families."

● **San Bernardino County Policy for Study/Homework Time.** San Bernardino County released a new policy effective October 1, 2008 relative to student study/homework time that provides for 10 hours per week of supervised or unsupervised study/homework time. A true copy of this policy is available from CCWRO upon request.

## STATE BUDGET UPDATE

### GOVERNOR ATTACKS THE POOR

Last week Governor Schwarzanegger, released another budget plan to balance the budget. Here are some of the highlights of this plan:

○ **10% cut in benefits** - He has prepared a Christmas Present for welfare recipients - a 10% cut in the grant levels - after welfare recipients have given California over 12 billion to balance the budget and contributed \$1.2 billion in the 2008-2009 budget just enacted. This will reduce the meager benefit of a family of three from \$723 to \$651. **\$93.2 million in 08-09.**

○ **No aid for timed out families not meeting work participation rates** - For those kids whose parents can't work because they do not have child care and

transportation, the Governor has a present for those kids - total destitution - no money to pay the rent. Christmas in the streets of California is what Governor Scrooge has in mind for poor children. Saving - **\$80.7 million in 08-09.**

○ **Limiting Child Only Benefits to 60 months** - For families who have been on aid for more than 60 months and aid is only being paid to the children, the Governor has a present for those kids - total destitution - no money to pay the rent. Christmas in the streets of California is what the Governor has in mind for poor children. **\$76.8 million in 08-09.**

○ **Institute a every six month face-to-face meetings with the welfare workers.** This proposal alleges that it would save \$23.3 million in 2008-2009. Actually it would cost twice that much just for the administrative costs. This does not include the child care and the transportation costs and the people who would lose their jobs because they have to spend a whole day at the welfare office checking in with their welfare worker. **False saving of \$23.3 million in 08-09.**

○ **Eliminate Food Stamps for Lawful Aliens who are mostly aged, blind or disabled.** This proposal would eliminate food stamps for hungry aged, blind, disabled and mostly working low-income persons in California who are lawfully in the United States. **saving of \$30.3 million in 09-10.**

○ **Reduce In-Home Supportive Services for the Aged, Blind and Disabled.** These proposals would eliminate in home supportive services to persons who are in danger of ending up in a nursing home. It would also impose a share of cost on some of the aged, blind and disabled and would try to reduce the pay of home-maker chore providers - the working poor with whom the Schwarzanegger has not connection. **Saving of \$118.3 million in 09-10.**

## County Client Abuse Report

Sacramento County mailed a Notice of Action to Mr. B.M. on October 29, 2008 stating that effective 12-1-08 his in-home supportive service hours would be reduced from 47.1 to 28.4 hours. Mr. B.M. also received amended time cards for September of 2008 reflecting the 28.4 hours.