DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



June 3, 2002

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-38-02

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS ALL FOOD STAMP COORDINATORS

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

- [] State Law Change
- [] Federal Law or Regulation Change
- [] Court Order or Settlement Agreement
- [] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties
- [X] Initiated by CDSS

SUBJECT: FOOD STAMP GRANT OPPORTUNITY

This ACIN is sent to provide you with information on 2002 Competitive Research Grants to Improve Food Stamp Program (FSP) Access.

This competitive grant opportunity was announced by (FNS) to improve FSP access through the use of new technology and partnerships. FNS is seeking research that will educate food stamp eligible persons not currently participating in the FSP about the nutritional benefits and how to apply for the program. Special emphasis is on:

- Low-income (unemployed and working) individuals or families with children;
- former or current recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families;
- veterans;
- elderly individuals or families; and/or,
- immigrants and non-English speaking minorities

FNS expects to award up to 20 competitive grants ranging from \$100,000 to \$350,000 each, depending upon the strategy selected, amounts awarded and quality of the applications.

Any interested non-food stamp governmental authority (e.g., state/local school district, public health clinics, veterans organizations), foundations and other non-profit organizations (e.g., local and national organizations, faith-based organizations, food banks, community groups, chambers of commerce), and/or institutions of higher education can apply.

The application package is available on the FNS web site <u>www.fns.usda.gov</u>. It can be downloaded from this site, or an application package can be requested by writing to: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, ATTN: Bernie Cockrell or Lenny Green, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 220, Alexandria, VA 22303.

Page Two

The closing date for applications is Friday, June 28, 2002, at 5:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time and the grants will be awarded no later than September 30, 2002. The projects will be independently evaluated by an evaluator selected by USDA Economic Research Service.

If you have any questions about these grants, please contact Sonya Hunter of my staff at (916) 654-1459.

Sincerely,

Original document signed by

GARY SWANSON, Chief Food Stamp Branch