

I. WORKING WITH VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Briefly describe how the county will provide training for those county workers who will be responsible for working with CalWORKs recipients who are victims of domestic violence. [Reference: WIC Section 10531 (i)].

Until regulations are adopted by California Department of Social Services in consultation with the Taskforce on Domestic Violence established by the Welfare-to-Work Act of 1997, the county may utilize other standards, procedures, and protocols for determining good cause to waive program requirements for victims of domestic violence, for example, those now used in the GAIN Program. [Reference: WIC Section 11495.15] Please describe the criteria that will be used by your county for this purpose and what approach the county would take to deal with recipients who are identified in this way.

Alternatives to Violence (ATV), the county's domestic violence shelter and service provider, has provided training to the Department in the past. This agency has agreed to continue to provide training regularly, but not less than once a year, for all department employees. In addition, ATV has also agreed to station a staff person at the department two days a week. This staff person will not only work with participants but will also be available as a resource to department staff.

The department, in consultation with Alternatives to Violence staff, has established the following criteria for the waiver of program requirements for paternity establishment, child support cooperation, 60 month time limit on aid, and work requirements:

Paternity establishment will be waived using the criteria developed by the State Department of Social Services. This waiver can be granted at the initial intake and at the yearly renewal.

Child support cooperation will be waived using the criteria developed by the State Department of Social Services. This waiver can be granted at the initial intake and at the yearly renewal.

60 Month time limit on aid: After much discussion between department and ATV staff, all agreed that in the best interest of the participants no waivers of the 60 month time limit on cash aid will be given for domestic violence issues at this time. However, determination regarding this waiver can be revisited in the future, if needed.

Work requirements: Participation in welfare-to-work activities can be waived or altered upon the recommendation of ATV staff. A participant's ability to participate in any welfare to work activities, including domestic violence counseling, will be monitored through a monthly treatment report.