

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814



March 1, 2000

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 00-17

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

ALL COUNTY FAMILY PRESERVATION AND  
SUPPORT PROGRAM COORDINATORSSUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR THE FAMILY PRESERVATION AND SUPPORT  
PROGRAM (FPSP) COUNTY UPDATESREASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

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

This letter is to provide you with the guidelines and time frames for submission of county FPSP plan updates for federal fiscal year 1999, the first year of the three-year FPSP plan implementation.

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has the responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the federal FPSP in California. As part of that oversight responsibility, each year, following the submission of the State's consolidated plan, CDSS is required to submit a progress report to the Federal Government illustrating how FPSP funds have impacted program design, the delivery of services, and the quality of life of children and families served. The State is charged with submitting the update as part of the comprehensive report that represents a consolidation of the planning and reporting requirements for Title IV-B programs. The consolidated plan must be submitted by the State no later than June 30, 2000. In order for CDSS to meet this deadline, county FPSP plan updates must be completed and submitted on time.

This year, in addition to reporting on family preservation services and family support services, county updates must include fiscal and program information regarding the two new service categories, time-limited family reunification services and adoption promotion and support services. County FPSP planning bodies are urged to allocate funding specifically for these services. California's statutory definition of family preservation is broad enough to include time-limited family reunification and adoption promotion services, and the definition of family support does not preclude support for adoptive families. Therefore, efforts can also be made to encourage utilization of family preservation and family support services by reunifying and adoptive families. To ensure the federal requirement that a substantial portion of the funds be used to provide services in the two new service categories, codes have been established to

track expenditures. Pursuant to CFL 99/00-43 (December 20,1999), counties should be reporting costs for adoptions promotion and support to Program Code 675, and costs for time-limited family reunification to Program Code 676. This information can then be reported to the federal government.

Attached to this letter is the information necessary for counties to complete the FPSP plan update. Two copies must be submitted to the following address no later than April 14, 2000:

California Department of Social Services  
Children's Services Operations Bureau  
744 P Street, MS 19-90  
Sacramento, California 95814

If you have any questions, or need clarification, please contact Debra Sligar, Children's Services Operations Bureau, at (916) 445-2832.

*Original Signed by:*

WESLEY A BEERS, Acting Deputy Director  
Children and Family Services Division

Attachment

c: County FPSP Coordinators

**FAMILY PRESERVATION AND SUPPORT PROGRAM (FPSP)  
THREE-YEAR PLAN  
ANNUAL UPDATE INSTRUCTIONS AND REQUESTED FORMAT FOR  
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2000**

Please provide a description of your county’s Family Preservation and Support Programs, progress made during the past year, and any changes planned for the upcoming year. Provide the required information under each of the headings:

1. **OBJECTIVES.** Utilizing measurable data, describe progress in achieving objectives. Note any changes in methods and tools used to gather data and measure results.
2. **SERVICE QUALITY.** Describe how the quality of FPSP services is being assessed, and how identified problems are being addressed.
3. **PLANNING BODIES.** Describe any significant changes in the local planning bodies or the collaborative planning process.
4. **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.** Describe technical assistance given by the county that supports service providers and the FPSP plan goals and objectives.
5. **STAFF TRAINING.** Describe staff development and training activities that support the FPSP plan goals and objectives.
6. **BASELINE DATA.** Describe county baseline data collected and how it is being used for evaluations and plan modifications.
7. **SERVICES.** List the percentage of funding allocated for each of the four categories of service. Where FP and FS services are provided to reunifying and adoptive families, including, for example, costs for outreach and education, break out these amounts and include them in the total allocation for time-limited family reunification and adoptions promotion and support.

Service Category	Percentage of Allocation
Family Preservation	
Family Support	
Adoptions Promotion and Support	
Family Reunification	

8. **LINKAGES.** Describe the linkages developed between and among the services under these four categories and other service systems. We are particularly interested in linkages with CalWORKS, substance abuse and mental health treatment systems.