



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

August 30, 2011

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS Letter No. :11-28
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: WRAPAROUND SERVICES PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN
(Reference: All County Welfare Directors Letter Numbers: 86-68, 00-22)

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties that the California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) Wraparound Services Program for Children (Wraparound) is no longer a pilot project, in accordance with CDSS All County Information Notice I-36-11. Assembly Bill (AB) 1758 (Chaptered 561, Statutes of 2010) changed the Wraparound from a pilot project to an optional statewide program. AB 1758 also makes it clear that being in Wraparound does not, by itself, change the child's eligibility for Medi-Cal.

Background

Wraparound is an individualized, family centered, strength-based program that provides individualized services and support for children and their families. Wraparound services provide a way for children, who would otherwise be placed in a high-level group home, to remain at home with their family and in the community.

Wraparound's change from a "pilot project" to a "statewide permanent program" (as enacted by AB 1758) does not change any of the rules, policies, or procedures concerning Medi-Cal eligibility determinations, or which services can be covered under the Medi-Cal program. State law provides that children in foster care, for whom public agencies assume financial responsibility, in whole or in part, are eligible for Medi-Cal benefits under the "medically needy" program, or under other potentially applicable Medi-Cal programs. Therefore, children in Wraparound are subject to annual Medi-Cal redeterminations pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 14012.

All County Welfare Directors Letter No.:11-28
Page 2
August 30, 2011

Placement at home of children in Wraparound, without a change in the child's status as an adjudicated dependent or ward of the juvenile court, is not cause for a redetermination for either Title IV-E or state-only foster care children, unless necessary to obtain federal financial participation for Medi-Cal. A change of circumstance redetermination is required whenever the beneficiary reports, or the county learns of a change in circumstance that may affect ongoing eligibility for Medi-Cal benefits.

Children in Wraparound receiving benefits under Title IV-E of the Federal Social Security Act are eligible for Medi-Cal benefits as long as Title IV-E foster care maintenance payments are made on the child's behalf. These children will be in aid code 42. Children who are not receiving benefits under Title IV-E are evaluated for state-only foster care benefits and will be in aid code 40. For specific instructions for Wraparound, counties can refer to the CDSS All County Information Notices I-74-97, I-24-98, I-28-99, and I-55-00; and County Fiscal Letter 01/02-32.

If you have questions about this letter, please contact Rose Pankratz at (916) 327-0422, or by e-mail at rose.pankratz@dhcs.ca.gov. If you have questions regarding the Wraparound, please contact a CDSS county Wraparound consultant at (916) 651-6600 or wraparound.questions@dss.ca.gov.

Original signed by:

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Medi-Cal Eligibility Division