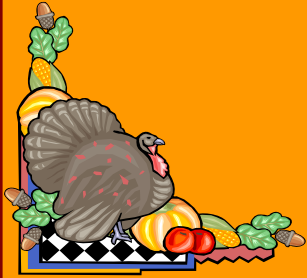


CalWORKs Division

November 2007

NEWSLETTER

Published by the CalWORKs Division



Treatment of College Work Study



The Federal-Work-Study (FWS) Program provides funds that are earned through part-time employment to assist students in financing the costs of postsecondary education.

Earned income from any college work study program is exempt. This exemption is applied for both eligibility and grant determination.

College Work Study earnings are entered into **LEADER** as earned income by completing the following **Data Collection** subsystem screens: **School Information** screen; **Student Financial Eligibility Period Information** screen; and the **Earned Income** screen. When completing the **Earned Income** screen, the College Work Study earnings are to be entered using the "Work Study" income type.



BWS Homeless Line Staff Recognized by CalWORKs Program/Homeless Section for their Service Excellence

At the Joint BWS/BPP Housing Program meeting on October 24, 2007, Lilia Erviti, Deon Arline, Consuelo Monreal, and Jose Salgado introduced the new "**Housing Program Service Excellence**" Award. CalWORKs Program staff conducts numerous presentations on the DPSS Housing Programs to shelters, transitional housing agencies, homeless service providers, and at conferences dealing with homelessness. We get a lot of feedback from administrators, case managers, outreach workers, and homeless families participating in our programs. Once in a while, we hear that an employee is providing excellent service to our community partners and our families in common, thus upholding our County Mission: **To enrich lives through effective and caring services**. We are now recognizing such employees with a small token of our appreciation. During the October 24, 2007 meeting, the following staff received recognition:

- Imara Maravilla, Homeless Case Manager, Metro Family District #13
- Koujy Zeron, Eligibility Worker, Outstationed at the Midnight Mission in Skid Row
- Patricia Parra, Homeless Case Manager, Norwalk District #40
- Freddy Mozo, Housing Resource Eligibility Supervisor, West Los Angeles #09
- Richard Casas, Homeless Supportive Services GSW, GAIN Region III

Reminder- The School Information screen must be completed before entering the College Work Study earnings.



Did you know that the DPSS Homeless "We Care Team" participated in the HomeWalk non-

competitive 5K walk event on Saturday, November 17, 2007 to raise funds to end homelessness? The DPSS team met and exceeded its goal in donations to this worthy cause. **Thank you to all who participated!**



Inglewood Donation

An Inglewood resident recently bequeathed the amount of \$10,000 to the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to assist homeless families who secure permanent housing in the city of Inglewood. This one-time fund will be used by eligible families to purchase beds, cribs, and mattresses. Metro Family, Southwest Family, South Central, Exposition Park, West L. A., and Florence will be responsible for distributing the money.



CHILD CARE TRAINING



During the month of October, staff from the Child Care Program Section conducted child care training at all GAIN Regions and MAXIMUS offices. In all, 733 GAIN Services Workers (GSWs) were trained. The purpose of the child care training was to help the GSWs understand their role in the child care process. The child care training clarified policies and procedures as well as the duties and responsibilities of GSWs in relation to contracted child care Resource and Referral/Alternative Payment Program agency staff. Based on customer satisfaction survey responses, the training was reported to be very useful in clarifying the overall child care process.

ATTENTION PLEASE!



This is to announce the next Child Care Coordinators' Meeting

The next Child Care Coordinators (CCC) meeting will be held on **December 11, 2007** (Tuesday) at 09:00 a.m., at the El Monte/San Gabriel Valley District, 3350 Aerojet Ave., El Monte, CA 91731, in the lower level conference room. Parking is available in the parking structure adjacent to the building.

Deputy District and Regional Directors responsible for child care are encouraged to attend the meeting with their CCC. This will help to ensure that the appropriate material related to the CalWORKs Child Care Program is shared with District and GAIN Regional staff.



CalWORKs Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Advocacy Program Referrals



All CalWORKs participants who are entitled to SSI should receive this benefit. All aged, blind, and disabled CalWORKs participants are to be referred to the CalWORKs SSI Advocacy Program (SSIAP). Administrative Directive No. 4632, dated 6/11/07, provides easy-to-follow, step-by-step procedures for Eligibility staff regarding the SSIAP referral process. SSI Advocates are waiting to assist CalWORKs participants complete their SSI application. Eligibility staff is to refer all aged, blind, or disabled CalWORKs participants to the SSIAP Supervisor via telephone (818/546-6546 or 6524) if the participant is in the district office or via fax (818/546-1244), if the participant is not in the district/GAIN Region.

Because the SSIAP staff reviews all referrals, this is your opportunity to refer CalWORKs participants who are potentially eligible for SSI. The biggest advantage to getting SSI is a higher monthly benefit amount than CalWORKs.

Remember, SSI referrals do make a difference -- a difference in CalWORKs participant's lives.



HOMELESS CASE MANAGERS

This is to remind Homeless Case Managers (HCMs) that they must update PHASE with their referrals to the Housing Locators (HLs). HCMs should maintain all case information current on the PHASE database. HLs are now required to update their services and contacts with participants on PHASE. Proper review and maintenance of PHASE records will facilitate ongoing communication between the HCMs and the HLs.

