

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



September 27, 2007

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 07-13

TO: COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: FINAL REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES (RSS) ALLOCATIONS FOR
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2007

This letter provides counties with final allocations for the FFY 2007 RSS Program. The Notice of Final FFY 2007 Formula Allocations to States for Social Services was announced by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) on September 6, 2007 and may be accessed on the Funding Opportunities page of the Refugee Programs Bureau's (RPB) web site at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/>.

Federal Allocation Methodology

The State's final RSS allocation is \$8,555,156, which is an increase of \$12,726 from the proposed allocation of \$8,542,430. The ORR determined each state's allocation based on its refugee arrivals in proportion to total arrivals (adjusted for secondary migration) for the period of October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2006. The ORR's Notice explains the basis for the estimate of each state's arrivals of refugees, entrants, asylees, Havana Parolees, and trafficking victims. The ORR data for these groups in California is in line with RPB data. In March and May 2007, ORR requested states submit data on asylees who were granted asylum and received RSS services between October 1, 2003 and September 30, 2006. The RPB submitted asylee data which was provided by the counties. ORR matched the State's asylee data to federal databases and included the results in the Notice. Of the 3,815 records submitted by the RPB, 2,656 (70 percent) were verified as eligible.

Eligible Counties

The RPB explored lowering the arrivals threshold used to determine RSS eligible counties to 400 refugee arrivals from the current level of 500, due to low refugee arrival numbers. The RPB consulted with the County Refugee Coordinators and the County Welfare Directors Association. After careful consideration on the input received, the threshold will be lowered to 400 refugee arrivals during the period October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2006. Twelve counties are eligible for FFY 2007 RSS funds: Alameda, Fresno, Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, and Yolo. However, San Diego County does not receive RSS funding from the State due to the Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. Additionally, Stanislaus County decided not to participate in the RSS Program for FFY 2007.

Wilson/Fish Alternative Project

The Wilson/Fish Alternative Project is operated in San Diego County through Catholic Charities under direct contract with ORR. Funding for this project, in the amount of

\$1,197,722, is taken from the State's RSS allocation prior to figuring the State administrative costs, and the county allocations. The amount of funding for the project was determined by ORR using a methodology specific to the Wilson/Fish Project.

State Allocation Methodology

After setting aside 15 percent of the State's allocation for State administrative costs, funds are allocated to counties according to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 13276, which became effective on January 1, 2006. RSS funds are allocated based on the number of refugees on aid in each eligible county and on differential weights given to refugees according to the length of time a refugee is in the U.S.:

- 1) A weight of 1.50 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. one year or less;
- 2) A weight of 1.25 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. two years or less but more than one year; and,
- 3) A weight of 1.00 is applied to the number of refugees who have been in the U.S. five years or less but more than two years.

Data used in the allocation process was obtained from the most recent Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System Report, dated June 2007. Final allocations are shown in the enclosed spreadsheet.

If you have any questions regarding the proposed allocations or other information in this letter, please contact Ms. Janet Sandlin, Manager of the Refugee Policy Unit at (916) 654-1246 or via e-mail at Janet.Sandlin@dss.ca.gov, or Ms. Camille Ancona, Analyst, Refugee Policy Unit at (916) 653-7785 or via e-mail at Camille.Ancona@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,


for THUAN NGUYEN, Chief
Refugee Programs Bureau

Enclosure

c: Graham Knaus, County Welfare Directors Association

FINAL REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES (RSS) ALLOCATION FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2007

\$ 8,555,156 FFY 2007 RSS Standard Funds
 \$ (1,197,722) Funding for San Diego Wilson/Fish Project ¹
\$ 7,357,434 Adjusted State Allocation
 \$ (1,103,615) State Administrative Funds (15% of Adjusted State Allocation)
\$ 6,253,819 Funds to be Allocated to Counties

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
County	Allocation Number	Adult refugees receiving RCA/CalWORKs who have been in the U.S. 60 months or less ²							Final County Allocations	Final County Administrative Costs @15% maximum	Final County RSS Service Dollars
		Totals by Time in the U.S.			Weights			% of Weighted Total			
		<1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	(<1) X 1.5	(1-2) X 1.25	Weighted Total (cols 5 + 6 + 7)				
Alameda	RESS0701	50	56	72	75	70	217	3.103%	\$ 194,056	\$ 29,108	\$ 164,948
Fresno	RESS0702	29	102	330	44	128	502	7.179%	\$ 448,962	\$ 67,344	\$ 381,618
Los Angeles	RESS0703	1,303	424	974	1,955	530	3,459	49.464%	\$ 3,093,388	\$ 464,008	\$ 2,629,380
Merced	RESS0704	4	48	138	6	60	204	2.917%	\$ 182,424	\$ 27,364	\$ 155,060
Orange	RESS0705	107	160	83	161	200	444	6.349%	\$ 397,055	\$ 59,558	\$ 337,497
Sacramento	RESS0706	293	336	480	440	420	1,340	19.162%	\$ 1,198,357	\$ 179,754	\$ 1,018,603
San Francisco	RESS0707	49	26	34	74	33	141	2.016%	\$ 126,077	\$ 18,912	\$ 107,165
San Joaquin	RESS0708	5	49	100	8	61	169	2.417%	\$ 151,155	\$ 22,673	\$ 128,482
Santa Clara	RESS0709	147	86	67	221	108	396	5.663%	\$ 354,154	\$ 53,123	\$ 301,031
Yolo	RESS0710	32	29	37	48	36	121	1.730%	\$ 108,191	\$ 16,229	\$ 91,962
Total		2,019	1,316	2,315	3,032	1,646	6,993	100.000%	\$ 6,253,819	\$ 938,073	\$ 5,315,746

Notes:

¹ The allocation for San Diego County is diverted to a Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. The exact amount of funding for the project has been determined by ORR.

² One month data from Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) File Report dated June 2007.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.93.566