CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CDSS) AND TRIBAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF) ADMINISTRATORS MEETING
SUMMARY
November 5, 2013
744 P Street, OB9-Room 1804
Sacramento, CA
9:00 am – 11:30 am

This document summarizes the key issues discussed at the meeting between Tribal TANF Administrators (TTA) and leaders and CDSS representatives on November 5, 2013.

A summary of the last TTA meeting on February 12, 2013 was reviewed and approved without edits.

STATUS OF THE BUDGET

CDSS Deputy Director Todd Bland reported that the State budget passed on time with a majority vote and did not contain any changes to the Tribal TANF budget. The CalWORKs budget included legislation that will increase grants to CalWORKs recipients by five percent effective March 2014. Other legislation changes included the vehicle asset limit being increased to $9,600. TANF Reauthorization is a continuing resolution and is being considered a short term budget issue. Due to the State having different funding sources, the Federal Government shutdown did create a lapse in funding to State programs. Beginning November 1, 2013, there will be an approximate 4.5 percent reduction in CalFresh benefits.

CDSS CASELOAD METHODOLOGY

Paul Smilanick from the Estimates Branch provided an overview of the "Children's Method," which is one method used to estimate Tribal TANF caseloads on the county level. Developed in 2005, this method primarily uses 1990 and 2000 Census data by first looking at number of children and then converting that number to number of households. The 1990 Census only gave the option to select one race, but the 2000 Census gave the option to select multiple races. This has proven to be a challenge when interpolating back to 1994 data in determining caseload numbers. Despite current data sources improving in accuracy, regulations still require the use of 1994 caseloads. It should be noted that this is just one possible method for determining caseload and CDSS is open to all forms of data which could help to accurately estimate the American Indian Alaskan Native populations in 1994.

WELFARE DATA TRACKING IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT (WDTIP)

Moses Salgado, from the Office of Systems Integration spoke about the WDTIP system and how it can assist in determining eligibility based on the time of aid verification process. Counties report this information using one of three systems (CalWIN, LEADER and C-IV). These systems show three pieces of information: 1) Total TANF

months used, 2) last month the client was aided and 3) last county client received aid in. The number of months on aid represents the total time on aid, minus any exemptions the client might have received (ex 50% unemployment exemption). Information such as benefit amount, receipt of CalFresh, Medi-cal or time on aid for minors is not provided. Only the county has modification privileges and WDTIP cannot update any of the data. When submitting a request for client information, two of the following three items will be required:

1) Name
2) Social Security Number
3) Date of Birth

This information is provided in real time based of that specific point in time. Typical turn-around time for time on aid requests is 24 to 48 hours. Please send all inquiries to WDTIP2@osi.ca.gov.

MEDSLITE TRAINING UPDATE

Erni Crowder will be setting up a MEDSLITE training. This will be a walk through with a test case.

EXHIBIT B

Tribal TANF Analyst, Owen Stewart touched on a few points about the Schedule of Functional Expenses Exhibit B, Schedule of Functional Expenses form. The key points related to the Exhibit B mirroring the regulations of the Feds. Any purchase over $5,000 needs prior approval for use of TANF funds. Also, there is a State Administrative Cap of 15 percent for administrative expenses. If there are any further questions, please email Owen at owen.stewart@dss.ca.gov.

NEW BUSINESS

Unemployment Disability
Child Support
DMV
Foster Care Aid Duplication.

NEXT TRIBAL TANF ADMINISTRATORS MEETING

February 11, 2014 9:00 am – 11 am

HANDOUTS:

- Caseload County X
- WDTIP Overview
- Exhibit B

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