



CDSS

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EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

June 3, 2013

RESIDENTIALLY BASED SERVICES (RBS) LETTER NO. 01-13

TO: ALL SELECTED RBS COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL SELECTED RBS COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS
ALL SELECTED RBS COUNTY CHILD WELFARE SERVICES
ALL SELECTED RBS PROVIDERS

SUBJECT: REVISED INSTRUCTIONS FOR DATA INSTRUMENTS AND
ENROLLMENT DOCUMENTS FOR THE RESIDENTIALLY BASED
SERVICES EVALUATION EFFORTS

REFERENCE: WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE SECTION 18987.72
RBS LETTER NO. 04-10; RBS LETTER NO. 03-12

This letter provides revised instructions to RBS pilot counties and providers regarding the RBS Reform Project evaluation documents. These documents include the Informed Assent Form for Children/Youth (Assent), Informed Consent Form for Parent/Guardian (Consent), Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), Youth Services Survey (YSS), and Youth Services Survey for Families (YSS-F).

The RBS Reform Project consists of two separate evaluation efforts: a third-party independent evaluation conducted by Walter R. McDonald and Associates (WRMA) and County Annual Reports (CARs) prepared jointly by the county and the private non-profit agency or agencies. The third-party independent evaluation, funded by Casey Family Programs and conducted by WRMA, has provided yearly evaluation reports using the CANS, YSS and YSS-F data submitted to WRMA for children, youth and families who agreed to participate in the RBS third-party evaluation by signing Assent and Consent Forms. These Assent and Consent Forms were required by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) in order for this data to be transmitted to a third-party. Since the final evaluation period for the third-party independent evaluation conducted by WRMA will conclude March 2013, the Assent and Consent Forms are no longer required. The RBS demonstration sites do not need to obtain assents/consents from children, youth and families absent the third-party evaluation.

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As required pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 18987.72(c)(3), the CARs are annual reports prepared jointly by the county and private non-profit agency or agencies and include among other things, an analyses of the involvement of children, youth and their families as well as information regarding their satisfaction with the RBS Reform Project. In order to meet this statutory requirement, the RBS demonstration sites are to continue administering the CANS, YSS and YSS-F tools. Previously, WRMA provided an analysis of the CANS, YSS and YSS-F data and provided this information to the demonstration sites for inclusion in the CARs. Absent WRMA, the demonstration sites will need to conduct this analysis. Demonstration sites no longer need to submit CANS, YSS or YSS-F data tools to CDSS.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the Foster Care Audits and Rates Branch at (916) 651-9152.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Debra Williams for

CHERYL TREADWELL, CHIEF
Foster Care Audits and Rates Branch