

NLWJC - Kagan

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Welfare-Public Outreach



March 14, 1997

MEMORANDUM

TO: Maria Echaveste, Office of Public Liaison

FROM: Michael King, Welfare Outreach Coordinator, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning & Evaluation

SUBJECT: Welfare Reform Outreach Strategies

BACKGROUND

At a recent meeting in Bruce Reed's office, John Monahan described public outreach concerning welfare reform being undertaken by HHS and other Federal agencies.

As you consider a variety of welfare reform outreach strategies, we thought it might be helpful to review in writing the activities that have been conducted to date.

Since President Clinton signed Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act on August 22, 1996, HHS officials have been working with our colleagues in other agencies, both in Washington and the regions, to (1) provide briefings and best practices information regarding the new law, (2) conduct consultations relating to regulations and policy guidelines, and (3) disseminate written and electronic information to a wide variety of stakeholders and other interested parties.

Attached you will find a preliminary list of the briefings and consultations that HHS's Regional Offices and other agencies have held regarding welfare reform implementation.

I. BRIEFINGS AND BEST PRACTICES

In collaboration with other Federal agencies, HHS's Regional Directors, in each of the ten Federal regions, have convened a Federal interagency task force on welfare reform implementation. Although membership in these task forces varies somewhat from region to region, almost all include (in addition to HHS) the Department of Agriculture, Social Security Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Labor, Department of Education, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Transportation, and the Small Business Administration.

To date, these regional task forces have made presentations to numerous Governors' staff, state agency officials, state legislators, mayors, county officials, religious institutions, advocates, nonprofits, foundations, labor, business, and other interested groups. This ongoing effort to keep state and local organizations informed has proven to be an effective communications tool and partnership building exercise as the state and national welfare implementation debate continues to evolve.

In addition, as you know HHS headquarters staff have provided briefings to hundreds of individuals and organizations, including states, localities, advocates, labor, foundations, business, nonprofits and the faith community.

2. CONSULTATIONS

HHS has been working closely with state and local officials as well as human service providers to share information, experience and suggestions for how best to implement the new welfare reform legislation. During the past few months, both Washington-based and regional HHS staff have hosted numerous consultation sessions with these individual organizations across the country as we have worked to begin writing regulations required by the new law.

These interactive consultations are ongoing and will help to incorporate the views and concerns of the broad spectrum of individuals and organizations that will be most directly affected by welfare reform. We expect these discussions will result in better regulations, generating thoughtful and informed comments from a wide variety of audiences.

3. DISSEMINATION OF WRITTEN AND ELECTRONIC MATERIALS

In the next week, HHS will send out the first in a series of multi-agency Welfare Reform informational mailings to more than 2,500 elected officials and constituencies across the country. The first mailing is a manual of compiled welfare implementation materials and provides basic summaries of the law and contains all significant policy guidance relating to welfare reform provided thus far by Federal agencies. This manual leads with lists of Federal contacts in agency headquarters and regional offices as well as website information for locations of materials not contained in the manual.

Please feel free to contact Michael King, at (202) 690-7508 if you wish any further information relating to welfare reform outreach efforts.

CC: Bruce Reed, Domestic Policy Council
Sylvia Matthews, Deputy Chief of Staff
Elena Kagan, Domestic Policy Council
Marcia Hale, Intergovernmental Affairs
Emily Bromberg, Intergovernmental Affairs
Pauline Abernathy, Office of the First Lady

**Central Office Regulatory Consultation Meetings
on TANF and Child Support (1/14/97)**

Topic	Organization	Date
Performance Bonus	NGA/APWA	11/15/96
Child Support Inf. Systems	NGA, APWA NCSL	11/26/96
Work Req./Penalties Data Collection	NGA/APWA/NCSL	12/5/96
TANF regs	APWA -- National meeting	12/9/96
High Performance Bonus	APWA -- National meeting	12/10/96
Data Collection	Experts *	12/16/96
All TANF Regulations	Organized Labor (SIEU, AFSCME, AFL-CIO)	12/16/96
Child Support Enforcement Regulations	U.S. Conf. of Mayors Nat. League of Cities Nat. Assoc. of Counties	12/17/96
All TANF Regulations	General Advocates **	12/18/96
Child Support Inf. Systems	USCM, NLC and NACo	12/17/96
Performance Bonus	NGA, APWA and NCSL (follow up discussion)	12/19/96
All TANF Regulations	Advocates (CLASP, CDF, CBPP)	12/19/96
Performance Bonus	Experts ***	1/8/97

* Some of the experts that attended the meeting included: Kris Moore, Child Trends; Stephen Friedman, MDRC; La Donna Pavetti, Urban Institute; Barry Van Lare, WIN; Tom Corbett, Univ. of Wisconsin; Joe Hots; Univ. of Chicago; Robert Muffitt, John Hopkins; and Jo Weber, State of California.

** Organizations that attended the meeting included; Coalition on Human Needs, National Association of Social Workers, Women's Legal Defense Fund, Women Work, National Alliance to End Homelessness, American Association of University Women, Mcauley Institute, Children's Defense

Fund, NOW, NOW LDF, National Association of Service and Conservation Corp, CLASP and CBPP.

*** Some of the experts that attended the meeting included: Mike Laracy, Annie E. Casey Foundation; Mark Greenberg, CLASP; Kris Moore, Child Trends; Toby Herr, Project Match; Nick Zill Westat; Christopher King, University of Texas; John Wallace, MDRC; Burt Barnow, John Hopkins; and Mike Wiseman, University of Wisconsin.

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Child Support Access and Visitation	Advocacy groups ****	1/9/97
Illegitimacy Bonus	Advocate groups	1/9/97
All TANF Regulations	USCM, NACo, and NLC	1/22/96
Illegitimacy Bonus	Data/Research experts	1/22/97
Penalty Regulations	Human Services Finance Officers State Budget Officers State Legislative Fiscal Officers	1/22/97
Performance Bonus	NGA, APWA and NCSL (State Officials)	1/23/97
General Child Support regulations	NGA, NCSL and APWA	1/27/96
TANF regulations	National League of Cities U.S. Conf of Mayors Natl. Assoc. of Counties	1/29/97
MOE/Bifurcation Guidance	Advocates, state groups	2/3/97
Child Support Enforcement Regulations	Organized Labor groups	2/10/97
Tribal TANF Guidance	APWA/NGA/NCSL/NACo	2/11/97
Child Support Good Cause	APWA/NGA/NCSL	2/11-12/97

High Performance Bonus and Data Collection	Federal Agency Staff NGA	2/12/97
Work Requirements, Data, Penalties, Illegitimacy Reduction Bonus	APWA/NGA/NCSL and their State representatives	2/13/97
Child Support Research	Data/Research experts	2/97

**** Some of the organizations represented included: Women's Legal Defense Fund; The Fatherhood Project; Children's Rights Council; American Father's Coalition; Dad's Against Discrimination; Women for Equality; American Bar Association; ACES; Fathers for Equal Rights; National Center for State Courts; and the Virginia Father's Coalition.

Alison E. Greene
Regional Director, Region II
Chair, Region II Interagency Welfare Reform Work Group

Welfare Reform Briefings were done for the following groups/individuals
between September 6, 1996 and February 28, 1997.

New York City Council Members and Staff
NYC Council Speaker Peter Vallone

NYC Office of Management & Budget

NYC Human Resources Administration

NYC Immigrant Affairs and Language Services

NYS Division of the Budget

NYC Law Department

NYS Department of Social Services

NYC Public Advocate's Office
Public Advocate Mark Green

NYC Comptroller's Office
Comptroller Alan Hevesi

NYC Independent Budget Office

NYC Board of Education
Budget Office

Manhattan Borough President's Office
Borough President Ruth Messinger

Bronx Borough President's Office
Staff

Queens Borough President's Office
Queens Community Boards

Brooklyn Borough President's Office

Congresswoman Nita Lowey's Office
District staff

Assemblyman Pete Grannis' Office

Virgin Islands/Commissioner of Social Services and staff

New Jersey Commissioner of Human Services and staff
New York State Department of Social Services
Child Care Action Campaign
District Council 37 (AFSCME)
Harlem Branch YWCA
National Organization for Women-Bronx
NYS Nurses Association
NY County Registered Nurses Association
NYC Chapter Coalition of 100 Black Women
NYC Commission on the Status of Women
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Queens Outreach Program
YWCA Flushing Branch
Women & Aids Resource Network
Women's Bar Association-New York
Women's Health Education & Resource Network
Women's Health Action and Mobilization
Women's Health Education Project
Women's Medical Association of New York City
WomenCare, Inc
Family Planning Advocates
YWCA of the USA
Women's Rights & Reproductive Freedom Project
American Civil Liberties Union
National Puerto Rican Forum
Advocates for Children
Community Transition Team
Best Beginnings, Columbia University

Equinox, Inc.

Children's AID Society

Brookdale Health Science Center

Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice
for Children, C/O Pace University Law School

NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Child Development Support Corporation

The Queens Women's Network

Visiting Nurse Service of NY

YWCA of Schenectady

Violence Intervention Program, Inc.

Intensive Family Preservation Services
National Network
Hunter College

Hacer Hispanic Women's Center

The NY Society for the Prevention
of Cruelty to Children

West side One Stop for Coordinated Senior
Services, Inc.

Network for Women's Services, Inc.

Committee on Social Welfare Law
Association of the Bar of NYC

American Jewish Congress

Westchester Children's Association

Rockaway School Board 27

Planned Parenthood of NYC

South Brooklyn Legal Services

NY Asian Women's Center

Korean American Association

Coalition for Asian-Americans

Children's Health Fund

Clinical Directors Network

St. Lukes Roosevelt Hospital
Center of Pediatrics

Chinatown Family Center

Mount Sinai Hospital

Care for the Homeless

Covenant House

Dept. Community Medicine
St. Vincent's Hospital

Health Services for the Homeless

Caribbean Women's Health
Association

Community Health Centers Association of New York State

National Organization for Women - NYC

YWCA of Brooklyn

YWCA of NYC

National Women's Political
Caucus/NYS

Women's City Club of NY

Women's Prison Association

Dominican Women's Caucus

National Latinas Caucus

Now Legal Defense & Education Fund

Women In Need Inc.

Older Women's League

NYS Nurses Association

Disabled in Action

National Council of Jewish Women

NY Section

Hispanic Coalition

Center for Law & Social Justice-
Medgar Evers College

Ms. Foundation

NARAL/NY

Council of Senior Services of NYC, Inc.

NY Citizens' Commission on Aging

Hispanic Elderly

Latino Gerontological Center

Latino Urban Policy Init.
Lehman Collger Bronx Inst.

Spanish Speaking Elderly

National Caucus/Black Aged

Asian Amer. Fed/NY

AARP-NY

NYS Council/Senior Citizens

Legal Services for NYC

Legal Services for the Elderly

Fordham Law School

Greater Upstate Law Project

Assoc. of Indians in America

Carribean Cultural Center

Ecuadorian American Association

Assoc. de Profesionales

Pres. Coalicion Hispana

Association of Colombian Professionals

Honduran Amer. Cultural P.O.

Bronx Korean American Comm Ctr.
Korean Association
Korean Community Services/Metro/NY
Korean Amer. Association of Flushing
American Bangladeshi Friendship, Association
The Korean Family Counseling
Brooklyn Chinese Amer Association
Chinatown Manpower Project
Chinese Immigrant Service
Greater Chinatown Commission
Burma Chinese Association
Greater NY Vietnam American Comm
Vietnamese American Cultural Association
Vietnames Commission of NY
Japanese American Association
Japanese American Soc. Svs., Inc.
Burmese Women of NY, Inc.
The Philippine American Comm. Council
Rainbow Center, Inc.
NY Asian Women's Ctr, Inc.
YMCA of City/NYC Flushing Br.
Refugee Women Council

Concerned Citizens of Queens
Caribbean Immigration
Caribbean Women's Health Assoc.
Dominican Women's Dev. Center

Haitian Center Council, Inc.
Panamanian Canal International
Manhattan Coalition
Arab-Amer Family Support Center
Prog. Internat'l Ladies
Garment Worker's Union
Francesca Gary, MD
Immigrant Women's Health Coalition
Catholic Legal Network
Homeless & Immigrant Services-
Travelers Aid Society
Progressive Association
Church Avenue Merchants Block Association
Nat'l Coalition for Haitians
Immigrants Rights Project ACLU
Immigration Alianza Dominicana
NY Association of New Americans (NYANA)
Central American Refugee Center
Liberty Center/Immigrants, Inc.
Asian American Coalition
for Children & Families
NY Immigration Coalition
UJA-Federation
Afghan Comm. in America.
Afghan Mutual Assistance
Association
Lambda Leg. Defense & Education Fund
NY Refugee Employment
Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service

Metroplitan NY Coordinating Council on Jewish Poverty

St. Rita's Ctr/Immigrant &
Refugee Services

Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Elmhurst Hospital Center

Federation of Italian American Organizations

Polish American Congress

NY Downstate Polish
Amer. Congress

Polish American Alliance
of Blkyn

Human Services Council

The NY Assoc for New Americans

United Neighborhood Houses

Victim Services Agency

American Jewish Committee

Brooklyn-Wide Interagency Council of the Aging, Inc.

Gay Men's Health Crisis

Coalition for the Homeless

Housing Works

Learning Center
Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood

NYS Tenants & Neighbors

Coalition/Westside Human Services Agencies - c/o The Bridge

National Employment Law Project

Catholic Charities
Dept. of Social Development

Henry Street Settlement

The City Project

Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies

West Side SRO Law Project

City-Wide Task Force
on Housing Court

Minority Task Force on AIDS

Goddard Riverside Community Center

Children's Defense Fund/NYC

Coalition of Mental Health Agencies

Legal Aid Society
(Civil Division)-NYC

NAACP Legal Defense Fund

Center for Constitution Rights

SRO Providers Group

Citizen's Commission on Children

Neighborhood Family Services
Coalition

NY Urban League

Community Food Resource Action Center (FRAC)

NY AIDS Coalition

Child Care Inc.

NASW/NYC Chapter

Urban Justice Center

NYC Coalition Against Hunger

Nontraditional Employment for Women

Center for Social Welfare Policy

Community Service Society

Bloomingtondale Family Headstart

Neighborhood Coalition For Shelter

Greater Upstate Law Project

Asian Americans for Equality

SENSES for Social & Economic Security

Bensonhurst Renaissance
Amico Comm. Ctr./Fam. Living

Andrus Children's Home

Brooklyn Bureau of Comm. Services

Cardinal McCloskey Children's
& Family Services

Catholic Charities Diocese
of Brooklyn

Center for the Advancement of Family and Youth

Children's House

Children's Village(Dobbs Ferry, NY)

Day Care Council of NY

Episcopal Mission Society

Family Service of Westchester

Graham Windham Services to
Children & Families

Green Chimneys Children's Services

Harlem-Dowling Westside Center

Ibero-Amer Action League

Inwood House

Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services

Jewish Child Care Association

Kaydeross House

Lakeside Family & Children Services

Leake & Watts Children's Home

Ohel Children's Home & Family Center

New Alternatives for Children

Lakeside Family & Children Services

N. E. Parent & Child Society

Puerto Rico Association for Community Affairs

Protestant Ed of Guardians

Puerto Rico Family Institute

Rheedlen Foundation

Salvation Army-NYC

St. Joseph Children's Services

Salvation Army, Syracuse Area

Samaritan Shelters

Talbot Perkins Children's & Services

Spence-Chapin Services to Families

Chaplain William Khalaijian
to Children

Council/Family & Child Caring Agencies

Bronx Multi-Disciplinary Team

Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club

NY Council/Adoptable Children

Resources for Midlife & Older Women

Nat'l Association of Former Foster Children

Alzheimer's Disease Foundation

Citywide Advocate for Seniors

Retiree Services (ACTWU)

Harlem Interagency Council for the Aging

Jewish Association and Services for the Aged
(JASA)

NYS Wide Senior Action Council

Prevent Blindness America- NY

Beacon of Hope House Inc.

Handicapped Adults Association

Mental Health Assoc/NYC

FIRST

Families & Work Institute

Center for Urban Community Services

The Neighborhood Self Help

Big Sisters Educational Action Service Center

Family Dynamics, Inc.

Nonprofit Coordinating Committee

Institute for Community Living

Community Access

Harlem Legal Services

Health and Human Services Employees Union
(1199)

Leather Goods, and Plastics Service Union

International Longshoremen's Association

American Federation of Musicians

Westchester, Putnam-AFL-CIO

Long Island Federation of Labor

District Council 37-AFSCME

Local 1180-CWA

United Federation of Teachers

Transit Union-100

Local 1180-CWA

RWDSU

Transit Workers Union

UNITE

Writers Guild

New York City Central Labor Council

The Tides Foundation

Local 420

CWA Regional Office

Local 144

Local 237 - Teamsters

NYS AFL-CIO

Grantmakers in Health

John A. Hartford Foundation

The Commonwealth Fund

Brookdale Foundation

The Prudential Foundation

Frances L. & Edwin L. Cummings Memorial Fund

New York City Department of Health

The William Randolph Hearst Foundation

Metropolitan Life Foundation

New York Community Trust

Robin Hood Foundation

United Hospital Fund

Jean and Louis Dreyfus Foundation

The Ford Foundation

Grotta Foundation for Senior Care

United Way of New York City

NBI Health Care Foundation

Open Society Insitute

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

Westchester Women's Agenda

New York City/Hudson Valley Public Housing Authorities

New Jersey Public Housing Authorities

New York/Camden(NJ) Empowerment Zones(by conference call)

Buffalo, Newburgh/Kingston, Rochester, Newark (NJ) Enterprise
Communities(conference call)

Camden Empowerment Zone Town Hall Meeting

White Plains High School -Advanced Placement Government and Politics Seminar

Westchester County Board of Legislators-Community Affairs Committee

Family Planning Advocates of NYS, Inc. Annual Meeting

Future Briefings/Speeches Scheduled(as of February 28, 1997)

Women's Health Summit, Pearl River, NY 3/13/97

Congressman Jose Serrano Community Forum on Welfare Reform, Bronx, NY 3/24/97
Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger Town Hall 2/26/97

Barnard College/Columbia University Urban Policy Center Welfare Reform
Conference
3/31/97

Council for Senior Centers Annual meeting, NYC 4/2/97

United Way of Westchester County (NY) 4/8/97

New York State Legislature, Albany, New York 4/8/97

Westchester Women's Bar Association (NY) 4/9/97

Puerto Rico, Department of the Families Commissioner Cali Rodriguez de Rivera
and

staff, Director Puerto Rico Federal Affairs office Wanda Rubianes, March 1997

Welfare Reform Outreach Activities in the Mid-Atlantic Region (III) conducted by the Regional Director(RD) Lynn Yeakel and the Regional Welfare Reform Outreach Team.

DATE/
STATE

EVENT

9/23/96 MD	The RD met with Maryland Governor Parris Glendening and Secretary of Human Resources, Alvin Collins, to discuss the status of welfare reform in the state.
9/25/96 PA	At the request of the 21st Century League, a Philadelphia based private/non-profit organization, a meeting was convened with regional staff to brief the league on welfare reform implementation. This was the foundation for a major report produced on welfare reform in PA.
9/26/96 PA	Welfare reform was discussed at the opening session of the Pennsylvania EZ\EC conference.
10/8/96 Region	Welfare reform and its implications for religious and voluntary organizations was covered at a meeting with pastors of the largest Presbyterian churches in the nation.
10/15/96 PA	The RD conducted a mock press conference for a journalism class at Temple University that included questions on welfare reform.
11/12/96 WV/MD/VA	The RD, and Deputy Regional Administrator, ACF, were panelists on Block Grants/Welfare Reform at the Southern Legislative Conference Fall Issues Conference. Approximately 300 legislators from 16 states attended the conference.
11/13/96 WV	The RD met with Gretchen Lewis, Secretary, West Virginia Department of Human Services to discuss the status of the state's welfare reform implementation.
11/13/96 Region	At the HHS Office For Civil Rights Conference - A Partnership Effort, the RD discussed welfare reform with representatives from regional state and local agencies, from both the public and private sector.
11/18/96 PA	The RD conducted a class on Organizational Problem solving at the Fels Center of Government, University of Pennsylvania. Welfare reform was covered in the discussion.

- 11/25/96 The Welfare Reform Team briefed over 100 federal
Region employees from federal domestic agencies in the
Philadelphia area on P.L. 104-193.
- 11/27/96 The RD spoke to the Center for Community Development,
DE College of Urban Affairs & Public Policy, University of
Delaware. Graduate students, faculty and
administration leaders participated in a wide
ranging discussion that included welfare reform.
- 12/9/96 At the HRSA sponsored Region III Primary Care Conference
Region in Philadelphia the RD's speech addressed the need for
partnership at all levels in order to make welfare reform
a success. In attendance were nearly 400 primary care
providers and other health professionals from the region.
- 12/11/96 A welfare briefing was held in Philadelphia for
Region approximately 90 state agency staff, staff to the
State Houses and Senates in the region, staff to
Congressional Delegations and other interested parties.
- 12/16/96 The RD Attended a Philadelphia-based welfare reform
PA conference hosted by the United Way of Southeastern
Pennsylvania. Welfare Secretary, Feather Houstoun
presented a draft of the state's TANF plan.
- 1/6/97 The RD made a presentation on welfare reform with Feather
PA Houston, Secretary of the Department of Public Welfare,
to the Forum of Executive Women in Philadelphia.
- 1/20/97 The RD followed-up on conversations between the Regional
VA Health Administrator and contacts in Virginia to
encourage an interested state legislator to introduce a
Family Violence option amendment to the state's welfare
reform legislation.
- 1/21/97 Welfare reform was discussed with a Villanova
PA University Public Relations class that consisted of 40
undergraduate students.
- 2/3/97 A welfare reform briefing was conducted in Pittsburgh
PA/WV for 150 local government officials, human service
providers and staff to members of the Congressional
Delegations.

WELFARE REFORM BRIEFINGS

Region IV

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina,
South Carolina, and Tennessee

August 1996 - Present

Pat Ford-Roegner
Regional Director

Pat Ford-Roegner organized and chairs the regional welfare reform work group which besides the internal divisions of OS, HCFA, HRSA, AoA, and ACF, includes Labor, Education, Transportation, Immigration & Naturalization Service, Agriculture, Small Business Administration, Justice, Social Security Administration, Treasury, and Housing & Urban Development.

Three region-wide briefings were held in December for advocates, Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities, state legislative offices, state and district offices for members of Congress, and county officials.

Two regional briefings were held for all regional federal department and agency employees in November.

Regional Director hosted briefing for HHS employees in October.

Region IV hosted the ACF Child Care Conference in Atlanta where child advocates, Head Start, and other HHS grantees received a briefing from the regional federal welfare reform work group. Regional Director Pat Ford-Roegner opened the meeting.

The day preceding the ACF Child Care Conference, a briefing was held for key staff from the eight states' Human Resources/Children and Family Departments.

Regional Director Ford-Roegner briefed the Governor's policy staff in Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina during the fall and early winter during visits to these states.

Regional Director provided briefings to the Florida Women's Commission, Executive Committee and the Kentucky Commission on Women during visits to these states in the fall.

Regional Director has briefed the Domestic Violence Prevention Coalitions and several major city's shelter directors in Florida, North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Briefing was provided the advisory committee representing sixty neighborhoods and the staff in the Atlanta Empowerment Zone's Georgia Hills Neighborhood Center in October.

A conference call briefing was held for the region's three

Empowerment Zones and twenty-four Enterprise Communities in January. Regional Director Pat Ford-Roegner provided opening remarks and introductions of ACF/ASPE participants.

Regional Director conducted workshops on welfare reform at annual conference of the Georgia Academy for Children/Families and the Georgia Policy Council in December with more than 500 participants.

Regional Director delivered the keynote address to the Georgia Public Policy Council conference held at the University of Georgia in Athens in November. This was a pre-legislative conference attended by several state legislators.

The annual meeting of the regional Head Start State Associations received a briefing in February in Memphis.

Mayor of the City of Miami and his key staff received a briefing in February.

Three major conferences have been sponsored by the regional office on the issue of prevention of teenage pregnancy and its effect on welfare reform success in Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida (February); Knoxville, Tennessee and Charlotte, North Carolina (March).

Regional Director briefed key officials in Fulton and DeKalb Counties in metro Atlanta in February.

Regional Director briefed Mayor's office in Tampa in February.

Regional Director briefed Dade County officials in Miami in February.

Regions IV and VI (Dallas) met with U. S. Department of Education and U. S. Department of Labor staff to plan a joint welfare-to-work conference that will focus on welfare issues, particularly teenagers (February).

Regional Director briefed NAACP leadership in Jackson, Mississippi in February.

Office of the Regional Director briefed the National Black Mayor's Conference at the annual meeting in Orlando, Florida in December.

ORD and Regional ACF met with United Parcel Service senior officials to discuss the welfare-to-work initiative in February.

Regional Director Pat Ford-Roegner met with the Georgia Hospital Association and Georgia Nursing Home Associations to discuss plans for a session on career prospects aimed at current welfare recipients and local technical schools in February.

Regional Director will brief county officials in Knoxville, Tennessee and Charlotte, North Carolina in March.

Regional Director briefed the executive director of the Atlanta Housing Authority in September.

Regional Director briefed the executive director of the Sheltering Arms Childcare network which serves 1000+ children in the metro Atlanta area in October.

Regional Director discussed implications of welfare reform on immigrant population with the Executive Director of the Latin American Association of Atlanta in October.

Regional Director briefed executives of Northwest Promina Foundation and school-based nurse program in February.

Office of the Regional Director briefed newly appointed director of the Mississippi Empowerment Zone in February.

Regional Director discussed implications of welfare reform at HRSA pre-application workshop in February.

Regional Director briefed network of health foundation executives at a National Health Grant conference in Ft.Lauderdale in February.

Regional Director briefed executives at Grady Memorial Hospital's Rape Crisis Program, women's health center, and substance abuse program in November.

Regional Director and other regional appointees conducted briefings at roundtable discussions in Georgia, Tennessee, Florida, and North Carolina during the early fall.

WELFARE REFORM OUTREACH ACTIVITY REPORT:
Hanna Rosenthal -- Region 5

Here are the activities that I recorded relative to the welfare reform bill the President signed. This does NOT include meetings with state people on waivers or their specific welfare reform efforts.

August 20 Keynote address at Teen Parents Initiative Chicago IL
August 20 Meeting with Youth Vision staff Chicago IL
August 22 Keynote address at Operation ABLE Chicago IL
August 25 Chicago EZ meeting Chicago IL
September 5 Keynote address Women's Health Leaders Columbus OH
September 9 Meeting with Council on Children & Fam. Madison WI
September 10 Keynote Chicago Jewish Council. Urban Affrs. Chicago IL
September 15 Keynote IL Women's Health leaders Chicago IL
September 17 Meeting at Olivia Community Health Center Chicago IL
September 17 Meeting with Catholic Charities Chicago IL
September 26 Briefing to group of legislators Madison WI
September 26 Meeting with Children's Resource Center Milwaukee WI
October 3 Survival Coalition (disability advocates) Madison WI
October 5 Community Health Centers Board of Directors Kenosha WI
October 8 Keynote. MN Child Care Resource & Ref. Minneapolis MN
October 9 Keynote IL Public Health Association St. Charles IL
October 10 Keynote Interfaith clergy group Northbrook IL
October 12 Keynote Jewish Council. Urban Affairs Chicago IL
November 5 Panelist at WI Employment and Training Conf Racine WI
November 7 Convened Interag. Task Force, Welfa. Reform
November 7 Meeting with Taylor Institute, Chicago IL
November 11 Meeting with rep from Indian Tribes, Madison WI
November 12 Meeting with Detroit housing staff, Detroit MI
November 13 Tour of EZ community instits. concerned Chicago IL
December 3 Briefing meetings with several legislators Madison WI
December 4 Keynote IL Caucus on Adolescent Health Matteson IL
December 9 National Council of Jewish Women - Northshore Skokie IL
December 11 Interagency Task Force Meeting
December 12 Keynote Midwest Assoc. of Comm. Action Ags Chicago IL
December 17 Briefing with IL legislators Chicago IL
January 3 Meeting with Coalition of Limited Speaking Chicago IL
January 7 Meeting with EZ leaders Chicago IL
January 8 Meeting with Girls Best Friend Foundation Chicago IL
January 10 Interagency Task Force Meeting
January 14 Meeting with City Adv. Cte on Women Chicago IL
January 16 Speech to IL Community Health Conference Chicago IL
January 24 EZ Conference Call and follow up Region V, VII
January 28 Meeting with Mosely-Braun staff Chicago IL
January 28 Meeting with Chicago Community Trust Chicago IL
February 10-11 Chicago Community Trust Retreat on Welfare reform
February 24-25 MacArthur Foundation Conference on Youth Devel.

Upcoming:

March 20 National Association of Social Workers (midwest) conf.

April 14-15 Region V Welfare Reform Conference: Making it Work

REGIONAL VI WELFARE OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Report from Pat Montoya, Regional Director -- Dallas TX.

- 9/3/96 Convened Regional Welfare Reform Workgroup, Dallas, TX
- 9/17/96 Regional Welfare Reform Workgroup meeting, Dallas, TX
- 9/23/96 Regional Welfare Reform Workgroup meeting preparing for Welfare Reform Briefing session, Dallas, TX
- 10/9/96 Welfare Reform Briefing one for internal staff from HHS, SSA, USDA, three hour session. Afternoon session held for staff from governor's offices, legislators and legislative staff, and congressional field staff. Dallas, TX
- 10/19 Spoke at St. Vincent DePaul Society meeting for Dallas/Fort Worth area. Dallas, TX
- 10/21 Met with the Secretary of Human Services, George Miller to discuss Oklahoma Welfare plan. Oklahoma City, OK
- 10/23 Did presentation on Welfare Reform at Texas Champion Communities Conference, sponsored by USDA. San Antonio, TX
- 10/24 Welfare Reform presentation at Fourth Biannual University of Texas System, Texas-Mexico Border Health Symposium. South Padre Island, TX
- 11/5 Regional Welfare Reform Workgroup meeting, Dallas, TX
- 11/18-19 Presented and attended Administration for Children and Families, Welfare Reform Forum. Site visit with Acting Deputy Secretary ACF, Olivia Golden to view paternity establishment program at St Paul Hospital. Dallas, TX
- 11/21 Met with Director of Arkansas Health Department to discuss Medicaid changes with Welfare Little Rock, AR
- 11/21 Met with Pulaski County EC Director to talk about Welfare Reform implications for EC. Little Rock, AR
- 11/26 Met with Regional Administrator ACF to discuss outreach efforts and plans for Welfare Reform Dallas, TX

- 12/3 Presented Federal perspective on Welfare Reform a Texas Senate Finance Committee Austin, TX
- 12/3 Met with Texas Health & Human Services Commission staff and Texas Workforce Commission staff on implications and need for coordination on Welfare Reform in the EC communities. Austin, TX
- 12/3 Regional Welfare Reform Workgroup met in RD's office Dallas, TX
- 12/4 Presented on Welfare Reform at Texas Minority Health Austin, TX
- 12/9-10 Presented Welfare Reform at the National Child Health Leadership Conference New Orleans, LA
- 12/11 Met with New Orleans Head Start and talked on Welfare Reform and its implications. New Orleans, LA
- 12/11 Toured School Based Health Clinic and discussed potential impact on clinic with upcoming changes in medicaid. New Orleans, LA.
- 12/17 Met with Administration for Children Regional Administrator for further discussion/planning. Dallas, TX
- 1/797 Regional Welfare Reform Workgroup meeting Dallas, TX
- 1/8/97 Met with Jesus Sandoval, Director and President of Board Sylvia Moreno of Dallas Concilio, umbrella agency for Hispanic non-profits in community regarding Welfare Reform. Dallas, TX
- 1/10/97 Attended Administration for Children and Families pre-regulation Welfare Reform Public Forum. Austin, TX
- 1/10/97 Met with Texas Comptroller's Office (John Sharp) with ACF staff to how we might work together on Welfare ReForm Austin, TX
- 1/15/97 Met with Maternal & Child Health Director for National Council of LaRaza and spoke about Welfare Reform and impact on Hispanic Children. Washington, DC
- 1/21/97 Opening remarks at Region VI Head Start Mid-Winter Conference with discussion of Welfare Reform Dallas, TX
- 1/25/97 Don Perkins, Executive Assistant & Administration for Children and Families staff spoke at Goodwill Industries State Directors Meeting

Arlington, TX

WELFARE REFORM ACTIVITIES*
REGION VII

July 27-31 Attendance and participation in briefings on welfare reform conference report and numerous discussions with legislators, staff, and advocates at NCSL meetings in St. Louis, MO

August 8 MO/KS Coalition for Positive Family Relationships Advocacy Committee briefing, Overland Park, KS

August 9 ACF Welfare Reform Planning Committee meeting, Regional Office

August 13-14 HHS/Labor/Education Stakeholders Forum keynote and briefing, Kansas City, MO (KCMO)

August 15 Enterprise Community representative briefing, Adams Mark Hotel, KCMO

August 18-21 Midwestern Legislative Conference attendance and participation in welfare reform discussions and sub-committee deliberations, South Dakota

August 19 Participation via conference call with Regional and Central Office ACF staff and state social service directors.

August 19 Notification contact with appropriate state of Kansas officials regarding the approval of their welfare reform waiver.

August 22-23 Enterprise Community sites - Bridges Youth Conference Learning Event making connections among programs that deal with teen parents, their children and the welfare reform legislation, KCMO

August 26 17th Annual Central States Aging Coalition Conference panelist, Lawrence, KS

August 28 Missouri Budget Presentation and discussion regarding state block grant and Title XX changes, St. Louis, MO

Sept 4 Missouri Western University Economics Classes presentation & discussion, St. Joseph, MO

Sept 9-11 Southern Governors Association attendance and discussion, Ritz-Carlton, Kansas City, Missouri. Full Employment Council and LINC activities were highlighted by POTUS during visit and speech.

Sept 11-12 Participation in the ACF retreat on Welfare reform in Washington, DC. Represented the Regional Director's perspective for the plenary session on cross-cutting issues.

Sept 13 Guadalupe Center board member briefing, KCMO

Sept 16 Local Investment Commission board meeting and discussion, KCMO. The Greater Kansas City Community Foundation recently agreed to provide additional resources to support a professional development plan and training to support the welfare-to-work effort. A leadership training session for state staff is scheduled for October 8th. A similar meeting for site coordinators and the community will be held.

Sept 18 Kansas City Kansas/Missouri Bi-State Enhanced Enterprise Community meeting, KCMO

Sept 20 Keynote Kansas/Missouri Managed Health Care Association Annual Meeting General Session, KCMO

Sept 23 Omaha Enterprise Community Association Board briefing, Omaha, NE

Sept 24 Kansas Woman's Health meeting, Topeka, KS

Sept 26 Nebraska Public Health Association Meeting, Lincoln

Sept 30 "Welfare Reform 101" presentation for all HHS Regional Office employees

Oct 3 Planning meeting for consolidation of Kansas City welfare reform public meetings with representatives of the Kauffman Foundation, the Heart of America United Way, the Coalition for Positive Family Relationships, and the Local Investment Commission (see November 18 event)

October 4 Mailing and fax to "At the Table" outreach list of memo from Betsy Meyers regarding welfare reform

Oct 9 Coalition for Positive Family Relationships planning meeting, Overland Park, KS

October 10 Maternal and Child Health Coalition of Greater Kansas City panel "Predictions for 1997 & Beyond: Impact of State and Federal Legislation on Maternal and Child Health". University of Missouri at KC, Pierson Auditorium

October 10-11 Presentation and discussion with ACF Regional Office and state TANF teams to discuss implementation strategies for welfare reform, KCMO

October 11 Iowa Women's Health Conference discussions, Des Moines, IA

October 15 Meeting with the Partnership for Children, KCMO

October 15 Meeting with regional appointees to discuss welfare reform, ask for feedback from states, and outline implementation plans for each state.

October 16 Missouri Rural Health Association Planning Meeting for the annual conference to be held in Jefferson City March 19-20. The theme for the meeting will be "Pathways to the Future" and items for discussion included welfare reform, technology, and managed care.

October 17 Meeting with Dr. Elizabeth Guillen to discuss immigrant changes and public policy changes in the act, and strategize about outreach activities to local immigrant groups.

October 21 Regional Interagency Welfare Reform Workgroup meeting

October 22 EA arranged for a panel presentation at Missouri Public Health Association Meeting, comprised of Regional HCFA, ACF, and SSA staff, KCMO

October 23 Fax and mailing to welfare reform outreach list of Olivia Golden letter regarding federal guidance.

October 24 Meeting with Ken Hill Association and Hope House Board of Directors (AIDS focus), KCMO

October 25 Missouri Association for Social Welfare Meeting and presentations "Social Policy: Leave No One Behind", KCMO

October 28 Panelist at 100 MORE Leaders Forum (women leaders from the Grace Hill Neighborhood Services Program). Problems and issues regarding how welfare reform affects the participants and their neighbors and possible solutions that can be implemented locally and in the state were discussed. Harriett Woods and State Senator Joe Maxwell (D-Mexico) also participated. St. Louis, MO

October 30 Meeting with East Prairie Enterprise Community representatives

November 6-8 Missouri Hospital Association discussions and meetings, Lake Ozark

November 12-13 HHS/Labor/Education Stakeholders Forum briefing and tour of welfare to work project, Omaha, NE

November 14 Keynote Missouri Coalition for Primary Health Care Annual Meeting, Jefferson City, MO

November 18 Welfare to Work Summit--Heart of America United Way, the Coalition for Positive Family Relationships and the Local Investment Commission, Bartle Hall, KCMO

November 20 Meeting with HUD Regional Officials

November 22 Participation at Missouri Legislative Conference, Union Electric, St. Louis, MO

November 23 Keynote at Mid-America Conference on Children with Special Health Care Needs, Central Exchange, KCMO

November 25-26 Meetings with Manpower Development Research Corporation Site Visit to KCMO

December 3 Welcome and Introductory Remarks at Citizens for Missouri's Children Conference, Jefferson City, MO

December 10 Calls to EC sites regarding welfare reform mailing from central support team.

December 16 Participation in Missouri/Kansas Heart of America United Way Legislative Meeting featuring a keynote from Sherri Steisel, NCSL.

December 19 Participation in a welfare reform simulation conducted by the Reform Organization of Welfare (ROWEL) in Independence, MO.

December 30 Pre NPRM letter to outreach list with Q's & A's

January 17 Greater Kansas City transportation concerns workshop with CTAA representatives, KCMO

January 22 Welfare Reform Orientation Session for Members of Missouri General Assembly, Jefferson City, MO

January 23 Missouri Welfare Reform Video Conference to Columbia, Independence, Jackson, Jefferson City, Kansas City, Kirksville, Malden, Rolla, St. Joseph, St. Louis and Springfield, MO.

January 24 EZ/EC TANF conference call with Regions V & VII

Upcoming Events:

- February 13 Panelist discussing welfare reform at the Greater Kansas City Stand For Children Committee Conference, "Giving Our Hearts to Our Children", KCMO
- February 20 Meeting with Senator Grassley and Community leaders in Council Bluffs, Iowa
- February 22 Welfare Reform Panel Member for Reform Organization of Welfare (ROWEL) Conference, KCMO
- February 27-28 Region VII Stakholder's Meeting, Des Moines, IA
- March 11 Region VII HUD Welfare Reform Conference featuring Elaine West, APWA
- March 13-14 Region VII Child Care Conference, KCMO
- March 17-18 "Joining Forces - School to Work Activities", St. Louis, Missouri
- March 19 Full Employment Council Breakfast, KCMO
- March 19-20 Missouri Rural Health Conference, "Pathways to the Future" discussing ramifications of health and social service reform, Jefferson City, MO
- April 27-29 Welfare Reform Workshop for Kansas Conference on Social Welfare, Wichita, KS
- April 28 ACF Partners Team Meeting, includes some state TANF staff and representatives from Head Start State Associations and State Head Start Collaboration Grantees, KCMO
- April 29-May 1 Region VII Head Start Training Conference, KCMO
- June Central States Judicial Conference, Des Moines, IA

* this is a brief synopsis. More details are in weekly reports previously submitted.

Region VIII Welfare Reform Briefings

9/9/96	PHS staff including Colorado State JOBS Program Staff	Denver, CO
9/16	Update Executive Staff on legislation & reaction by states	Denver, CO
9/18-20	Tribal/Bureau of Indian Affairs (requested by BIA)	Billings, MT
10/2	HUD, DOL, SSA, all staff of ACF and OGC	Denver, CO
10/11	All members of the Colorado AFDC Coalition	Denver, CO
10/17	Region VIII Head Start Association Conference	Cheyenne, WY
10/28	EZ/EC Coordinators from four regions (conducted by Ann Rosewater)	Denver, CO
11/6	HUD Senior Staff (requested by HUD's RA)	Denver, CO
11/18-22	HUD Regional Conference for Public Housing officials including the States of Arizona and New Mexico	Denver, CO
12/5	Regional Stakeholders Forum which includes staff from Governor's Offices, State Depts. of Labor, DOL, local providers and advocates from Region VIII	Denver, CO
12/6	Montana Tribal Health Providers Meeting	Billings, MT
12/9	Region VIII Interagency Task Force on Women's Health	Denver, CO
12/11	HCFA regional office management staff	Denver, CO
12/18	HUD's Native American Program Division staff	Denver, CO
12/19	South Dakota, State/Tribal Meeting	Pierre, SD
1/15/97	HUD Regional Conference for Tribal Housing Authorities including the State of Nebraska	Denver, CO
1/17	HUD, Labor, Education, Agriculture, Veterans Affairs, Social Security and Immigration and from DHHS were PHS, HCFA, OGC, OCR, AOA and ACF to discuss impact of welfare reform on the agencies and the individuals served agencies.	by those Denver, CO
1/29	North Dakota Housing Finance Conference via conference call	

**REGION IX
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
WELFARE REFORM OUTREACH**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>EVENT/ACTIVITY</u>
8/19/96	Honolulu	Meet with Susan Chandler, Hawaii State Director for Human Services, on welfare reform and two waivers approved by HHS to Hawaii for welfare reform demonstrations
8/19/96	San Francisco	Contact key California State legislators and advocacy group leaders for the HHS rollout of HHS approval of California's sixth welfare reform waiver under its Work Pays Demonstration which includes a Maximum Family Grant.
8/20/96	Honolulu	Meet with State Senator Dennis Arakaki, Chair of Senate Human Services Committee, on welfare reform issues.
8/20/96	Honolulu	Meet with Hawaii Acting Governor Mazie Hirono on various state welfare reform demonstrations and state intergovernmental issues.
8/21/96	Sacramento	Hold discussions with state legislative staff on California's submission of two 1115 waiver applications for 1) its Restricted Payments Demonstration Project; and 2) California Work Pays Demonstration Amendment.
8/21/96	Sacramento	Meet with Department of Social Services (DSS) and California Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) representatives on reporting requirements in new welfare reform legislation.
8/22/96	Phoenix	Brief Arizona Department of Economic Security staff on PRWORA and provide technical assistance on reporting requirements and state plan activities.
8/26-30/96	Guam	Conduct on-site visit to Guam and review welfare reform implementation plans and provide technical assistance on PRWORA.
9/4/96	Phoenix	Meet with Director of the Arizona Department of Economic Security to discuss state's plans for PRWORA implementation.
9/6/96	San Francisco	Participate with Peter Edelman, HHS Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, on Beacon Schools site visit and in discussions on new welfare reform legislation.
9/10/96	Oakland	Serve as luncheon speaker on "Bridging Risk and Opportunity" at CityMATCH 1996 National Urban Maternal Child Health Leadership Conference.
9/11/96	San Francisco	Convene initial meeting of the Region IX Federal Interagency Task Force on Welfare Reform involving HHS (ORD, ACF, HCFA, DCA, HRSA) and FCS/USDA to discuss implementation of PRWORA.
9/11/96	San Francisco	Initiate conference call with key California state legislative staff to brief on provisions of the new welfare reform legislation.

9/16/96 Millbrae Convene and chair Region IX Building Bridges Conference on "Neighborhoods, Human Services and Economic Development: Building A Foundation for the 21st Century."

9/18/96 San Francisco Convene follow-up conference call with key California state legislative staff on additional provisions of the new welfare reform legislation.

9/25/96 Oakland Attend information meeting sponsored by California Assemblymember Barbara Lee to discuss likely impacts of PRWORA on communities. State Senator Diane Watson and staff from Representative Ron Dellum's office also present

9/26/96 Sacramento Give presentation on welfare reform at Rural Enterprise Community Conference for representatives from rural ECs from California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, New Mexico, South Dakota, and Oklahoma.

10/1/96 San Francisco Hold conference call to brief key Arizona State legislators and staff on key provisions of PRWORA.

10/2/96 San Francisco Convene meeting of Region IX Federal Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force which is expanded to include SSA.

10/3/96 San Francisco Contact key California State legislators and advocacy group leaders for the rollout approving California's seventh welfare waiver application.

10/8/96 San Francisco Participate in Department of Labor's Conference on "Educating and Employing the Workforce: Getting Ready for Greater Local Responsibility."

10/10/96 Sacramento Give presentation on welfare reform at Mutual Assistance Network of Del Paso Heights Forum on Welfare Reform.

10/10/96 Sacramento Attend California Senate Health & Human Services Committee Public Hearing on "Recent Changes in Federal Law Affecting Health and Welfare Programs: The Potential Impact on Counties."

10/16/96 Sacramento Meet with Karen Goldmeyer, Health and Welfare Counselor, of Representative Robert Matsui's Washington Office on welfare reform issues.

10/21/96 San Francisco Meet with Armando Quiroz, Regional Administrator, Employment Training Administration, Department of Labor, on welfare reform issues and invitation to join the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force.

10/21/96 San Francisco Approve California's AFDC Plan amendment to reduce its AFDC Maximum Aid Payment (MAP) by 2.3 percent effective retroactively to June 1, 1996.

10/24/96 Oakland Participate in meeting of California Controller Kathleen Connell's Welfare Reform Task Force, formally called the Work Opportunity Response Commission.

10/30/96 San Francisco Attend meeting of the San Francisco Bay Area Economic Development Advisory Committee in follow-up to Region IX's Building Bridges collaborative initiative to help neighborhoods and families reach self-sufficiency.

11/1/96 Carson City Complete review of Nevada's TANF Plan which was submitted on October 18.

11/1/96 San Francisco Notify State of Arizona its TANF Plan is complete and qualifies to receive block grant funding.

11/7/96 San Francisco Convene the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force which is further expanded to include the Department of Labor, HUD, Education, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

11/15/96 Los Angeles Give address on welfare reform at the UCLA Welfare Reform Conference sponsored by the UCLA Advanced Policy Institute.

11/20/96 San Francisco Co-Chair meeting of Ad Hoc Committee on Systems Redesign to discuss its transition to a new San Francisco Bay Area Partnership for helping neighborhoods and families reach self-sufficiency.

11/21/96 San Francisco Meet with Linda Blessing, Director, Arizona Department of Economic Security, on the redesign of Arizona's 1115 waiver demonstration project, EMPOWER, to move it within the context of PRWORA.

11/22/96 Long Beach Coordinate and participate in the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force panel presentations at National Association of Counties (NACo) Employment Policy and Human Services Conference.

12/4/96 Los Angeles Participate in "Welfare to Work" Summit sponsored by Bill Lockyer, President Pro Tempore, California State Senate.

12/7/96 San Francisco Coordinate with ACF and IGA the release of Department's letter notifying the State of California its TANF Plan is complete.

12/9/96 Sacramento Convene HHS Regional Office staff discussions with California State legislative policy staff on issues related to implementing welfare reform with the immigrant population in California.

12/12-13/96 San Francisco participate in Region IX-X Welfare Reform Redesign Workshop aimed at eliciting input from Regions IX-X states on the Department's welfare reform regulations development effort.

12/18/96 San Francisco Convene Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force to focus upon establishment of working groups around specific subject areas such as "Job Training and Employment."

12/18/96 San Francisco Meet with San Francisco County Supervisor Michael Yaki to plan rollout of the new Bay Area Partnership to replace the former Ad Hoc Committee on Systems Redesign in working with the nine counties in helping families and neighborhoods reach self-sufficiency.

12/24/96 San Francisco Notify State of Nevada its TANF Plan is complete and now qualifies to receive block grant funding.

1/6/97 San Francisco Convene meeting to plan for a Bay Area Partnership Forum entitled "Building Healthy and Self-Sufficient Communities: The Challenge and Opportunity of Welfare Reform" to involve all nine Bay Area counties in a regional welfare reform pilot project.

1/13/97 San Francisco Receive notice from the National Performance Review Office that Region IX's Building Bridges initiative has been awarded the Vice-President's Hammer Award in recognition of the Bay Area collaborative accomplishments.

1/13/97 San Francisco Give presentation on impact of welfare reform at U.S. Department of Justice's "Weed and Seed -- Safe Havens Program" Training Workshop.

1/14/97 Oakland Give presentation on impact of welfare reform upon Head Start programs at Region IX Head Start Association's Annual Training Conference.

1/15/97 San Francisco Convene monthly meeting of the Region IX Interagency Welfare

Reform Task Force to plan for a planned briefing requested by the California State legislature.

1/16/97 Sacramento Participate with other Administration representatives from Washington, D.C. to discuss welfare reform issues with California State legislative leaders at the State Capitol.

1/16/97 Sacramento Participate with other Administration representatives from Washington, D.C. in an Editorial Board meeting at the Sacramento Bee to discuss the Administration's welfare reform initiatives.

1/16/97 Sacramento Participate with the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force in a public meeting of legislative staff, and representatives of legal rights organizations, advocacy groups, and community based organizations on welfare reform issues of concern in California.

1/22/97 San Francisco Convene and Co-Chair a meeting of the Bay Area Partnership to finalize planning for Forum on Welfare Reform.

1/24/97 Sacramento Meet with representatives of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to discuss CSAC California Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) joint proposal for welfare reform.

1/28/97 San Francisco Participate in an HHS Conference Call to EZ/EC sites in Region IX to provide briefing and to provide contacts on issues related to welfare reform.

2/5/97 San Francisco Convene and give opening remarks at the Bay Area Partnership for Building Healthy and Self-Sufficient Communities for Economic Prosperity's Forum on Welfare Reform, with participation by county supervisors from seven of the nine Bay Area Counties.

2/6/97 San Francisco Give opening remarks at a Foundation's Round Table on Welfare Reform co-sponsored by the San Francisco Foundation and the Zellerbach Family Fund.

2/13/97 Los Angeles Give address on welfare reform at Regions VIII-IX-X multi-regional School-to-Work Conference sponsored by the Departments of Labor and Education.

2/14/97 Sacramento Give address to the California Family Impact Seminar on current federal family policy priorities beyond welfare reform.

2/19/97 San Francisco Convene monthly meeting of the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force to review work group assignments. The Federal Transit Administration/DOT is invited to also join the Task Force.

2/21/97 San Diego Participate as panelist at the Annual Meeting of the Council of Chief State School Officers regarding how school-community collaboration initiatives can contribute to more successful outcomes for families affected by welfare reform.

2/27/97 Sacramento Accompany John Monahan, HHS IGA Director, in meetings with key California State legislative leaders and staff on welfare reform issues.

2/27/97 Sacramento Participate in the conference on "Choice and Challenges: Welfare Reform in California" sponsored by the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation.

3/1/97 San Francisco Facilitate clearance of Departmental letter to Guam, which planned to implement TANF on March 1, that PRWORA language prohibits implementation of TANF

territories before July 1, 1997.

3/5/97 San Francisco Participate in meeting with Bay Area Council and A. T. Kearny management consultant firm on a pro bono project A.T. Kearny will undertake to help facilitate workforce readiness in the San Francisco Bay Area as part of a welfare reform demonstration.

3/12/97 San Francisco Meet with HUD's Secretary's Regional Representative's Office on strategies to transition the Pacific Region Community Empowerment Board serving EZ/ECs to organization with goal to assist distressed neighborhoods in capacity building development beter equipped to address impact of welfare reform.

3/12/97 San Francisco Give presentation on welfare reform to Board of Directors of the United Way of the Bay Area.

3/13/97 San Francisco Meet with Myla Florence, Nevada State Welfare Director, on implementation issues related to welfare reform in Nevada.

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

REGION 1: CONNECTICUT, MAINE, MASSACHUSETTS, NEW HAMPSHIRE, RHODE ISLAND, VERMONT

November 1, 1996

REGIONAL OUTREACH PRACTICES

After PL 104-193 was signed, the Regional Administrator and TANF staff began a series of state visits with each New England state's commissioner and each state's key human services staff to provide guidance on TANF state plan submittal and the implications for state waiver projects.

Having met at least once with each state, New Hampshire hosted all six New England commissioners and the Regional Administrator and staff in early October to share information, discuss issues, and form strategies around TANF implementation.

Regional staff continues working with each state providing state plan guidance for completeness. Vermont submitted a TANF plan September 20th, Massachusetts on September 23rd, Maine September 30th and Connecticut and New Hampshire October 1st.

Regional Child Care staff have conducted Child Care, Q.U.I.P and FCS informational meetings for state and regional Federal staff.

Child Support Enforcement staff have visited each New England state human services and IV-D staff to provide guidance and new Child Support information. They have also conducted two regional teleconferences with all six New England IV-D commissioners to supply information about PL 104-193.

Regional ACF staff and the Regional Administrator began interagency informational panels in early October for regional administrative staff from other agencies. These panels have continued in recent weeks as part of the Regional Director's PRWORA committee. The committee supplies briefings for SSA, FCS/Agriculture, INS, Labor, Education and HUD. They will conduct two briefings next week for all Federal staff in these agencies.

In October, Federal regional staff participated in a New England focus group discussion of TANF requirements developed by Northeastern University with the Department of Labor's JTPA and Employment Security divisions. ACF Regional staff play major roles developing and

delivering briefing materials. Regional staff has also facilitated a TANF focus group for New Hampshire state staff.

New England Regional staff have conducted briefings for the New England Training and Education Conference in Burlington Vermont, for DOL in Maine and for the Center for Labor Market Studies, also conducted in Vermont.

Regional Office staff met with key staff from the Massachusetts Departments of Transitional Assistance, Social Services and Executive Office of Human Services to discuss models and strategies for targeting some of the \$100 million in child care funds going out to bid for collaborations with Head Start agencies in welfare reform and family preservation initiatives.

Regional staff has brought the New England Head Start Directors together several times since October 1st in on-going discussions of the issues that affect the Head Start community. They have developed strategies around welfare reform and its impact of Head Start grantees and their families.

November 8, 1996

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Region 1 Regional Administrator and Assistant Regional Administrator were key speakers Monday at "WELFARE REFORM 101," a forum held specifically for all federal employees whose programs have changed as a result of passage of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996. The forum was organized by the Regional Director's office. The Regional Administrator gave a overview of the provisions of the new Welfare Reform legislation and told the group some of the details of how the new law will impact the region. The Assistant Regional Administrator discussed each state's plans for implementing Title I - TANF. He also explained the changes the new law makes in AFDC policies all states had been practicing. Other regional ACF staff participated by outlining changes in Child Support Enforcement regulations and Child Care provisions.

ACF supplied written materials for Federal staff and provided opportunities for a question and answer period involving all attendees. Several other Federal agencies were represented including Immigration and Naturalization, SSI, Food Stamps and Medicaid. Each branch explained the detailed changes in its programs and provided written materials as well for the group's information. Staff from Medicaid, HCFA, Medicare, Public Health Services, OIG, OAS, Administration on Aging and Office of Civil Rights also attended as did staff members from other branches of government in the region. The event was presented twice to accommodate various schedules.

November 15, 1996

REGIONAL OUTREACH REPORT

The Regional Administrator and the regional staff working in TANF, child care and child support will participate December 1 through 4 in the annual fall New England Head Start conference in Hartford, CT. The event is called, "Partnerships for Healthy Families and Communities." The agenda includes two special sessions on Welfare Reform intended to apprise Head Start Directors, parents and staff of the provisions of PRWORA, including child care, child protection and child support enforcement. Staff will conduct panel discussions and meet informally with Head Start representatives to discuss specific state implementation of TANF and other provisions of welfare reform legislation. State staff working in parallel state welfare reform programs have been invited to participate in the focus groups and discussions as partners with Federal staff. They will discuss the possible impacts of the new legislation in each state in New England.

November 22, 1997

EXTERNAL OUTREACH

Region I staff maintained its strong partnership activities with Massachusetts state officials by assisting them with background and technical assistance in the weeks leading up to Welfare Reform hearings before the state Legislature Wednesday and Thursday. Staff provided both historical and current information for Claire McIntire, Department of Transitional Assistance Secretary, and her staff as well as for state legislative staff members and the Governor's office staff who were to participate in the hearings.

December 13, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH

Region I has developed a region-specific outreach consultation strategy which makes use of the previously scheduled forums staff had planned between this week and January 31st in the following ways:

- In partnership with Regional Director's office, Region I participates in forums in each state that will bring the provisions of welfare reform to key legislators and their staffs, Commissioners and state workers. In these forums, input and feedback from the participants is encouraged. Linked with the Regional Director's staff, Regional I program staff will combine efforts with other Federal agencies including Labor, Social Security, INS, and Agriculture to present opportunities for state workers to hear how reforms will affect their comparable state programs.

- The set of questions developed to collect pre-NPRM input will be distributed to TANF staff and welfare Commissioners in each New England state. Conference calls and state visits will be used to develop state responses to each set of questions.

- IV-D Directors and key staff will be meeting in January. Regional staff will provide technical assistance as the state Directors discuss those parts in the questions relevant to Child Support Enforcement, developing state specific input for pre-NPRM use. Child Support Enforcement key state staff will be given the questions as well with the opportunity to develop state-specific answers and issues in conference calls scheduled for December and January.

- Regional Head Start program staff will ask the Head Start State Association presidents and state collaboration Directors to put forums of parents together in their states. These forums will be asked to collaborate on responses to the pre-NPRM questions central office has supplied.

- Regional staff will identify an advocacy group in each state and will mail pre-NPRM questions to each of them while offering conference call time with each group to develop their responses and issues.

- Child Care administrators and key staff in each New England state will be offered technical assistance as they respond to the questions through Regional staff.

Region I's Assistant Regional Administrator contributed Tuesday in Vermont to Senator Jim Jeffords's forum which was titled, "Grant Funding for the Future: Realities, Challenges & Successes." Senator Jeffords, the newly-appointed chairman of the Senate Human Relations Committee, invited 250 community-based human services representatives and state and Federal human services program representatives. Region I presented information on ACF discretionary funding, answering questions from the group and providing welfare reform information.

February 14, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- Regional Administrator met with Kevin Concannon, Maine Commissioner, to discuss possibilities for collaboration of Head Start and Medicaid/Managed Care and child care. Systemic change is providing both opportunities and complications as state deals with Welfare Reform, managed care and costs.

- Regional staff provided information as a panelist at the Catholic Social Services conference for human service providers and advocates in Southeastern Massachusetts. The discussion centered around changes in immigration, SSI, welfare and food stamps that affect immigrants.

- Regional staff participated in the quarterly meeting of the eight New England Enterprise Communities held in Springfield, MA. this week. A major focus of the conference was on workforce preparation strategies and successful strategies for economic development. The implementation of welfare reform efforts was a key component in this discussion. Regional staff supported the Springfield District Office Director and member of the Springfield Summit, as he

participated in welfare reform discussions. The welfare reform panel and conference participants debated what welfare-to-work efforts can do or fail to do to address workforce preparation and what role states and localities can play in supporting those efforts.

February 21, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Regional Administrator and staff held a day-long meeting in Boston with New England TANF Commissioners. The group discussed maintenance of effort, implementation issues and immigration policies. The states are interested in banking the TANF funds that are not needed immediately for program maintenance and they share concerns that funds in excess of what is currently needed for TANF could be revoked if Congress were to see any lag in expenditures compared to grant authority. States raised questions about cash management requirements and how reporting will be handled if a state decides to transfer funds over to child care. They also expressed interest in a New Hampshire initiative aimed at assisting TANF beneficiaries as they plan their strategies and alternatives while treating their five year period of eligibility as a resource which should not be squandered. The group made plans for a regional training conference in six weeks on best practices and cultural change. The next TANF Commissioners meeting will be hosted by Maine in May and will include state employment and training commissioners.

Regional Child Support staff met in Providence with the Rhode Island Child Support Director, the Associate Director of the Department of Administration and staff from the Governor's office to discuss the requirements for child support enforcement under PRWORA and to review the adequacy of proposed state legislation. Plans were made for follow-up with the state courts and for a meeting of Federal staff with staff from the state legislature's judiciary and finance committees regarding the need for new state legislation.

As part of a federal interagency workgroup on welfare reform, regional staff met with staff from the Massachusetts House Ways and Means Committee to discuss the implications and impacts of PRWORA. Questions focused on funding, state options in TANF, immigration, and cuts in SSI and Food Stamps.

Regional Administrator and TANF staff met with staff from Senator Kennedy's office in Boston to discuss the impacts of the PRWORA on immigrants in Massachusetts.

The Penobscot Nation in Maine has requested a briefing for themselves and the other native American groups in Maine on TANF to explore the options of submitting a plan and running a program separate from the state.

REGION 2:
NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, PUERTO RICO, VIRGIN ISLANDS

November 8, 1996

REGIONAL OUTREACH PRACTICES

On Thursday, October 24, 1996, ACF Region II in conjunction with the HHS Regional Director and members of the RD's Welfare Reform Work Group, sponsored a day-long briefing for federal agencies on the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. In addition to providing an overview of all major aspects of the legislation, time was devoted to exploring possibilities for federal partnerships. The session was attended by representatives of more than a dozen federal entities.

December 13, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Regional Administrator participated in a welfare reform briefing hosted by the Queens Borough President and a public hearing sponsored by the New York state Legislature's Black and Puerto Rican Caucus.

January 3, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

New York - The Regional Administrator participated in a welfare reform briefing session for New York City liaison staff based in Washington, D.C.

January 17, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

We are continuing to reach out to interested parties concerning significant TANF issues (i.e. penalties, work requirements and data collection). Last week, the Regional Administrator conducted a focus group with New York City staff. In conjunction with the New York Public Welfare Association, all county social services commissioners have been contacted so they can share their ideas and concerns. In cooperation with the HHS Regional Director, we have also contacted numerous welfare policy stakeholders to solicit their thoughts about

the aforementioned TANF issues.

February 7, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Regional Administrator and RO staff members delivered presentations at welfare reform forums for elected officials and members of the advocacy community sponsored by the HHS Regional Director. Both forums were well attended and featured speakers from all major federal components involved with welfare reform. ACF played an integral part in the planning and preparation for these events.

The Regional Office staff continued their efforts to educate the Head Start community about welfare reform. Since the passage of PRWORA, RO staff members have made a series of presentations to Head Start audiences focusing on child support enforcement and TANF.

As part of the pre-NPRM consultation, Regional Office staff conducted its fifth focus group. This group included representatives of many advocacy groups with an interest in welfare reform.

February 14, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

As part of our collaborative activities with the U.S. Public Health Service, Regional Office staff participated in a special briefing about the implications of welfare reform for maternal, child and adolescent health sponsored by "Grantmakers in Health."

Regional Office staff met with Head Start grantees and state and local child support enforcement officials to discuss collaborative strategies.

The Assistant Regional Administrator provided an update on Welfare Reform at the Department of Labor "Stakeholders Forum" held in New Brunswick New Jersey.

In cooperation with the HHS Regional Director, ACF Regional Office staff participated in technical assistance conference calls with EZ/EC sites in New Jersey and New York (week ending 02/07/97).

February 21, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITY

New York - Efforts to educate the Head Start community about welfare reform continued with a presentation to LI Head Start, which is based in Patchogue, New York and serves 1300 children.

January 31, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITY

Regional Office staff participated on a panel entitled "The Latest on Welfare Reform in New York" as part of the winter meeting of the New York Public Welfare Association.

Regional Office staff conducted several focus groups as part of the consultation process for preparing the proposed regulations for TANF. Among those participating were staff from local departments of social services, the New Jersey Department of Human Services and the New York State Department of Social Services.

REGION 3:
DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA

November 1, 1996

OUTREACH PRACTICES

Region III OFS participated in the annual meeting of the Mountain State Chapter of the National Eligibility Workers Conference in Morgantown, West Virginia, on Oct. 23, 1996. The AFDC/QC manager made a presentation on the provisions of the new TANF bill.

A conference call is scheduled for Monday, November 4, 1996 with all states in Region III to discuss issues and concerns the states have in planning for the implementation of TANF.

On Tuesday, October 29, 1996, regional office staff attended a meeting sponsored by the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees, District 1199C, in Philadelphia, PA. Attending the meeting were presidents of other unions throughout the city of Philadelphia, U.S. Congressman Chaka Fattah, several state representatives, city council members, the city controller, the Executive Director of the Philadelphia County Assistance Office, the Secretary's Regional Representative for the Region III U.S. Department of Labor, and about 200 union members. The union provided a briefing of welfare reform and its impact on union members. Following the briefing, the union president outlined a strategy to protect both welfare recipients and members. The union proposes to create not only new jobs, but real jobs that treat the workers as regular employees and afford them the full rights and protection of other workers. They want to make sure that the jobs initiative will put more people to work, not take jobs from working families.

November 29, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH PRACTICES

On Monday, November 25, 1996, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Welfare Reform Team held a training session on the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. The purpose of the training was to help interested federal staff understand better the various components of the legislation. The Region III, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Regional Director provided an overview of the legislation. Presentations were provided by key federal staff from ACF, SSA, INS, HCFA, OCR and the Department of Agriculture. The session closed with a presentation on "What is the Federal Role" and a panel discussion on "What Should States Consider." Also, there was a question and answer session.

A second training session is scheduled for December 11, 1996 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The DHHS Regional Director sent invitations to members of the Congressional Delegation, Governor's offices, state cabinet offices that relate to DHHS, House and Senate leadership in the states, chairmen of the Health and Welfare Committees, selected mayors and some local advocates. Other federal agencies agreed that they would distribute the invitation letter to their outside appropriate contacts.

January 10, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- 1) The Assistant Regional Administrator for Family Services assisted the Regional Director in preparing for a joint presentation on Welfare Reform with the Secretary of Welfare of Pennsylvania. The presentation, given on January 6, 1997 for The Forum for Executive Women in Philadelphia, incorporated visual aids developed by OFS Region III, and was extremely successful, reinforcing our partnership with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

- 2) The Assistant Regional Administrator for Family Services represented the Department in a major presentation of work group accomplishments for EPA's Interdepartmental City of Chester (Pa) Initiative. The meeting included the Mayor, members of City Council, a variety of federal, state and city officials, representatives of community groups, and private industry. The ARA/OFS was a member of the Quality of Life work group, which addressed the issue of training and employment for welfare recipients as one of its major study areas.

January 24, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Region III held its first committee meeting for planning the Region III Child Welfare/Welfare Reform Conference. Staff from ACF and the Regional Director's office participated in the meeting. The Regional Director has already held a conference call with state officials to ascertain their interest and ideas for such a conference. The regional office is in the process of identifying state staff to serve on the planning committee to develop the program and work out some of the logistics. The conference is scheduled for April 29 and 30, 1997 in Philadelphia.

February 7, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Welfare Reform Training - On February 4, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Welfare Reform Team held

a training session for other government officials and community leaders in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Over 150 participants attended the training and the team received several requests to conduct more training. Key regional officials from the following federal agencies participated as trainers, Food and Consumer Services, Immigration and Naturalization Services, Department of Labor, Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services (ACF, HCFA and the Office of Civil Rights).

Regional Office Conference - The regional office is planning a Child Welfare/Welfare Reform conference that is scheduled for April 29, and May 1, at the Doubletree Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. The steering committee, consisting of representatives from the Region III states and the regional office began planning the content of the conference with a conference call on February 5. The Regional Director participated in the call. The next conference call is scheduled for February 19.

Philadelphia Conference on Preventing Homelessness in the Face of Welfare Reform - An ACF regional office staff person is participating in a panel discussion on welfare reform at a conference on Preventing Homelessness in the Face of Welfare Reform. The panel discussion with audience participation is on how do we use the grant in the most effective way. Others scheduled for the panel are: Ed Rendell, Mayor, City of Philadelphia; Graham Finney, Project Director, 21 Century League; Sherri Heller, Deputy Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare; the Vice President of the Private Industry Council of Philadelphia; a representative from Bryn Mawr College and others. The conference is sponsored by the Energy Coordinating Agency of Philadelphia, Inc. and will be held on February 7.

CSE Presentation - On January 21, Region III CSE made a presentation on the new child support provisions contained in the Welfare Reform legislation to the Parent Advisory Council of the Philadelphia School District Comprehensive Day Care Centers consistent with its community outreach initiative. A similar presentation, in collaboration with the Area Manager for the Pennsylvania Bureau, will be made this month to the social workers and teachers assigned to the day care centers.

February 21, 1997

REGIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Staff Training - Regional Office TANF and OFO staff participated in a series of meetings as part of our in-house self-training on the TANF Policy Announcement, TANF-ACF-PA-97-1.

TANF Policy Announcement - As part of our federal-state partnership effort in implementing TANF, Region III has scheduled a conference call with each state to discuss the most significant aspects of the January 31, 1997 guidance, TANF-ACF-PA-97-1. We are responding to questions regarding the guidance, as well as soliciting questions which will help us identify aspects of the Policy Announcement which need further clarification. Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia

submitted several questions to the Regional Office relating to MOE and "assistance". On February 20, we completed calls with key officials in the District of Columbia and West Virginia. On Friday, February 21, calls are scheduled with Delaware, Pennsylvania and Virginia, Maryland is scheduled for Friday, February 28. We view these calls as another step to help states implement the TANF program. The states were very receptive to these calls and both the Regions and the States considered them a useful and positive method for dealing with issues.

Welfare Reform/Child Welfare Conference - The second conference call with our state partners for planning the Welfare Reform/Child Welfare Conference scheduled for April 29-May 1, was conducted on Wednesday, February 20. All states with the exception of Virginia participated. Progress was made on the format, identification of presenters and workshop content. The next call is planned for March 5.

REGION IV:
ALABAMA, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, KENTUCKY, MISSISSIPPI
NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE

Week ending November 1, 1996

ACF Region IV is hosting a major welfare reform conference from November 18-20, 1996, under the theme "New Horizons for Children and Families". Major partners from the national, regional, state and local levels will be attending as presenters and participants, updating the Region IV human services community on the current status and future focus of welfare reform.

The RO TANF/Child Care Manager and a Fiscal Management Specialist addressed concerns and issues raised at a recent USET meeting in South Carolina. The tribal representatives on the Social Services committee were very vocal in their complaints about the Tribal TANF provisions of the PRWORA of 1996. Most tribes in the eastern part of the country stated that they wanted to operate their own TANF programs, but could not do so with the funds that would be allocated.

The RO TANF/Child Care staff organized and presented a day long training session for all ACF staff on October 24, 1996. Presented were Title I and Title VI in addition to a presentation by Child Support. The presentations stimulated many questions from the audience.

TANF/Child Care staff attended a "Building Bridges" session sponsored by the Regional Directors' Office and presented on the latest Health Care law. The presentation was done by HCFA, OGC and OIG. The next program will address Welfare Reform.

A regional steering committee meeting was called by the Regional Director's office on 10/31/96. This was the second of such meetings designed to share information across federal agencies, particularly on roles that are changing because of welfare reform.

Week ending November 15, 1996

Florida -

The sixth annual Florida Policy Council/Board/Staff statewide training is being held November 1-3, 1996, in Merritt Island, Florida. Pinellas County was funded in the amount of \$30,000 for the training which includes reimbursement of per diem for five people (Executive Director, Head Start Director, Parent Involvement Coordinator, Board Representative and Policy Council Representative) from each program. Others are invited at the respective agency's expense. The training takes place on the weekend in an attempt to get more Policy Council and Board

participation and it has been very successful.

This year the theme of the training is "C's To Success: Communication, Coordination, Cooperation, and Consideration." The purpose of the training is to foster implementation of the "C's To Success" as Head Start operational decisions are made.

North Carolina -

The Regional Office, Johnston-Lee Head Start program and the Alpha Phi Alpha, Phi Lambda Chapter co-sponsored a "Male Training Retreat," October 25-27, 1996, in Smithfield, North Carolina at Johnston Community College. There were 100 males, 37 females and 25 children in attendance.

The training was "Getting Men Involved" in Head Start and in life. Training consisted of: health care issues, parenting techniques and positive discipline, small business development, stress management, federal/state laws covering child support and welfare; drug prevention and intervention, career opportunities, child care issues, state welfare reform, child abuse and neglect, organizing parent to parent support groups, building on family strengths and individualities and respect for different methods of coping. There were special training sessions for the females and activities for the children.

The training was provided by consultants at no cost to the agencies or participants.

Tennessee -

The Tennessee Head Start Quality Initiative is a statewide project designed to help the Head Start programs achieve NAEYC accreditation. The project will provide training and technical assistance to Head Start grantees in implementing a system of self-evaluation and will guide them through the process for accreditation. The initiative is fully supported and funded by ACF and the "Kickoff" is November 12-13, 1996, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Week ending November 22, 1996:

The Southeastern Network for Children and Families, the training and technical support group serving the Runaway and Homeless Youth initiatives in Region IV, met in Atlanta from November 20-22, 1996. Representatives from RHY programs in all eight Region IV states participated, focusing on the theme of maintaining focus and quality in the midst of change. Steven, J. Golightly, ACF Region IV Hub Director, addressed the group, expressing the ACF intent to continue vigorous support of RHY programs and activities, and giving his vision for working with our partners to develop successful human services strategies for accomplishing our common mission of meeting the needs of children, youth and families.

The Head Start Supervisor and Program Manager for Child Care and TANF attended the Georgia Head Start Directors, Parents, Staff and Friends Meeting in Macon, Georgia, on November 14, 1996, to provide a summary of the provisions of welfare reform, discuss the implication for Head Start and encourage the need to partner within the state's early child care community in order to provide a continuum of services to children and their families.

The Region IV Head Start/Child Care Steering Committee met November 19, 1996, at the Region IV Child Care Conference to discuss the status of the activities launched by the committee. One of the major activities is the Child Care Survey of Region IV Head Start grantees disseminated by EMPRISE Designs to collect information on existing child care services and partnerships. Once all the information is received, an analysis of the data will be conducted, and model programs will be identified that can be shared within the region.

A request will be forthcoming to Joan Lombardi requesting her participation as a speaker at the Region IV Head Start Association Training Conference scheduled for February 3-7, 1997, in Memphis, Tennessee, sponsored by the Region IV Board.

Region IV's Child Welfare Program Manager participated in a media event in Orlando, Florida at Universal Studios in which a film was made to showcase the adoption issue. Forty eight children representing all areas of the country, each awaiting adoption, participated in the filming. This film will be made available to the media to publicize the critical need of moving children into permanent, stable, and loving home environments.

The Director of the Tennessee State Collaboration Project has been hired, and the Regional Office Co-project Officer has discussed ways that the Regional Office can be of assistance. Plans have been made for regional staff and the Collaboration Project Director to participate in a panel discussion at the Tennessee Head Start Association Conference in December, 1996. Steven Golightly, the Region IV Hub Director, will address the conference, providing the latest information on Head Start's role in the new environment of welfare reform as well as his vision for ACF Region IV.

Week ending January 3, 1997

Carol Osborne, TANF/Child Care Manager, made a presentation on Title I of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) at the National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc.'s Annual Leadership Institute for Mayors at the Disney Institute in Orlando Florida on December 11, 1996. The Mayors were very interested in the changes, especially in time limits, alien provisions, and the states' option to deviate uniformity within political subdivisions. Handouts were provided on both Title I and Title VI (Child Care). The presentation was made at the request of the DHHS Regional Director.

Week ending January 10, 1997:

A joint Child Welfare and Developmental Disabilities Conference is planned for March 24-26, 1997 at the Peachtree Plaza Hotel in Atlanta.

The Region IV Head Start Association conference will take place in Memphis, Tennessee, February 3-7, 1997. Steven J. Golightly, Atlanta Regional Administrator/Hub Director, will address the conference, communicating Head Start trends as well as Head Start's important role in the implementation of TANF.

Region IV will be conducting four consultation meetings to secure in-put, comments and feedback prior to drafting the notice of proposed TANF regulations implementing the new welfare reform legislation. Steven J. Golightly, Nell Ryan, Carol Osborne and other ACF staff will address the meetings.

Week ending January 24, 1997:

1. The Region IV RHY Specialist is currently working with the Regional Director's Office and the Public Health Service in developing and sponsoring three one-day Teen Power Conferences. The conferences will be held in Tampa, Florida, Charlotte, North Carolina, and Knoxville, Tennessee. The focus of the conferences will be teen pregnancy prevention and substance abuse prevention with emphasis on prevention of tobacco usage by teens.

All RHY programs in the region have been invited and some of the programs will be making presentations on exemplary programs.

2. **Child Abuse and Neglect training** - ACF staff negotiated funding (\$15,000) from the Annie Casey Foundation to assist three grantees to conduct Child Abuse and Neglect training in Region IV in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Region IV RHY unit hosted the RHYMIS training for Information Technology International. This was a hands on workshop, where the participants spent two days learning first hand the updated reporting requirements for the youth program. The workshop was attended by 14 participants from as far away as Illinois and Texas. This was one of five workshops planned nationally this year.

3. A request will be coming to Frank Fuentes to attend and participate as a speaker at the Region IV Head Start Association Training Conference scheduled for February 3-7, 1997, in Memphis, Tennessee.
4. In an effort to meet the challenge, the Georgia Division of Family and Children Services, in co-sponsorship with the Region IV Administration for Children and Families and the Georgia Head Start Association convened a one day meeting entitled "Welfare Reform and

Child Care: The Challenge of Welfare Reform for Georgia Children and Families." The meeting was specifically planned for Division of Family and Children Services County Directors, Georgia Head Start Directors and the Executive Directors of grantee agencies.

Agenda topics included a review of the legislation, Georgia Welfare Reform program and issues affecting child care. There were opportunities for local entities to interface and dialogue around collaboration efforts. Discussions also focused on the identification of barriers and development of strategies for resolution. There were 240 participants.

Head Start staff are mailing information packets to each State Child Care Director. The packets include information on the Head Start program, a list of the Presidents of the State Head Start Associations, a list of the State Collaboration Project Directors, and information on a recent child care/Head Start summary conducted by the Region IV TASC.

The Regional Runaway and Homeless Youth Specialist is working with the Regional Child Welfare unit in planning a regional conference dealing with family and youth issues. Some of the issues to be discussed are the impact of TANF, Managed Care and Teen concerns. The conference is scheduled for March.

Week ending February 7, 1997:

On February 6, the Region IV Hub Director/Regional Administrator addressed the Region IV Head Start Association's 1997 Training Conference. More than a thousand participants representing Head Start programs, Community Action Agencies, public schools, state and local government, private contractors and many human service agencies, were in attendance. The RA emphasized the pivotal importance of the Head Start/Welfare Reform linkage, the key role Head Start will play in welfare reform, the importance of Head Start networking with other ACF and human service resources to provide the mix of services families need to move toward independence, the importance of program and management quality in local Head Start programs, the importance of the revised performance standards, the importance of Head Start as a quality provider of child care and child development services during an expanded day to meet needs of working parents, the importance of keeping our focus on customer service and quality as Head Start expands enrollment and the scope of its mission to accommodate welfare reform and the revised standards. The speech was enthusiastically received.

Steven J. Golightly addressed the Kentucky Head Start Association on January 22, emphasizing the critical relationship between Head Start and welfare reform. While commending the participants for their involvement in upgrading quality through the NAEYC accreditation process, the National Head Start Association's Quality initiative, and technology initiatives, he challenged the participants to intensify efforts to upgrade quality management and services while expanding the size and scope of their programs.

The RHY Specialist is currently working with several Runaway Programs and its member agencies

in Region IV in the development and preparation of the annual fall conference, which is sponsored by the Southeastern Network of Youth and Family Services. (RHY- Training and Technical Assistance Provider). During the first conference call of the 1997 Conference Planning Committee three subcommittees were formed. These subcommittees (Administrative and Management, Programs and Practices, and Youth Partnerships) will be responsible for coming up with ideas for workshop topics and suggestions for potential presenters for this year's conference. From these suggestions a call for presenters will be developed and disseminated. The conference is scheduled for November 6-8, 1997.

The RHY Specialist continues to collaborate with the Regional Child Welfare unit in planning a regional conference dealing with family and youth issues. Some of the issues to be dealt with in the conference are the impact of TANF, Managed Care, and Teen issues.

Week ending February 21, 1997:

Steven Golightly met with representatives of Metropolitan Dade County Community Action Agency (Miami's Head Start sponsor) and The Village (Miami's Runaway and Homeless Youth sponsor) on February 20. After visiting the Head Start and RHY facilities, Mr. Golightly met with both groups, raising the possibility for Head Start, which is lacking facilities, to delegate a portion of the program to The Village which has space in its day care facility. This is an example of collaboration at ground level, with ACF acting as the catalyst.

On February 11, Steven Golightly visited the Breckinridge-Grayson Head Start program in Kentucky, reviewing the proposed Early Start preparations as well as visiting the Head Start center currently in the process of restoration. This building is a community focal point with a rich history (many of the influential people in the community attended school there). The local people are thrilled to see the restoration, bonding Head Start and the community in a very special relationship.

Mr. Golightly met with representatives of the Breckinridge Grayson Board of Directors and Policy Council and had an individual meeting with the new Board Chairman. He discussed with them issues raised during the recent on-site monitoring visit of the Head Start program, and provided guidance concerning avenues for making corrections.

**REGION V:
ILLINOIS, INDIANA, MICHIGAN, MINNESOTA, OHIO, WISCONSIN**

Week ending November 1, 1996:

Region V Child Support has provided information to the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce to share with employers regarding the state new hire registries that are required under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act. The Region is discussing attending meetings to answer questions from employers and explaining their responsibilities under the new law.

In October, Region V Child Support made presentations on welfare reform at the Illinois Family Support Enforcement Association annual meeting and the State of Minnesota's annual meeting.

Also in the planning stage is an outreach effort to the U.S. Department of Justice who have requested training in child support enforcement. In partnership with Region V States, we hope to conduct training in the services that are available from the state IV-D agency and also explain the Federal role (both HHS and DOJ).

Region V is sponsoring a forum on November 13-15 to strategize on how child welfare administrators can work with welfare administrators to achieve the best possible outcomes for families under TANF. University and Resource Center representatives will be participants as well as our Federal partners and state and local administrators.

Week ending November 15, 1996:

OCSE, TANF and CWS staff presented an overview of the changes contained in the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, at the Native American Tribal Session of the Region V Child Care Forum, held in Chicago, November 12-15, 1996.

The regional office and the Children's Bureau sponsored a forum on Human Service Reform in Chicago, November 13-15, 1996. The forum attracted income maintenance and child welfare administrators and focused on implementation issues surrounding welfare reform and the impact on children and families.

Week ending 29 November:

The Region V Head Start unit will be hosting a "Quality Circle" in Chicago, on December 16th and 17th. The Quality Circle is a quarterly meeting of Head Start Association Presidents; Head Start Technical Assistance Providers; Head Start State Collaboration Specialists; Regional Staff representatives from Head Start, Child Care, Child Support, and TANF divisions. The purpose of the meeting is to share and discuss information on legislative and policy issues that impact on

Head Start operations by locally based grantees. In addition, recommendations are made to Technical Assistance providers for future training events. It is an informal process whereby attendees can openly discuss and voice their concerns.

On November 13-15, 1996, key administrators of the Region V Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)/ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Child Welfare Services (CWS) programs gathered together with ACF staff and their Federal partners at a valuable forum on Human Services Reform. Approximately 60 selected participants from the six Region V States participated in plenary, workshop and Round-table sessions on key issues. The speakers and presenters brought together a combination of technical expertise and practical ideas and experiences.

Lavinia Limon, Director, Office of Family Assistance, and Carol Williams, Associate Commissioner, Children's Bureau, shared their visions during presentations that were followed by extensive opportunities for questions and answers. State participants from Nebraska and Texas conducted workshops on timely issues such as managed care and privatization. In this sequel to a similar 1995 forum, the main focus was on the implementation of the TANF program by the states and Federal government and insuring that the effects of that implementation on the children and families served across programs would be positive.

Week ending December 6, 1996:

Region V Child Care staff hosted a forum for Tribal and State Child Care Program Administrators November 12-15, 1996. The forum focused on planning and administration of the new Child Care Development Fund. Sessions were conducted on fiscal & program reports, fiscal issues concerning identification and use of administrative costs, quality funds, renovation & construction for tribes, and the provisions of the welfare reform legislation. In addition, 1/2 day was spent on Tribal/State collaborative issues, dual eligibility of tribal children and TANF implementation considerations. There was a state round-table session at which state representatives discussed the status of TANF implementation in their respective states and shared ideas and concerns of various options in offering child care. In addition, there was much discussion on rate setting, sliding fee scale development, and recruiting and retention of well-trained child care providers for all categories of child care services.

Week ending December 13, 1996:

Regional Office staff met with Red Cliff Tribal representatives in the Regional Office on December 4th to discuss the Tribal's October submittal of a TANF plan. They are the first Tribe in the nation to submit a TANF plan to begin on July 1, 1996. Based on our discussions of the requirements, the Tribe expects to complete an amended submittal that will meet ACF approval before March 1, 1996. While visiting ACF, the Tribal representatives also met with Regional

Child Support staff and Child Welfare staff to discuss the feasibility of administering Child Support and Child Welfare programs. In addition, we facilitated a meeting between FNS staff and the Tribal representatives in exploring ways for the Tribe to administer Food Stamps.

Week ending January 24, 1997:

Regional Office staff conducted a conference call with representatives of the State TANF and work programs in the region to obtain ideas on how the Department should approach the NPRM for the TANF program. Issues addressed included work requirements, data collection, penalties, and the high performance bonus provisions of the new welfare law.

On January 16, representatives of the Regional Office joined the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and the Chicago Child Care Association at their Quarterly Board Meeting in Chicago. This group agreed to offer its suggestions and comments on the three goals stated in the President's Radio Address of August 14, 1996, in which he outlined his Adoption 2002 Initiative. The participants focused their attention on opening topics like removing barriers to permanency, timely decision-making throughout the child welfare system, and the impact of the Multi-ethnic Placement Act on increasing access to adoption. Focus was next directed toward moving children more rapidly into adoptive homes or permanent placements. Lively discussions continued on doubling the number of children in placement and learning of proposed innovations in Illinois' child welfare system. The spirited group closed out with thoughts on notable cross-cutting principles to aid in Federal planning for this initiative.

January 21-22nd, Head Start and Child Care staff conducted an outreach briefing to an audience of approximately 150 people representing 90% of the Illinois Head Start grantees. The two day briefing focused on the Revised Head Start Performance Standards in the context of Welfare Reform. Each standard was reviewed individually and issues such as TANF work requirements, child care availability, time limits, etc. and their impact on operationalizing the standards was discussed. There was a lot of discussion on the new standards surrounding family partnerships and community collaboration efforts. There will be a series of three Head Start management team training conducted in the Chicago area between March and April which will contain ACF staff involvement.

Week ending February 7, 1997:

This past week two Regional Office staff from ACF JOBS/Child Care branch attended a meeting on Chicago's Empowerment Zone hosted by a local community development organization to discuss the successes and weaknesses to date in implementing the various EZ/EC projects in Chicago. Lengthy discussion was held on the impact of Welfare Reform and the need to further insure the creation of economic opportunities in these neighborhoods of high poverty. Many questions were raised about the ability of these communities to induce companies to locate there

and to produce sufficient good jobs to enhance these neighborhoods. Much debate occurred over whether government at all levels needed to do more or whether the community residents themselves should be doing more to make the best use of the \$100 million provided to Chicago for this Zone.

Region V staff representing Head Start, Child Care, TANF and Child Support units participated in a conference call with Minnesota state agency staff representing these programs as well as selected Head Start grantees. The purpose was to discuss ways in which Head Start could provide input into the TANF plan process and identify issues concerning Head Start and child care collaboration in light of the TANF work requirements. The three hour call raised many issues that are being forwarded to the National Head Start and Child Care Collaboration work group for further exploration. Concern was identified in the area of incompatible regulations, guidance on utilization of Head Start resources for TANF families, and development of locally designed options to better serve families.

Community meetings were held in two Illinois communities this past week to review the plans for consolidation of services under welfare reform and the State's departmental reorganization about to be implemented across the State. The Waukegan Community Federation members in their meeting saw that people in need are often lost in the current system in which many agency functions overlap. They felt the change to assignment to a single case worker in a one-stop shopping environment will greatly alleviate client confusion and waste. In a similar meeting at the Round Lake Public Library, representatives of the Illinois Department of Public Aid and the Social Security Administration held a seminar titled, "Welfare Reform: What Does It All Mean?" to spread the message of personal responsibility and the promotion of self-sufficiency. The changes in eligibility requirements for SSI and Food Stamps recipients and the 2 and 5 year time limits for cash assistance eligibility were the main topics of discussion and confusion among residents attending this meeting.

Week ending February 14, 1997:

Staff from the Regional Office this week attended a two-day workshop at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, titled, Implications of the New Welfare Law in Illinois: Exploring Common Issues and Strategies. This two-day retreat was sponsored by the Chicago Community Trust to bring together government, policy, advocacy and human service staffs to explore the affects and prospects for human service delivery under the welfare reforms being undertaken locally and nationally. A series of sessions worked to review the "challenges" as well as the "opportunities" presented by reforms underway on the welfare system and to draft the action steps that need to be taken as Illinois moves forward with their welfare reform programs.

Thirty-four communities across the state will share in Michigan's first-ever Innovation Support Grants and Innovation Recognition Awards, Governor John Engler announced. The grants are designed to support Multi-Purpose Collaborative Bodies (MPCBs), which are working in local

communities to achieve better outcomes for families and children. The awards recognize and celebrate the successes of MPCBs. A total of \$95,000 is being divided among 13 proposals for grants and 21 for awards. The awards are based on innovation in principals and practices of systems reform, such as collaboration, consumer involvement and empowerment. The award nominations were judged by the progress each MPCB has individually achieved in demonstrating a growing commitment to and implementation of systems reform. MPCBs are collaborative bodies that forge alliances, create shared visions and mobilize community resources for families and children within the community. The directors of participating state departments convened a Systems Reform Task Force to make recommendations about collaborative, seamless, locally controlled family-friendly systems of services. The task force report made 50 recommendations. From these, the department directors chose ten recommendations as steps that are critical to implementation, including the awards and grants.

Regional ACF staff conducted external outreach with State staff on Tribal TANF with Wisconsin Tribes during a coordination meeting with the Great Lakes Intertribal Council's Welfare Reform Task Force in Madison, Wisconsin. At that meeting on February 4th draft copies of the Tribal outreach pre-NPRM were distributed for comment.

"Dear Colleague" letters with the Tribal TANF questions were sent February 10th to Tribal Chairs of the 34 Federally recognized Tribes located in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. A deadline of March 28 was provided for their written comments. Simultaneously, letters went to the same three State Human Services' Directors, the 29 Tribal Child Care Development Fund Coordinators, the 11 Tribal JOBS Coordinators and the 3 State JOBS Directors apprising them of the Tribal TANF opportunity.

Week ending February 21, 1997:

Regional Office staff will attend some of the Illinois TANF Draft Plan Hearings scheduled over the next two weeks across the state.

REGION VI:
ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, NEW MEXICO, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS

Week ending December 6, 1996:

The DHHS Region VI Regional Director along with ACF Program Specialists will provide a briefing on welfare reform to the Texas Senate Finance Committee on December 3, 1996 in Austin, Texas. The purpose of this briefing is to provide a Federal perspective on welfare reform implementation as committee members prepare for the key fiscal decisions they will be facing during the Texas legislative regular session (January 1997).

Week ending January 3, 1997:

The State of Texas is holding the first of its public hearings on welfare reform on 1/9/97 in Austin, Texas. Regional staff will be attending to answer questions and provide information.

Week ending January 31, 1997:

Regional Hub Director and staff met with Tom Dalton, Director, Arkansas Department of Human Services and his executive staff. Mr. Dalton stated that the Governor's welfare reform proposal is expected to pass the State legislature, which is now in session. It is not anticipated that the legislative session will result in the need for any major changes to the welfare reform plan. The State is planning to implement TANF on July 1.

The Regional Hub Director and staff conducted a "Regulations Consultation Public Forum" in Little Rock, Arkansas on January 27. Public input and comments on select provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) were received from the Department of Human Services and from State Senators and Representatives.

Regional office staff will be conducting a Welfare Reform Regulations Consultation public forum in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on January 30. The purpose of the forum is to solicit comments from State legislative representatives, State agencies and others for the formulation of regulations of select provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

Louisiana Department of Social Services in collaboration with the Head Start community is moving forward in filling the State Collaboration Director position.

The Regional Office Program Specialist for Louisiana has coordinated a collaborative effort

between the Office of Community Services (Family Preservation/Family Support Services Program) and the Louisiana Supreme Court (Court Improvement Program) on contract writing. The Supreme Court is preparing to issue RFPs for courts to implement specific court improvement projects.

The State is requesting intensive technical assistance to implement a managed care system in child welfare. The approved request has been sent to our Central Office for processing with the technical assistance being provided by one of our Resource Centers.

Another request for technical assistance was approved for implementing a community based program within the family preservation/family support program operated by the Tulsa Public Schools. The Tulsa Public Schools received a contract award from the Department of Human Services as part of its Family Preservation plan.

Week ending February 7, 1997:

Regional Office staff continue to provide technical assistance to the Louisiana State Agency Director as statutorily related questions arise in his work with the legislature. The State is planning to implement TANF July 1.

Regional Office staff conducted a Welfare Reform Regulations Consultation public forum in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on January 30. The purpose of the forum was to solicit comments from State legislative representatives, State agencies and others for the formulation of regulations of select provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

In Oklahoma, Region VI staff are providing intensive technical assistance to implement a managed care system in child welfare. The approved request has been sent to Central Office for processing with the technical assistance being provided by one of the Resource Centers.

Technical assistance was approved for implementing a community based program within the Family Preservation/Family Support program operated by the Tulsa Public Schools. The Tulsa Public Schools received a contract award from the Department of Human Services as part of its Family Preservation Plan.

Regional Office staff conducted a Tribal Welfare Reform Regulations Consultation public forum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on February 4. The purpose of the forum was to solicit comments from Tribal leaders and others for the formulation of regulations of select provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

At the request of the Texas Workforce Commission, Regional Office staff attended a TWC sponsored public hearing on January 23. The purpose of the hearing was to give the public an

overview of the existing child care service delivery system and the child care programs and to provide for public input regarding future administration of the system by Local Workforce Development Boards. Testimonies were presented by a variety of respondents. Common themes included allowing sufficient time for transitioning the transfers of service delivery to the local workforce boards; requesting that each board include or have access to a person with a strong background in child development or dependent care; and recognizing the need for quality training for child care providers and educating and assisting parents in obtaining available quality care through R&R activities.

Week ending January 24, 1997:

The Regional Administrator and regional office staff will be conducting a forum in Little Rock, Arkansas on January 27, 1997. The purpose of the forum is to solicit comments from State legislative representatives, State agencies and others for the formulation of regulations of select provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

The Regional Administrator will be conducting a welfare reform briefing on January 28, 1997 in New Orleans.

The Assistant Regional Administrator and regional office staff will be conducting a forum in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on January 30, 1997. The purpose of the forum is to solicit comments from State legislative representatives, State agencies and others for the formulation of regulations of select provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

Poor weather conditions shut down operations in Albuquerque and Santa Fe which canceled our New Mexico welfare reform consultation forum. State officials have agreed to send written comments to the regional office.

The Oklahoma Tribal Consultation on Tribal TANF will take place at the Oklahoma Historical Society auditorium, 2100 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City on Tuesday, February 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A number of DHS staff will be in attendance. Arvil Sherril (Oklahoma Department of Human Services) was most helpful in arranging the site for us.

Regional office staff conducted a "Regulations Consultation Public Forum" at the Chamber of the House of Representatives, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on January 17. Public input and comments on select provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) were received from State Senators and Representatives, Department of Human Services, Department of Education, Head Start and the Community Action Agency.

Regional Office staff met with Ronnie Bates, Oklahoma Child Support Enforcement Division

during the Mid Winter Head Start Conference. The Oklahoma Child Support Enforcement Division is actively involved in giving presentations to Head Start staff and providing Oklahoma child support information via brochures and posters to the Head Start centers.

On Friday, January 10, ACF Regional staff conducted a regulation consultation forum in Austin to receive public comment on work requirements, penalties, data collection, and performance bonuses under Title I, PRWORA, which approximately 70 people attended. Included in the audience were representatives from the primary state agencies involved in welfare reform such as Texas Department of Human Services, Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, the Attorney General's office, the Comptroller's office, and the Texas Commission for the Blind. Commissioner Mike McKinney, Health and Human Services Commission, and representatives from the Austin Center for Public Policy Priorities and the Texas Legal Services Center presented written and oral testimony at this forum. The Regional Director also participated in this forum and delivered brief remarks about HHS' regulatory intentions in soliciting public comment.

The Regional office hosted the Annual Region VI Head Start Mid-Winter Training Conference "Leadership and New Directions: Read, Think, and Plan" held January 20 through 24. The opening day kick off was dedicated to welfare reform issues with the theme "Welfare Reform: Continuing Our Focus on Strengthening the Family". Assistant Secretary, Ms. Olivia Golden made a special address during the opening session. The purpose of the conference was to bring together leaders of the Head Start programs and share up to date information on Head Start, specifically, the revised Head Start performance standards.

Week ending February 14, 1997:

Regional staff provided technical assistance on-site to the Louisiana state agency regarding draft child support legislation to meet requirements of PRWORA.

Regional staff conducted a "Tribal Consultation Forum" on February 13th at the Plaza Maya Building, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Public input and comments on tribal provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) were received. Representatives from the New Mexico DHS/Income Support Division were also in attendance.

Regional staff presented a Welfare Reform Briefing on January 29, 1997 to a class at Northlake Community College (Texas) and shared information concerning the implementation of PRWORA and the resulting impact on related programs provided nationally and specifically in the State of Texas. The class was comprised of low-income women, some of whom are public assistance recipients. This presentation provided an excellent opportunity for Federal staff to dialogue with recipients/customers regarding ramifications, real and perceived, of the new legislation.

Regional staff participated in a Texas Welfare Reform Conference, sponsored by the University

of Texas at Arlington, on February 1. This involved attending several workshops on welfare reform and participating on a panel discussion regarding the impact of welfare reform on immigrant children. Several key staff from the Texas Department of Human Services and the Texas Workforce Commission were also in attendance.

The Regional Director, the West Central HUB Director and Dallas Regional staff attended a meeting with Joseph Juarez, ETA Regional Administrator and his staff from the Department of Labor on February 12, 1997. This meeting was the result of contacts made through the Regional Director's Welfare Reform Workgroup. The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen DOL/ACF's coordination efforts in view of welfare reform. Dallas ACF staff gave a brief synopsis about each of our states status in implementing TANF (including the work program). A discussion/strategy session followed concerning ways we can work together more effectively in our states to help better coordinate DOL/ACF programs.

Regional TANF staff participated on a panel regarding Federal Perspectives and Coordination at the Department of Labor, Employment Service conference on Implementation of the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program on February 13, 1997. Discussion topics included a brief overview of TANF and the importance of subsidies/tax credits for the employer community and the need to market such programs. The audience consisted of Employment Service specialists who are operating the WOTC program and Job Corp staff whose clients may be eligible for the tax credit.

Week ending February 21, 1997:

On February 14, the West Central Hub Director, the Assistant Regional Administrator, Office of State and Tribal Programs and the New Mexico Child Support State Program Specialist met with representatives of the Navajo Nation to discuss a Joint Performance Agreement for Child Support Enforcement between the Navajo Nation, New Mexico and ACF.

On Wednesday, February 12, ACF and DOL regional staffs met to discuss welfare reform and to develop collaboration strategies for welfare reform implementation. The new Employment and Training Administration Regional Administrator, Joseph Juarez, was introduced to ACF staff. The HHS Regional Director and the West Central Regional Hub Director made opening remarks and tasked ACF and DOL to coordinate our activities in welfare reform to better assist the States in implementing their programs. DOL and ACF staff provided overviews of their assignments and the status of welfare reform in each Region VI State. Head Start and Child Support Enforcement were also represented at this meeting by Program Managers; Earl Richardson, David Chapa and James Travis, respectively. It was agreed that additional, follow-up meetings would be held later in the year, along with separate coordination sessions on a state-by-state basis to continue the success of this initial DOL/ACF collaboration.

On Thursday, February 13, Regional ACF staff participated in a DOL conference in Dallas on

the new Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program by speaking on a panel regarding welfare reform initiatives in Texas. This meeting was well-attended by representatives from Job Corps, JTPA, and Employment Services agencies from several States, including some outside of Region VI. Regional DOL staff were most appreciative of ACF's involvement in this meeting.

**REGION VII:
IOWA, KANSAS MISSOURI, NEBRASKA**

Week ending November 1, 1996:

In addition to the meeting of state TANF Directors held on October 10-11, RO will be conducting outreach in the following:

Presenting an overview of the PRWORA November 8 at the Region VII meeting of Community Action Agency Directors.

Welfare Reform and Head Start and Youth will be the topic of the November 7-8 meeting of Region VII Partners, a regional group consisting of the RO, State Child Care Directors, State Head Start Associations, and Head Start Collaboration grant directors.

The RO participates on the state welfare reform implementation work groups in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri.

Week ending November 15, 1996:

RO staff attended a regional meeting of CSBG representatives on November 7 and presented information about welfare reform and connections among CSBG, welfare reform, and Community Action Agencies. As welfare reform implementation proceeds, the demands on the resources of CSBG & Community Action Agencies will increase, especially since many of the CAA's are also Head Start grantees.

The Region VII Partners met November 7-8 and identified a number of issues and actions that need to be addressed and carried out to help families deal with welfare reform. The group discussed ways in which Head Start and child care can be connected to address the needs generated by welfare reform while maintaining Head Start quality. State child care, Head Start State Association, and Head Start State Collaboration representatives attended along with regional staff.

Week ending November 22, 1996:

Because of our involvement with state and local welfare reform planning, RO staff were invited to a community educational conference on the welfare reform law, held on November 18th, and sponsored by the Local Investment Council (LINC), Heart of America United Way and the Coalition for Positive Family Relationships. This event drew over 600 individuals representing a

wide range of public and private agencies and organizations and community leaders in the Kansas City, Missouri and Kansas metropolitan area.

The program featured Gary Stenglar, Director, Missouri Department of Social Services, Rochelle Chronister, Secretary, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Elaine Ryan, APWA, and a community reaction panel. Generally, the program focused on the challenges posed by the work requirements, issues in child care (part-time, shift work etc.), and the potential for unintended consequences. Gary Stenglar encouraged attendees to think about developing a "child support" system as opposed to a welfare system.

Overall, the program helped the community understand that state flexibility, the 5-year limit and the 2-year work requirements are "real" and are happening now. The extraordinary level of response to this educational opportunity is a clear indication of the interest in and hunger for information at the community level.

The second Region VII Stakeholders Forum Meeting was held in Omaha, Nebraska on November, 12-13, 1996. Attendance for the meeting was excellent with a cross section of stakeholders including, Kathleen Steele, Regional Director HHS, and Bill Hood, Regional Administrator, Dept. of Labor. Issues discussed included welfare reform in Region VII and linking vocational education with academic educational reform. The attendees were treated to a tour of the Omaha Housing Authority by Robert Armstrong, President and CEO of the Housing Authority.

Week ending December 13, 1996:

Both Child Care Directors and Child Welfare Directors were in the Regional Office for meetings December 12-13. During those meetings, RO staff asked for input on the TANF NPRM based on the questions Central Office sent out. Those comments are being compiled and will be sent to Central Office.

Week ending January 3, 1997:

The RO will participate with the RD in a Welfare Reform briefing of Missouri legislators on January 22. While the State agency will not be presenting as a part of the briefing, we are coordinating with them in preparing for the event.

Week ending January 10, 1997:

Region VII ACF and the Region VII Head Start Technical Assistance Support Centers sponsored an Executive Development Forum, part of which was devoted to Welfare Reform in the four States. RO staff briefed participants on the provisions of the Act and State representatives presented information about the status of implementation in each of the States. Over 500 people

attended from Head Start programs and grantees throughout the region.

The RO has entered into signed partnership agreements with the directors of each of the State social service agencies in five areas of interest to all: welfare reform, information technology, devolution through community partnerships, devolution through privatization, and performance/outcome measures. A conference call is scheduled for January 16 with the 4 agency heads to begin implementation of the agreements.

Week ending January 17, 1997:

The conference call with the 4 agency heads to begin implementation of the partnership agreements was held January 16. The States agreed to be the leads for each of the areas and determined the next steps for implementing the agreements. States and REI will determine staff to participate in each work group and each work group will then determine times and places for first working sessions.

Week ending January 24, 1997:

Region VII ACF staff joined the Regional Director in a briefing on PRWORA for members of the Missouri State Legislature. Approximately 60 legislators attended the session which was held January 22. The number present, the questions asked, and the fact that legislators extended the discussion half an hour beyond the 4:30 end time exemplified the high interest in the implementation of PRWORA. An issue of interest is what can be counted in figuring the State's MOE.

Week ending February 21, 1997:

On February 22, a Region VII OSTO staff member will present information about PRWORA and the federal role in implementing the Act at the Fifth Annual Legislative Seminar of the Reform Organization of Welfare (ROWEL) to be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Regional Office sponsored a meeting of the Region VII Child Welfare Directors Work Group February 20-21 in the Regional Office. The group also included State systems staff. The main topic of the meeting was identifying outcome measures for out-of-home placement. The group selected four outcomes as a beginning point and worked out one or more indicators for each of the four outcomes. This work fed directly into a discussion of the President's Adoption Initiative and how the States can establish baseline data and future annual targets to reach the "doubling" figure contained in the Initiative. Work on both the outcome measures and the Adoption Initiative will continue at scheduled conference calls and quarterly meetings of the Work Group.

**REGION VIII:
COLORADO, MONTANA, NORTH DAKOTA,
SOUTH DAKOTA, UTAH, WYOMING**

~~Week ending November 1, 1996.~~

On a regular and on-going basis Region VIII staff is providing information to States through a series of conference calls. Training and discussions with State and Federal Staff were provided through the CLASP conference call series. We are also having ongoing discussion with the states in this Region that have submitted their TANF Plans ie:(South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming).

Staff Briefing U.S. Public Health Service, Region VIII - September 9, 1996; Briefing on TANF Legislation provided to Federal Health Program Specialists including Colorado State JOBS

Program staff members. Briefing was held in the Federal Building, Office of Primary Care, Public Health Service, Region VIII. A total of 20 individuals were in attendance.

Regional Executive Staff Briefing - September 16, 1996; Regional Director/Regional Office Executive staff were briefed on Welfare Reform Legislation. Update on legislation and State reaction to the legislation was discussed.

Tribal/BIA Staff Briefing - September 18-20, 1996; At the request of officials from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) a briefing was conducted for BIA area officials in Billings, Montana. Most of the individuals in attendance were Social Service staff who expressed a strong interest in understanding the Welfare Reform Legislation. As part of the trip to Montana, a TANF briefing session was held for interested Tribes. Also, in attendance were Montana State staff charged with implementation of the New Welfare Reform Legislation.

Regional Office/Cost Allocation Briefing - October 2, 1996; Major briefing was conducted by ACF Regional Office staff for all ACF staff, Other Federal Agencies, ie; HUD, DOL, SSA, HCFA, FCS, OGC, and members of the Division of Cost Allocation Branch(San Francisco Office); on major pieces of the Welfare Reform Legislation. A total of 30 individuals were involved in this day long session. The session included a distribution of handouts on various areas of the legislation.

Colorado AFDC Coalition - October 11, 1996; Briefing held for coalition members. Many issues and concerns expressed on the part of the coalition. Coalition members plan to work closely with the State of Colorado for the eventual implementation of the State TANF plan.

Region VIII, Head Start Association - October 17, 1996; Welfare Reform briefing was

conducted for Head Start Staff at the Regional Head Start Association Conference, held in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

EC/EZ Coordinators - October 28, 1996; Regional Office staff assisted in planning a briefing for EC/EZ coordinators from four different regions. Ann Rosewater from the Secretary's Office was the lead in conducting this conference call briefing.

Meeting with the Governor, South Dakota - October 24, 1996; A meeting was held with the Governor of the State of South Dakota to focus on issues that have developed between the state and tribes. Central Office took the lead for the meeting and is involved in follow-up activities that may be required. Regional Office staff provided assistance as necessary.

Meeting with Utah Department of Human Services Officials - Representatives from the Regional Office and the Division of Cost Allocation, San Francisco, visited Utah Department of Human Services to discuss Welfare Reform with an emphasis on the cost allocation impact. The Department of Human Services has the lead on welfare reform until July 1, 1997 when that lead will be assumed by the new Department of Workforce Services.

Planned Outreach Activities:

Region VIII U.S. Public Health Service Regional Conference - On November 8, a welfare reform briefing will be presented by ACF regional office staff to USPHS grantees. USPHS hopes the briefing and roundtable discussion to follow will sensitize their grantees to the need for community based programs to involve themselves in the reshaping of welfare in each State. USPHS grantees have expressed an interest in the potential impact of welfare reform on low income clients served by neighborhood and migrant health clinics.

HUD Regional Conference - November 18 & 22, 1996; Welfare Reform briefing has been requested and is in the planning stages. Public Housing Officials from throughout the region including the states of Arizona and New Mexico will be in attendance. Registration for the conference is over 200 at present count. Planning meeting on the briefings will take place on November 6, 1996 with Regional HUD Program Officials. Members of Regional Welfare Reform Team will assist in the briefing.

Week ending November 8, 1996:

Regional Child Care staff have conducted regional conference calls with Region VIII state and Tribal Child Care directors as a means for disseminating child care information included in P.L. 104-193 (Title VI) (9/96, 10/96, 11/96). Additional conference calls are scheduled for 1/97, 3/97, 5/97 and 7/97.

Outreach activities include:

Regional child care staff have participated in Welfare Reform briefings provided to Regional VIII Federal staff (HHS, SSA, PHS, etc.) and Division of Cost Allocation (Denver, CO - 10/96);

Regional child care staff provided welfare reform briefing to Region VIII HHS OPDIVs (Denver, CO - 10/96);

Welfare Reform Presentation/Briefing at Regional Head Start Association Conference (Cheyenne Wyo - 10/96);

Welfare Reform Briefing presented at a Colorado Child Care Association Board meeting (Denver, CO - 10/96);

Welfare Reform (as it relates to ACF Tribal programs) Briefing presented to the Colorado Commissioner on Indian Affairs and Colorado Director of Social Services (Denver, CO - 10/96);

Tribal Welfare Reform Briefing presented at the American Indian Program Council annual training seminar (Denver, CO - 11/96);

Welfare reform briefing presented to the Colorado Early Childhood Steering Committee (Denver, CO - 10/96); and

A regional Welfare Reform Child Care Development Fund Implementation Meeting is being scheduled for the week of March 18th in Denver. Plans are to hold a comprehensive planning meeting with region VIII States and Tribes to develop draft comprehensive CCDF plans which must be submitted in July (Denver, CO - 3/97);

Regional Child Care Staff have reviewed and provided comments on TANF plans received in the regional office.

Week ending January 10, 1997:

On January 17 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., the regional office of the Department of Health and Human Services is hosting a half day meeting to explore PRWORA implementation issues and how through joint federal agency efforts these agencies can facilitate the implementation process. Agencies invited to this meeting include Housing and Urban Development, Departments of Labor, Education, Transportation and Agriculture, Office of Veterans Affairs, Social Security Administration, Immigration and Naturalization Service and from DHHS, The Health Resources and Services Administration, Administration on Aging, Health Care Financing Administration, and the Administration for Children and Families.

On December 20, individual letters, signed by the Regional Director and the ACF Regional Administrator were mailed to Region VIII State Directors, Governors and State Legislative Council Offices, requesting comments by January 15, on the TANF Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Dear Colleague letters, signed by the Regional Administrator were also sent to the Region VIII Head Start Association Board of Directors, Child Care and JOBS Tribal Chairpersons and Refugee Coordinators. On December 24, Dear Colleague letters were also sent to the Denver Federal Executive Board

REGION IX
CALIFORNIA, GUAM, HAWAII, NEVADA, TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Week Ending November 1, 1997

Interagency Welfare Reform group to meet. Convened by the Regional Director, the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform group will meet on November 7. In addition to ACF staff, the interagency group includes representatives from HCFA, HRSA, PHS, DCA, Regional Counsel, FCS, SSA, DoL, DoE, HUD, and INS.

Interagency Welfare Reform work groups established. Coordinated by Regional ACF staff, four work groups have been set up to address cross-cutting welfare reform issues in the Region. They are: Cost Allocation (DCA, ACF, FCS, and HCFA); Automated Systems (ACF, FCS and HCFA); TANF/Food Stamps Work Requirements (FCS and ACF); and TANF/Medicaid Eligibility (HCFA and ACF).

Department of Labor briefing scheduled. In followup to an earlier meeting with DoL officials and the Regional Director, ACF staff will conduct a briefing for DoL staff on Welfare Reform in early November. DoL's primary interest is TANF.

Regions IX & X

Welfare reform redesign workshop planning underway. States in Regions IX and X along with Regional Office staff are planning a welfare reform redesign workshop to be held on December 12 and 13 in San Francisco. The purpose of the workshop is to engage in hands on discussions around redesign issues which the States wish to adopt and/or which they believe will be explored during legislative sessions commencing in January 1997.

Bay Area

Bay Area Redesign initiative. In followup to the Bay Area Redesign initiative (the RD's Building Bridges project), we continue to participate in meetings that will facilitate the connecting of human services and economic development/employment programs. As a result, targeted outreach to economic development, business, and employment consortia will be initiated to convey the importance of getting involved in local welfare reform efforts.

Foundations outreach. Staff are involved with Bay Area foundations to provide information on welfare reform, to facilitate collaborations with service providers, and to facilitate the development of a local foundation strategy for financial support of projects/grants related to welfare reform.

Hawaii

Department of Human Services Inter-Agency Task Force established. Outstationed staff

will participate on the DHS Task Force which has been established to work on implementation of changes brought about by PRWORA. The first meeting is set for November 13.

Week ending November 8, 1996

NACo seminar scheduled. Convened by the Regional Director, representatives from ACF, HCFA and FCS will participate in a welfare reform seminar on November 22, 1996 at NACo's Employment Policy and Human Services Conference in Long Beach.

RD's Task Force on Welfare Reform. As a result of the Task Force meeting on November 7, representatives from ACF, FCS, DoE, HUD, and DoL will develop a draft vision statement which focuses on the changing federal role and how the federal agencies can work differently as well as identify our capacity building needs. This will be shared with the RD and the entire Task Force at its next meeting. Also, the DCA representative will convene a subcommittee to deal with changes to States' cost allocation plans due to the legislation.

Collaborative responses to welfare reform working session. The Region was invited to participate in a one-day working session sponsored by the County Collaborative Reform Network to provide an opportunity for county collaborative teams to begin develop a welfare reform policy agenda that addresses children's issues from an integrated service perspective. The event is scheduled for December 9 in Sacramento.

Portland Child Support Conference. With Region X staff, we have assisted CO in planning the Portland conference scheduled for next week. RO staff will be participating as presenters, facilitators and moderators in workshops and plenary sessions and will be covering child support, TANF, and child care provisions of the new legislation (both program and financial). Region IX staff are especially focused on cross-cutting or cross-program issues as well as States' plans for implementation and strategies for involving others in the process.

Outreach to new Head Start Directors. The RA will speak to new Head Start Directors in Concord about welfare reform and opportunities for collaboration on November 12.

Outreach to California's Head Start Association. RO staff will participate at the State's annual Head Start Association meeting on November 15 in San Francisco to talk about TANF and child care changes and opportunities and impacts.

Week ending November 22, 1996

Regional Director's Welfare Reform Task Force. Representatives from ACF, HUD, DoL, Education and FCS met on November 20 to prepare a vision statement or purposes for the Welfare Reform Task Force, and to delineate its structure and operating process. The draft statement will be given to the RD and all members of the Task Force to provide guidance and

focus to our partnership. It was agreed that HHS is the lead Federal agency for Welfare Reform.

NACo meeting attended in Long Beach. On November 22, ACF and other Federal agency representatives participated in a NACo welfare reform seminar in Long Beach, California chaired by Grantland Johnson, HHS Regional Director. Over 100 persons attended, representing county governments, including elected officials. Representatives from ACF, HCFA, SSA, INS, DoL, FCS and HUD presented key features of the PRWORA. Questions raised covered impacts on immigrants, when guidance would be issued for different provisions (including ACF fiscal guidance for close out), how to engage with the states around the development of their TANF plans.

Foundation outreach underway. The RA is working with Bay Area foundations to plan several meetings on welfare reform which aim to inform and collaborate with 30 local foundations that serve children and families. The first forum will be in January and will entail briefing foundation representatives on the various provisions of the PRWORA. A second forum is anticipated and will concentrate on what foundations are doing and their roles vis-a-vis welfare reform. Some consideration is being given to opportunities for more formal partnerships with local foundations that focus on children and families.

Week ending November 29, 1996

California

County responses to welfare reform. Regional office staff will be participating with California County representatives in collaborative responses to welfare reform on December 9 in Sacramento. The day-long meeting will focus on identifying specific issues that need to be addressed, the areas in which critical issues will be raised, desired outcomes for a welfare reform policy agenda, and strategies to be pursued at the local and State levels.

Welfare reform outreach strategy under development. Staff in collaboration with the Regional Director are developing an welfare reform outreach strategy statement and two-year plan. An initial draft is expected to be prepared by the end of the year. Attention will be given to employment/economic development outreach and collaboration.

Week ending January 10, 1997

California State legislative briefing scheduled. In response to a request received by Regional Director Grantland Johnson from Senate President Pro Tempore Bill Lockyer and Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante for briefings on welfare reform as affecting immigrants, a series of meetings has been scheduled in Sacramento for January 16, 1997. Regional Office staff will participate as members of the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force in a briefing of legislative staff, county, state agency staff, and others. Lavinia Limon has been invited by the

Regional Director to participate in closed sessions with State legislators from the Senate and Assembly on that day also.

San Francisco launches outreach to help welfare recipients deal with cuts. To help welfare recipients deal with expected changes, city officials conducted a two-day, citywide outreach effort this week to provide information about alternative welfare sources and other programs for the needy. Over 100 volunteers set up outreach centers at 23 sites throughout the city where residents can obtain a new "Survival Guide," which, according to local officials, lists options for those who are at risk of losing federal welfare assistance.

Week ending January 17, 1997

Del Paso Heights community plans for welfare reform. Nearly one-third of the residents of Del Paso Heights (a neighborhood in Sacramento) are on welfare and face time limits and work requirements. 1,200 families will need jobs or help if they can't find jobs. The Mutual Assistance Network of Del Paso Heights has organized community meetings to develop a plan in response to welfare reform changes. The local organizing and planning approach underway is a potential model for other neighborhoods and communities to assist welfare families to become economically self-sufficient.

Initial discussions of Employment and Training committee held. One of the Region IX Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force committee's is Employment and Training, and is co-chaired by ACF and DoL. Other members include FCS and DoL's Women's Bureau. A workplan is under development.

Region Specific Initiatives

Regionwide:

Head Start and welfare reform planning. On February 5, the Region will be convening a planning meeting to discuss opportunities for Head Start related to welfare reform. All Head Start Associations and State collaboration grantees are expected to participate along with Child Care, Child Support, Child Welfare, TANF and other staff. This planning meeting is the result of ongoing discussions with Regional Office staff, grantees, and our T/TA contractors. It is hoped that a plan of action with specific steps that achieve collaboration results will be developed.

Week ending January 24, 1997

Input for regulations development. We are beginning to receive input from around the Region for consideration in the development of PRWORA regulations in response to the ACF questions.

These are being sent forward to the CO task force chairs and other CO staff. Thus far, the responses appear to address concerns and recommendations to the penalty, bonus, and work requirement questions. In addition, during the Regions IX and X Welfare Reform Redesign Conference held in December 1996, several plenary sessions were held on work requirements. Input from those sessions have been sent forward to CO as well.

Follow-up to Regions IX and X Welfare Reform Redesign Conference underway. Conference proceedings were distributed in early January to all participants from the two Regions and to CO staff. It was agreed that there would be some targeted follow-up to be determined by the States and RO staffs in January or February. Conference calls with the planning group are being scheduled to identify our welfare reform follow-up initiatives.

Week ending January 31, 1997

Bifurcation rollout initiated. On January 31, RO staff faxed TANF-ACF-PA-97-1 (guidance concerning MOE, definition of assistance and other provisions in the PRWORA of 1996) to State Directors and senior technical staff (program and financial). Calls were made as well. In addition, the Regional Director rolled out the guidance to State legislators (heads of committees), advocacy organizations, and other key interested parties. We are offering to convene teleconferences with State staff to review the guidance, and will forward reactions to CO.

Head Start and welfare reform. On February 5, the Region will host a day long meeting to discuss collaboration opportunities presented by welfare reform for Head Start grantees and other ACF programs -- TANF, child care, child support, and developmental disabilities. Participants will include the various State Head Start Associations, State Collaboration grantees, our resource contractors, and RO staff. Expected outcomes include identifying opportunities for collaboration, next steps and desired results.

Region IX Interagency Task Force on Welfare Reform. As previously reported, the RD's task force has set up working committees to move ahead on cross-cutting issues: Cost Allocation, Employment and Training (Welfare to Work); Immigrants, Children, and Health. The Employment and Training Committee, co-chaired by ACF and DoL, has met and is developing a plan. Also, the Immigrants committee, co-chaired by FCS and ACF, has met and is developing a plan. We are currently working with FCS and U.C. at Berkeley to jointly develop internships for two public policy graduate students to assist us.

Children's issues committee meets. Co-chaired by DoL (Barbara Sanford of the Women's Bureau) and FCS (Karen Howard of Special Nutrition Programs), the committee met on January 27. Patti Siegel, Executive Director of the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, gave an overview of child care issues, especially those related to welfare reform or those that have been on the child care advocates agenda for some time. The committee is in the early stages of sorting out the issues and determining what other Federal partners should be

involved.

Employment and Training committee meets. Members met on January 23 to refine its goals and purposes as well as the types of issues that would be appropriate for our attention. The committee is co-chaired by DoL (ETA) and ACF. Members include DoL Women's Bureau, FCS Food Stamps, ACF and DoL (ETA). The committee will be expanded to include Department of Education and HUD. The most readily apparent cross-cutting issue relates to JTPA grantees' ability to transfer 20 percent of funds from programs for displaced workers to programs for the economically disadvantaged (e.g., TANF population). An additional area concerns JTPA waivers of performance standards where this will encourage SDAs to serve hard to place welfare recipients.

Immigration committee meets. On January 27 the group (representatives from FCS, INS, ACF, SSA, and HCFA) met to discuss its purposes and desired outcomes. Initially the group will share information so that the members have a common base of knowledge. The committee was invited to a briefing on INS' Disability Waivers to the Citizenship Process.

California:

Tribal Forum attended. On January 29, RO staff participated in a Tribal welfare reform forum for California Tribes. Sponsored by the California Indian Manpower Consortium, the California Coalition on Indian Child Welfare, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, approximately 25 Tribes were represented. The participants' main areas of concern were the delays in issuing guidance on Tribal TANF, training and technical assistance needed to implement a Tribal TANF program, and time-frames for providing input on the development of regulations. State staff provided information about the Governor's welfare reform proposal and the data available to determine the amount of funding a Tribe would receive. Concern was expressed that the amount of funding a State is required to transfer to a Tribe is based upon the Federal share of IV-A expenditures and does not include the State/local share. The Washoe (in Alpine County and Nevada) and the Chemehuevi (in San Bernardino County and Arizona) have contacted the State for estimated Tribal TANF funding information.

Week ending February 7, 1997

Consultation invitation letter released to Tribes. This week letters were sent to over 100 Tribes, inviting them to participate in a consultation process to provide input relating to the Tribal TANF program. To the extent possible, Regional Office staff will be contacting Tribes to encourage their involvement in this consultation effort.

California:

Staff participate at National Eligibility Workers Association meeting. On January 30,

Regional Office staff participated on a panel at the California Chapter of the National Eligibility Workers Association meeting in Modesto. An eligibility worker commented during the discussion period that "if she had a disabled non-citizen apply for medical or cash benefits, she would grant it regardless of eligibility." Others in the audience assented.

Broader child-care struggles seen as spinoff from welfare reform. Many welfare recipients believe that the scarcity of safe and affordable child care is one of the most formidable obstacles in the road to welfare reform. The first hurdle for welfare recipients is getting a job. The next hurdle is what do they do with their children once they are employed? Government-subsidized child care may not be readily available. In Santa Clara County, for example, there are about 10,000 low-income youngsters who receive free or reduced-cost care. Unfortunately, the demand far exceeds the supply with nearly 13,000 children on the waiting list at licensed facilities. And under welfare reform some experts estimate, that list could swell by another 20,000 in this one County. Another option is to try to pay for the child care with wages earned. Costs will vary per child from around \$745 to \$440 monthly. Family day care homes are less expensive but it would still be costing depending on the number of children and their ages. Child advocates say many parents moving off of welfare will have two options: rely on relatives or unlicensed providers who aren't subject to health and safety inspections and may lack experience to provide quality care, and leave their children alone to fend for themselves. Child care advocates urge increased funding and hope to influence the current welfare reform program proposals under consideration by the Legislature.

Elderly disabled immigrant. Lotus Yee Fong, a San Francisco resident and member of Senior Action Network, an advocacy group, said her family has been taking care of a 70-year old Chinese immigrant for the past 30 years. The woman, who is mentally retarded and schizophrenic, was abandoned by her family and now lives in a rest home. Almost all of her monthly SSI check of \$730 goes to pay the \$650 monthly room and board charges. Because of her disabilities, she has never been able to take the U.S. citizenship test. Without her SSI check, the woman would have to leave the rest home and would probably end up in a State mental hospital. According to Fong, "she is not abusing the system, she truly needs society's care."

Hawaii:

Interagency Task Force meets. Regional Office staff participated in the January 8 Task Force meeting during which there was a review of the Department of Human Services waiver (Pursuit of New Opportunities - PONO) that was implemented on February 1. A representative from the Hawaii Housing Authority (HHA) was concerned about grant reductions (20 percent) and the ability of recipients to pay their rent in public housing facilities. HHA may have financial problems because 35 to 40 percent of their renters on welfare. Loss in rental income would further aggravate the cash flow problems of HHA. HHA plans to hire tenants first for any job openings. Also, transportation has been cited as one of the hurdles to finding jobs. A Department of Transportation representative advised that their Van Pool program might be of some help.

Week ending February 14, 1997

Welfare reform's impacts on Head Start assessed. Last week, the Regional Office convened a meeting to identify potential impacts of welfare reform on Head Start programs, families and children. Participants included our staff responsible for Head Start, Child Support, TANF, Child Care, Developmental Disabilities, and Child Welfare programs; representatives of State Head Start Associations; staff from the Head Start training and technical assistance providers; and staff from the Arizona and Nevada Collaboration projects. An array of issues and possible responses/opportunities were identified. The notes will be shared with all Head Start grantees and other agencies throughout the Region to begin to address some of the proposed responses/opportunities for collaboration.

School-to-Work opportunities addressed. The RA spoke at a plenary session on welfare reform to about 600 attendees at the DoL and Department of Education multi-regional (Regions VIII, IX and X) School-to-Work conference on February 13 in Los Angeles. Among the opportunities discussed were services for minor teen parents and extended child/day care services linked with school and job training programs.

Regions IX and X:

Welfare reform redesign next steps identified. On February 10, representatives from Regions IX and X States, Regional Office staffs, and Central Office representatives participated in a teleconference to determine next steps building on our December Welfare Reform Redesign conference, especially the changing nature of the Federal/State relationship. It was agreed that we would continue our collaborative efforts to jointly convene several technical assistance teleconferences where States and Federal staff would continue to work on topics of interest to the States as they implement welfare reform changes. These teleconferences would encompass information (best practices), where States are at or have decided, implementation issues for discussion, cross-cutting issues and understanding the connections or disconnects (e.g., SSA, INS, HCFA, FCS, and ACF). The following topics and dates for teleconferences were agreed to: employment development opportunities/job creation strategies - March 20; noncitizen issues - April 10; and TBD - April 24. Staff from the two Regions will work with the States and CO staff will be invited to participate. The States generally expressed a strong interest in doing this to help them as they had very little time to engage in technical exchanges because of the current demands presented by their legislative sessions now underway.

TANF-ACF-PI-97-1 issues and comments received. The PI was generally well received both for the flexibility that it extends to States and for ACF's efforts to deal with the difficult issues of identifying qualified funds for MOE; the use of Federal TANF funds; and in defining "eligible families" and "assistance." With regard to process, the PI invites comments and suggestions on the topics it addresses. As we receive comments, these will be sent forward to Mack Storrs and Diann Dawson, unless otherwise determined. Among the questions and comments on content

that we have received thus far are the following:

California DSS asked if a Tribe decides to operate its own TANF program, section 412(a)(1) requires the State to transfer a portion of its Federal dollars to the Tribes. This results in a fiscal advantage to the State in that State funds that had been expended on behalf of individuals now covered under a Tribal TANF program do not have to be transferred to the Tribe and those amounts also reduce the level of historic State expenditures requirement in section 409(B)(7). Some California Tribes have pointed out that Federal dollars alone are not sufficient to operate a TANF program and would like to see State savings be transferred to Tribes. If California decides to transfer State dollars to Tribes to operate their own TANF programs, will the State be able to count this toward meeting its level of historic State expenditures?

Nevada Welfare Division staff noted that the proposed definition of assistance appears somewhat more narrow than language in the statute, and that such a definition appears to benefit the States as it allows for treatment of clients in case management, counseling, placement and as recipients of one-time "special needs" type payments to not count for purposes of the months of eligibility or in the numerator for calculating work participation requirements.

Staff participate in dialogue with local foundations. On February 6, the Zellerbach Family Fund hosted a welfare reform briefing by Region IX Federal Agencies. Attending were representatives from local foundations and corporations (e.g., San Francisco Foundation, Kaiser Permanente Foundation, Pacific Bell, Marin Community Foundation, Irvine Foundation, Citibank, Peninsula Community Foundation). Representatives from INS, SSA, FCS, HCFA, and ACF responded to three questions: what each is currently doing to implement welfare reform? how each agency is collaborating with other entities, public and private? what foundations might consider doing in a welfare reform environment? Foundations and corporate representatives were interested in hearing about the impacts on immigrants and job development/economic development activities that support welfare to work. A lively discussion ensued which touched upon the role of government, foundations and non-profit sectors, how we need to work together, how we need to recast our partnerships, and what some of the perceived operating constraints are (e.g., foundation structures, history, etc.). General reaction to the event was positive in that this was an opportunity for learning and open exchange of views and concerns. Also, Department of Labor officials attended.

California:

Bay Area partnership for building health and self-sufficient communities for economic prosperity looks at regionwide strategy for welfare reform. On February 5, representatives (elected officials, program administrators, non-profit organizations) from the nine Bay Area Counties met to begin to devise a regional approach to welfare reform implementation that focuses on job creation and economic development opportunities. Very much involved in this effort is HHS Regional Director Grantland Johnson and the members of our Interagency Welfare

Reform Task Force. Among the issues explored were how to link to clusters of economic growth, identification of occupations where there are job opportunities, determining job skills, mobilizing job training and preparation programs, linking public and private ventures, understanding the labor market and economic trends, etc. Success in a welfare reform environment will require local flexibility, integrating service systems (employment-related and social services), jobs and new partnerships. There needs to be clarity as to goals and outcomes which can be measured along the way. Also, there was support for partnership with Federal agency representatives to work side-by-side in devising new and creative approaches to achieve the goals of welfare reform. The various counties represented shared information about their planning and implementation activities to date. An action plan draft summary was shared in hopes to supporting a regionwide approach to employment for welfare families.

Week ending February 21, 1997

Bay Area Partnership invites Economic Development Agency (EDA) to participate. A conference call was held with leadership of the Bay Area Partnership project (including the Regional Director and ACF) to invite staff of the Economic Development Agency, Department of Commerce to participate in the local community efforts to support job creation/development for welfare recipients. Lynn Smith, EDA Regional Director (covers Regions IX and X), expressed interest as did his senior staff about possible areas for involvement in community partnership building that results in jobs for welfare families. He will be exploring how and what EDA might do while in Washington, D.C. next week. He was also invited to participate in the Regional Director's Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force.

Regionwide:

RD's Interagency Welfare Reform Task Force Meets. On February 19, the Task Force met during which time reports from each of the participating agencies were given as to where each is with implementing various requirements and reports from the five standing committees were given. The Employment and Training Committee is moving along to identify cross-cutting issues, mechanisms for coordination, and processes for keeping one another informed. Also, the RD discussed the role of Task Force members in engaging with State Legislatures on welfare reform proposals, especially a process to respond to technical questions. Strong interest has been conveyed to the RD for greater involvement by the Federal representatives with California's legislative staff. We expect to develop a protocol that his responsive and yet sensitive to critical issues.

**REGION X:
ALASKA, IDAHO, OREGON, WASHINGTON**

Week ending November 1, 1996

- Acting Assistant Secretary Golden met with the four Region X Umbrella Agency heads in Seattle to discuss implementation issues regarding Welfare Reform in their states.
- Region X staff briefed Department of Labor and Regional Directors of Employment Security in Region X states on Welfare Reform.
- Region X Child Welfare staff briefed the Washington State Division of Family Services on Welfare Reform issues related to their activities.
- Region X OCSE staff briefed the Seattle King County Department of Health on Welfare Reform as it relates to their activities.

Week ending November 22, 1996

Region 10, in conjunction with the Region 10 Regional Director's office is presenting a Federal Interdepartmental Welfare Reform Forum in Seattle, WA on December 6, 1996. The theme is Welfare Reform and there will be several hundred Federal and Federal Congressional staff in attendance.

Region X ACF is sponsoring a Native American Conference in Seattle, WA on December 4-6, 1996. The theme is Welfare Reform-Tribes, States, Feds,: Where Do We Go From Here? There will be 200-300 in attendance representing Native Americans, State Agency personnel and Federal staff.

On November 15, 1996 the Regional Administrator met with the 12 Alaska Native Corporations and the Metlakatla Tribe to discuss TANF in preparation for the possible submittal of TANF plans by these entities.

•**Native** - Regional Staff met with the Alaska Maniilaq corporation on November 12-13 to discuss TANF and the possible submittal of a TANF plan by Manillaq.

Week ending November 29, 1996

Region 10, in conjunction with the Region 10 Regional Director's office is presenting a Federal

Interdepartmental Welfare Reform Forum in Seattle, WA on December 6, 1996. The theme is Welfare Reform and there will be several hundred Federal and Federal Congressional staff in attendance.

Region X ACF is sponsoring a Native American Conference in Seattle, WA on December 4-6, 1996. The theme is "Welfare Reform-Tribes, States, Feds,: Where Do We Go From Here?" There will be 200-300 in attendance representing Native Americans, state Agency personnel and Federal staff.

Week ending January 3, 1997

The Regional Administrator and members of the RO X ACF Welfare Reform Implementation Team (WRIT) along with the Region X Acting Regional Director have formed a Federal interagency task force to address concerns regarding implementation of the PRWORA. The group will meet on January 22, 1997 to develop an action plan regarding PRWORA. At that meeting the participants will break into focus groups to work on pre-NPRM concerns as a component of the RO X pre-NPRM Welfare Outreach plan.

Week ending January 17, 1997

- The Regional Administrator and members of the RO X ACF Welfare Reform Implementation Team (WRIT) along with the Region X Acting Regional Director have formed a Federal interagency task force to address concerns regarding implementation of the PRWORA. The group will meet on January 22, 1997 to develop an action plan regarding PRWORA. At that meeting the participants will break into focus groups to work on pre-NPRM concerns as a component of the RO X pre-NPRM Welfare Outreach plan.
- On January 15th the Regional Administrator met with Seattle City Council's Ad Hoc Committee on Welfare Reform. He briefed the Council members on the key features of the Federal legislation and on the status of the Washington State Welfare Reform plan. His presentation was followed by a question and answer session during which he discussed opportunities for the Council to be proactive in the Welfare Reform arena.
- On January 16th, 1997, the Regional Administrator and the RO X Tribal Team Leader met with State and Alaska Native representatives to discuss the comparability criteria required by the Welfare Reform Law.

Week ending January 24, 1997

- On January 22, 1997, the Region X Federal interagency task force on PRWORA met and

developed a structure for working jointly on implementation plans for PRWORA.

- Members of the Region X Federal interagency task force on PRWORA participated in focus groups to address pre-NPRM concerns. Discussions were held on Work Requirements, Tribal Program Requirements, Penalties/Maintenance of Effort and Data Collection and Reporting for States and Tribes.
- On January 24, 1997, Steve Henigson, Regional Administrator, made a presentation on PRWORA to the Region X Federal Interagency Farmworker Task Force. In addition to outlining the major provisions of the bill, Steve focussed specifically on the impact of the bill on Farmworkers and led a question and answer period.

While the task force consists primarily of Federal agencies, its actual composition includes representatives from ACF, PHS, HCFA, AOA, OCR, HRSA, N.W. Regional Primary Care Association, HUD, EPA, SSA, USDA, and DOL. The task force was formed under the auspices of PHS and has ACF representation on an ongoing basis.

Week ending January 31, 1997

- On January 23, a regional OCSE team member presented an overview of the paternity provisions of PRWORA to the **Yakima, Washington** staff of the Division of Child Support. (DCS)

The presentation was held at the Yakima Memorial Hospital. The Division of Child Support and Yakima Memorial Hospital have been working as partners in the Yakima area to educate the community on the importance of the early establishment of paternity. The group meets quarterly to provide information on child support services available through DCS, Washington's In-Hospital Paternity Affidavit program, and the role of the medical community. Participants include members from the medical community, CSOs, tribal representatives, legal services organizations, prosecuting attorneys, and farm workers' representatives. These meetings have been very well received in the community and additional meetings in various locations throughout the state are in the planning stages.

- A CWS team member briefed the Seattle YWCA Associate Directors of Community Affairs and Service Programs on the Welfare Reform legislation, including the domestic violence provisions. Comparative information on the recently approved Washington state TANF plan, (which incorporates their waiver) and national TANF provisions was also shared. The Seattle YWCA is hosting a WR briefing of 70 state legislators and staff 1/30. Staff of the YWCA from throughout the state will also attend with the intent of meeting with their representatives on follow-up questions and action.

- The Regional Administrator and staff met with Alaska state officials and representatives from the 12 Alaska Native Organizations to continue discussion on comparability (Metlakatla was not present). A working document of program criteria was further defined, but much work remains to be done before the document will be finalized. The group will continue to meet frequently with a facilitator until this effort is finalized.
- As part of Region X's outreach and preconsultation effort, questions related to tribal regulations were sent out to all tribes and other stakeholders (including state staff and tribal organizations) in the four Region X states. Interested parties were invited to send their input on tribal regulation content to the regional office for consideration by the national tribal regulation-writing workgroup.
- Pre-NPRM focus group consultations were held with Region X Federal agencies as part of the joint Welfare Reform Outreach Strategy implemented by ACF/Region X and the Acting Region X RD.
- Input was received on a series of questions sent to Region X states regarding pre-NPRM outreach. Input was received from the states of **Washington, Alaska, and Idaho**. **Oregon** has informed us their input is forthcoming.
- The morning **Seattle, WA** newspaper, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer today reported that a State performance audit report of the JOBS program in **Washington** was highly critical, indicating the program had a "positive but modest" impact over the two year period from 1993-1995. The auditors, from the state's Joint Legislative Audit Unit and Review Committee, concluded that "the JOBS Program may not have increased the portion of welfare recipients who would have become employed anyway".

The audit raised concerns about several elements of the JOBS Program, which is a key component of both a House welfare reform bill expected to be passed out of committee today (January 30) and a Senate welfare bill that should receive a hearing next week.

Among problems cited were:

- difficulty with enforcing participation
- lack of penalty/sanction enforcement
- violation of placement rules by non-profit contractors
- extreme variability in cost per client for providing "basic education"

- A presentation was made last week at the **Washington State** Head Start and ECEAP Conference in Olympia, WA, on the new Welfare Reform legislation and it's impact on Child Care and Head Start. The presentation included a Federal, State, and local program perspective on the impact of the legislation. A special emphasis was placed on the importance of Head Start Child Care coordination to maximize resources and better meet

the needs of AFDC families served by Child Care and Head Start.

- Regional staff attended a meeting of the Washington State Tribal Workgroup. Participants included the Tribal Court Judges, Tribal Attorneys, Washington State IV-D Director, Attorney General Staff, and Division of Child Support Staff. Regional staff reported on recent Federal changes including: the technical amendments to PRWORA, regulation and consultation efforts, and 1 percent training and technical assistance. Also mentioned was the new team in the regional office working on Tribal TANF issues.

Week ending February 7, 1997

- A Region X staff member presented information on welfare reform at the Family Center Conference of the Family Centers of Pierce, King and Snohomish Counties of **Washington State**. She discussed the implication of welfare reform as it impacts outreach to and serving grandparents who are raising grandchildren.

Week ending February 14, 1997

- The Regional office continues to meet with tribal customers in our four states to share information on tribal TANF and the preconsultation effort related to the regulation process. In January, we met with Alaska representatives, the Washington state DSHS tribal workgroup, NICWA and other federal agencies. In February, meetings are scheduled with tribes in all four Region X states.

Week ending February 21, 1997

- The Regional office continues to meet with tribal customers in our four states to share information on tribal TANF and the preconsultation effort related to the regulation process. In February, meetings are scheduled with tribes in all four Region X states.
- Regional Staff conducted training on child support basics and the provisions of welfare reform with members of the Northwest Tribal Judges Association. The Judges Association is working with the State of Washington on a proposal funded by OCSE to develop a judicial benchbook. Considerable questions came up in the training related to tribal consultation on welfare reform particularly the provisions related to child support enforcement.
- Regional Staff from OCSE and TANF met with Washington State officials to discuss coordination and cooperation issues related to welfare reform. Questions related to the use of IV-D funds for paternity activities conducted by TANF intake workers are being

researched. The regional office will continue to be involved as a resource in planning and training for this state coordination effort. Data generated from this project has implications for effective case processing and case closure policy.

- Regional Staff from OCSE met with project staff in Washington State to review progress on their special collections research and demonstration project funded by OCSE. The project is on time and has posted some significant results in their first quarter of operation. Payments applied to sample cases have almost doubled since the special collections group has started working these cases. Regional staff will meet with the project on a quarterly basis to review progress and provide technical assistance.
- Regional staff from OCSE and Head Start met with state child support staff in Washington State to discuss common goals and coordination issues. Action items include: contact lists for both program, assigned local staff to work with head start grantees, presentation opportunities for child support and head start staff at state conferences, PR materials etc.
- Regional OCSE staff will be meeting with child support process improvement workgroups in Idaho to discuss welfare reform implementation issues. Issues of concern include: distribution, central registries, new hire reporting, financial institution data matches.
- Region X Head Start Association is planning a regional conference, "Leadership and Literacy", to be held in Seattle Washington February 26-28. Along with other topics, the management teams from the Head Start Programs in all four states will be attending on session on "The Federal Perspective: What's New, What's Changed" which will include the many impacts of welfare reform on local Head Start Programs.