



CDSS

JOHN A. WAGNER
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
GOVERNOR

January 13, 2010

RESIDENTIALLY BASED SERVICES (RBS) LETTER NO. 01-10

TO: SELECTED COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
 SELECTED COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS
 SELECTED COUNTY CHILD WELFARE SERVICES
 PROGRAM MANAGERS

SUBJECT: MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY AND AID CODES FOR CHILDREN
 ENROLLED IN THE RBS REFORM PROJECT

REFERENCE: WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE (W&IC) SECTION 300, 600,
 18987.7; ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 1453 (SOTO, CHAPTER 466,
 STATUTES OF 2007)

The purpose of this letter is to provide information about Medi-Cal eligibility and Medi-Cal aid codes for children enrolled in the RBS Reform Project authorized through AB 1453 (Soto, Chapter 466, Statutes of 2007).

The AB 1453 authorized a five-year pilot demonstration project aimed at transforming the state's current system of long-term congregate group home care into a system of RBS programs which seek to reduce the length of time in group care and improve permanency outcomes for children. This is accomplished by combining short-term, intensive, residential stabilization and treatment with follow-along community-based services to reconnect children to their families, schools and communities. This permits children to more quickly "step down" from high-level group care through lower levels of placement into permanency (e.g., in-home placement). The RBS Reform Project serves selected children who are either residing in, or at risk of being placed in, a licensed group home at the time of enrollment into RBS.

Children who are dependents of the state or wards of the court pursuant to W&IC sections 300, et seq., or 600, et seq., and who are receiving or are eligible to receive payments through the Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) program are categorically eligible for Medi-Cal. Children in foster care who meet the federal AFDC-FC requirements are reported to the state as Aid Code 42. Children in

Residentially Based Services Letter No. 01-10
Page Two

foster care who are eligible for the state (non-federal) AFDC-FC program are reported as Aid Code 40.

Children enrolled in the RBS Reform Project will have the same aid code in all placement settings as long as an AFDC-FC payment is being made. Counties are not to re-determine Medi-Cal eligibility while a child is participating in the RBS Reform Project as the child's foster care status continues while receiving RBS services.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (916) 651-7464 or Megan Stout, RBS Consultant at (916) 654-1883.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KBG', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

KAREN B. GUNDERSON, Chief
Child and Youth Permanency Branch

c: CWDA