



CDSS

JOHN A. WAGNER
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

April 14, 2011

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-20-11

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- State Law Change
- Federal Law or Regulation Change
- Court Order
- Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- Initiated by CDSS

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
ALL LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY ADOPTION AGENCIES
ALL ADOPTION DISTRICT OFFICES
KARUK TRIBE

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA STATE FOSTER PARENT ASSOCIATION, ET AL. V. JOHN WAGNER, ET AL.

The purpose of this All County Information Notice (ACIN) is to inform counties of the provisions and status of a proposed new rate structure for Foster Family Homes (FFH) in California. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has proposed that the new rate structure be made effective July 1, 2011. Implementation is contingent on approval by the Legislature and final enactment of the budget by the Governor. Upon such approval and enactment, an All County Letter with further clarification will follow.

The need for a new rate structure is the result of a judgment issued by the court in California State Foster Parent Association, et al. v. John A. Wagner, et al. finding that California's FFH rates did not comply with the Federal Child Welfare Act. In order to comply with the court order, CDSS contracted to conduct a study of California FFH rates. The resulting report is entitled "Alternative Proposals For a New Foster Family Home Rate Structure in California" (hereafter referred to as Alternative Proposals). The Alternative Proposals report can be accessed at the following link:
<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/res/pdf/PDFRates%20studyfinal39111.pdf>.

The Department also was ordered to select a new rate structure and provide its choice to the court by April 8, 2011. The CDSS reviewed the recommendations in the report and consulted with the County Welfare Directors Association and counties before selecting a new rate structure to comply with this order.

The new FFH rate methodology is proposed to be a statewide rate with a 50 percent “cost of providing” as described in *Table 1. Proposed Rate Structure #1*, on pages 10 through 11 of the attached report *Alternative Proposals*. A cost of living adjustment would be applied to the proposed new rate every year.

Age Range	Age 0-4	Age 5-8	Age 9-11	Age 12-14	Age 15-19
Current Rate Structure	\$446	\$485	\$519	\$573	\$627
Proposed New Rate Structure	\$609	\$660	\$695	\$727	\$761

The CDSS submitted a report to the court on April 8, 2011, describing the proposed new FFH rate methodology. As stated above, assuming approval and enactment of the new rate structure, an All County Letter with further clarification will be sent immediately upon such enactment.

Inquiries

Any questions or concerns regarding the new FFH rate structure should be directed to the Foster Care Rates Policy Unit at (916) 651-9152.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

GREGORY E. ROSE
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division

cc: County Welfare Directors Association