



HUMAN
RESOURCES
AGENCY
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

ADMINISTRATION
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September 18, 1998

Agenda: October 6, 1998

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Santa Cruz County
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REVISIONS UPDATE

Dear Members of the Board:

As you know, General Assistance program revisions were approved by your Board on October 7, 1997. At that time, your Board directed the Human Resources Agency to report back on or before one year on the results of the changes. The purpose of this letter is to provide your Board with information on the implementation of the revisions.

Attachment "A" documents the revisions approved last year, the number of General Assistance clients effected by the change and the impact on the clients. Due to a General Assistance caseload reduction, the actual number of General Assistance clients effected by the changes was less than estimated for each of the revisions.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board file and accept the report on the General Assistance program regulations approved on October 7, 1997.

Very truly yours,

CECILIA ESPINOLA
Administrator

CE/CW/cw

Attachments

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W E N D E D :

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

34



Change	Number Effected	Impact
Applicants/Clients who failed to arrive within 15 minutes of their appointment time were rescheduled for the following month.	Seven (7) applicants failed to arrive within 15 minutes and were rescheduled for the following month.	Of the 7 applicants who were more than 15 minutes late without good cause, 5 reapplied immediately and 2 did not reapply. Of the 5 who reapplied, 3 were "no shows" for their second GA appointment and 2 were granted GA.
Clients after a medical evaluation exempting them from employment must abide by the recommendations of the medical provider.	Eight (8) clients did not participate in their treatment plan and were discontinued from General Assistance.	All 8 clients were discontinued for failure to participate in their treatment plan. Six reapplied and were again approved GA. Two discontinued recipients did not reapply.
Benefits granted for up to two months based on a brief evaluation by the County Mental Health staff while waiting for a psychiatric evaluation appointment.	Three (3) applicants were granted General Assistance after the brief evaluation by County Mental Health staff.	None of the 3 received continuing medical statements signed by a psychiatrist. Two recipients obtained medical statements from HSA for physical complaints. One client didn't respond to the closing notice and the case closed.
Persons with a substance abuse problem classified as employable. With failure to meet employment regulations, may be eligible as a temporarily incapacitated person and receive General Assistance for 6 months based on substance abuse incapacity.	No clients were reclassified with a temporary incapacity 03 substance abuse.	N/A
Effective 1/1/98, the following individuals became ineligible for GA: a) fleeing felons, b) those with a felony substance abuse conviction on or after 1/1/98, c) those sanctioned in CalWORKs.	a) One (1) fleeing felon ^{BBM} denied GA b) One (1) individual was denied GA due to felony substance abuse conviction. c) No one was denied GA due to CalWORKs sanctions.	N/A
Additional sanction period 03 six months for third and subsequent refusal or failure to comply with GA regulations.	One (1) six month sanction was imposed.	The 6 month sanction began in March. The client has reapplied and will be approved, if otherwise eligible.