DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



December 19, 1980

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-136-80

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT:

REFERENCE:

The federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is conducting a study of the quality control payment error rates in the AFDC program. The study is designed to examine the relationship which AFDC program policies, caseload characteristics, socio-economic factors, and administrative methods and costs have to state AFDC error rates. HHS hopes to use the study's data to begin answering questions about what reasonable error rates are, what administrative changes are necessary, and how much these changes will cost.

A part of the study is a survey of the local welfare offices nationally to obtain data on local administrative methods and resources. The survey schedule being used was pretested in several local offices and substantially revised based on test results. Solano and Los Angeles were pretest sites in California.

You have been sent under separate cover a packet containing the following:

- 1. The local agency survey schedule with instructions for its completion.
- 2. A franked and addressed envelope for returning the completed survey to HHS.
- 3. A copy of this letter.

Please complete the survey according to the instructions provided and return it to HHS by January 16, 1981. Also, please make a copy of the completed survey and forward it to:

> AFDC Program Systems Bureau 744 P Street, M. S. 16-31 Sacramento, CA 95814

If you have general questions about the national quality control study or the local agency survey or if you have questions regarding the interpretation of any survey items, contact the federal contact person indicated in the survey instructions. Any other questions should be directed to your AFDC Program Management Consultant at (916) 445-4458.

With the federal 4.0 percent error rate standard (Michel Amendment) now in effect for California and our own legislative interest in AFDC error rates, it is important that we facilitate the acquisition of knowledge about reasonable error rate standards. Consequently, we strongly urge that you complete the survey as fully and accurately as possible. This will ensure that the overall study results are representative of all state and local offices.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

KYLE S. McKINSEY

Deputy Director

cc: CWDA