

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



April 28, 2000

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE No. I-46-00

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
 ALL FOSTER FAMILY AGENCIES
 ALL GROUP HOMES
 THE CALIFORNIA FOSTER PARENT ASSOCIATION
 THE CALIFORNIA STATE CARE PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION
 ALL FOSTER CARE EDUCATION PROGRAM DIRECTORS OF
 THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

SUBJECT: **MAY PROCLAIMED FOSTER CARE MONTH**

Recently, Governor Gray Davis proclaimed May 2000 as "Foster Care Month." To honor this event, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Children and Family Services Division, Foster Care Branch will be commemorating the Foster Care Month Celebration on May 2, 2000 at the South Steps of the State Capitol. The theme is "Celebrate the Love You Foster." This event will serve as a kick-off for other activities that will occur in various counties across the State during May in recognition of foster care.

Invited guest speakers at the celebration include California's First Lady Sharon Davis, Health and Human Services Agency Secretary Grantland Johnson and CDSS Director Rita Saenz. Other invited guest speakers include Legislators, foster parents, and former foster youth. All counties are invited to join in this celebration.

The CDSS encourages all counties to coordinate their celebratory events honoring foster parents, youth, and staff involved in foster care during the month of May. The foster care recognition events should highlight the dedication of foster parents in opening their homes and hearts to children whose families are in crisis. Celebratory events should also recognize the diligent efforts of public and private agency staff members who work to locate appropriate homes for children in out-of-home care. Foster Care Month plays an important role in recruiting new foster parents by increasing the public awareness of the large number of children in out-of-home care, and the positive impact foster parents have in the life of a child.

Sincerely,

SYLVIA PIZZINI
 Deputy Director
 Children and Family Services Division

c: CWDA