

effectiveness of various approaches to teaching children how to read and report on the best ways to apply these findings in classrooms and at home. Its members include prominent reading researchers, teachers, child development experts, leaders in elementary and higher education, and parents. The Chair of the Panel is Dr. Donald N. Langenberg, Chancellor of the University System of Maryland.

The Panel will build on the recently announced findings presented by the National Research Council's Committee on the Prevention of Reading Difficulties in Young Children. Based on a review of the literature, the Panel will: determine the readiness for application in the classroom of the results of these research studies; identify appropriate means to rapidly disseminate this information to facilitate effective reading instruction in the schools; and identify gaps in the knowledge base for reading instruction and the best ways to close these gaps.

The purpose of the meetings of the Panel will be to provide an opportunity for interaction between the Panel members regarding the Panel's charge and to receive input from experts and the general public regarding that charge. Through these interactions the Panel hopes to make its task clear to others while gaining useful input from those it intends to inform. A period of time will be set aside for members of the public to address the Panel and express their views regarding the Panel's mission. Individuals desiring an opportunity to speak before the Panel should address their requests to F. William Dommel, Jr., Executive Director, National Reading Panel, c/o Ms. Amy Andryszak and either mail them to the Widmeyer-Baker Group, 1875 Connecticut Avenue NW., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20009, or e-mail them to amya@twbg.com or fax them to 202-667-0902. Requests for addressing the Panel should be received as soon as possible. Panel business permitting, each public speaker will be allowed five minutes to present his or her views. In the event of a large number of public speakers, the Panel Chair retains the option to further limit the presentation time allowed to each. Although the time permitted for oral presentations will be brief, the full text of all written comments submitted to the Panel will be made available to the Panel members for consideration.

For further information contact Ms. Amy Andryszak 202-667-0901. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should

contact Ms. Amy Andryszak as soon as possible.

Dated: May 26, 1998.

Duane Alexander,

Director, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

[FR Doc. 98-14495 Filed 6-1-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Office of Extramural Research; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Peer Review Oversight Group (PROG) on June 17-18, 1997 in the C-Wing of Building 31, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20892. The meeting will be held in Conference Room 8 on June 17, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and in Conference Room 7 on June 18, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public subject to space restrictions.

The Committee will discuss current NIH review procedures, the implementation of the new review criteria, and the integration of AIDS, neuroscience, and behavioral reviews.

The meeting agenda and roster of committee members are available on the World Wide Web via the NIH Home Page <<http://www.nih.gov.grants/>> or from Ms. Barbara Nolte, Committee Assistant, PROG, or Ms. Nancy Avis, Office of Extramural Research, Office of the Director, National Institutes Health, Building 1, Room 252, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, or by phone at (301) 402-1058.

Individuals who plan to attend the meeting and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other special accommodations, should contact Ms. Nolte or Ms. Avis by June 1, 1998.

Dated: May 22, 1998.

LaVerne Y. Stringfield,

Committee Management Officer, NIH.

[FR Doc. 98-14492 Filed 6-1-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Refugee Resettlement Program; Final Notice of Availability of Formula Allocation Funding for FY 1998 Targeted Assistance Grants for Services to Refugees in Local Areas of High Need

AGENCY: Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), ACF, HHS.

ACTION: Final notice of availability of formula allocation funding for FY 1998 targeted assistance grants to States for services to refugees¹ in local areas of high need.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of funds and award procedures for FY 1998 targeted assistance grants for services to refugees under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP). These grants are for service provision in localities with large refugee populations, high refugee concentrations, and high use of public assistance, and where specific needs exist for supplementation of currently available resources. The final notice reflects adjustments in final allocations to States as a result of additional arrival data.

A notice of proposed allocations of targeted assistance funds was published for public comment in the **Federal Register** on February 17, 1998 (63 FR 7814).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Toyo Biddle, Director, Division of Refugee Self-Sufficiency, (202) 401-9250.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: The closing date for submission of applications is July 17, 1998. Applications postmarked after the closing date will be classified as late.

¹ In addition to persons who meet all requirements of 45 CFR 400.43, "Requirements for documentation of refugee status," eligibility for targeted assistance includes Cuban and Haitian entrants, certain Amerasians from Vietnam who are admitted to the U.S. as immigrants, and certain Amerasians from Vietnam who are U.S. citizens. (See section II of this notice on "Authorization.") The term "refugee", used in this notice for convenience, is intended to encompass such additional persons who are eligible to participate in refugee program services, including the targeted assistance program.

Refugees admitted to the U.S. under admissions numbers set aside for private-sector-initiative admissions are not eligible to be served under the targeted assistance program (or under other programs supported by Federal refugee funds) during their period of coverage under their sponsoring agency's agreement with the Department of State—usually two years from their date of arrival, or until they obtain permanent resident alien status, whichever comes first.

Mailed applications shall be considered as meeting an announced deadline if they are either received on or before the deadline date or sent on or before the deadline date to: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Division of Refugee Self-Sufficiency, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W., Washington, DC 20447, Attention: Application for Targeted Assistance Formula Program.

Applicants are cautioned to request a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or to obtain a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or the U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks shall not be acceptable as proof of timely mailing.

Applications handcarried by applicants, applicant couriers, or by overnight/express mail couriers shall be considered as meeting an announced deadline if they are received on or before the deadline date, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Division of Refugee Self-Sufficiency, ACF Mailroom, 2nd Floor Loading Dock, Aerospace Center, 901 D Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20024, between Monday and Friday (excluding Federal holidays). (Applicants are cautioned that express/overnight mail services do not always deliver as agreed.)

ACF cannot accommodate transmission of applications by fax or through other electronic media. Therefore, applications transmitted to ACF electronically will not be accepted regardless of date or time of submission and time of receipt.

To be considered complete, an application package must include a signed original and two copies of Standard Form 424, 424A, and 424B.

CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NUMBER: 93.584.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON APPLICATION PROCEDURES: States should contact their State Analyst in ORR.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Purpose and Scope

This notice announces the availability of funds for grants for targeted assistance for services to refugees in counties where, because of factors such as unusually large refugee populations, high refugee concentrations, and high use of public assistance, there exists and can be demonstrated a specific need for supplementation of resources for services to this population.

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has available \$49,477,000 in FY 1998 funds for the targeted assistance program (TAP) as part of the FY 1998 appropriation for the Department of Health and Human Services (Pub. L. No. 105-78).

The Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) will use the \$49,477,000 in targeted assistance funds as follows:

- \$35,371,300 will be allocated to States under the 5-year population formula, as set forth in this notice.
- \$14,105,700 will be used to award discretionary grants to States under separate grant announcements, including TAP 10% grants and as well as other discretionary grants.

In addition, the Office of Refugee Resettlement will have available an additional \$5,000,000 in FY 1998 funds for the targeted assistance discretionary program through the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (Pub. L. No. 105-118). These funds will augment the 10 percent of the targeted assistance program which is set-aside for grants to localities most heavily impacted by the influx of refugees such as Laotian Hmong, Cambodians and Soviet Pentecostals, including secondary migrants who entered the United States after October 1, 1979.

The purpose of targeted assistance grants is to provide, through a process of local planning and implementation, direct services intended to result in the economic self-sufficiency and reduced welfare dependency of refugees through job placements.

The targeted assistance program reflects the requirements of section 412(c)(2)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), which provides that targeted assistance grants shall be made available "(i) primarily for the purpose of facilitating refugee employment and achievement of self-sufficiency, (ii) in a manner that does not supplant other refugee program funds and that assures that not less than 95 percent of the amount of the grant award is made available to the county or other local entity."

II. Authorization

Targeted assistance projects are funded under the authority of section 412(c)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as amended by the Refugee Assistance Extension Act of 1986 (Pub. L. No. 99-605), 8 U.S.C. 1522(c); section 501(a) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (Pub. L. No. 96-422), 8 U.S.C. 1522 note, insofar as it incorporates by reference

with respect to Cuban and Haitian entrants the authorities pertaining to assistance for refugees established by section 412(c)(2) of the INA, as cited above; section 584(c) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988, as included in the FY 1988 Continuing Resolution (Pub. L. No. 100-202), insofar as it incorporates by reference with respect to certain Amerasians from Vietnam the authorities pertaining to assistance for refugees established by section 412(c)(2) of the INA, as cited above, including certain Amerasians from Vietnam who are U.S. citizens, as provided under title II of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Acts, 1989 (Pub. L. No. 100-461), 1990 (Pub. L. No. 101-167), and 1991 (Pub. L. No. 101-513).

III. Client and Service Priorities

Targeted assistance funding must be used to assist refugee families to achieve economic independence. To this end, States and counties are required to ensure that a coherent family self-sufficiency plan is developed for each eligible family that addresses the family's needs from time of arrival until attainment of economic independence. (See 45 CFR 400.79 and 400.156(g).) Each family self-sufficiency plan should address a family's needs for both employment-related services and other needed social services. The family self-sufficiency plan must include: (1) a determination of the income level a family would have to earn to exceed its cash grant and move into self-support without suffering a monetary penalty; (2) a strategy and timetable for obtaining that level of family income through the placement in employment of sufficient numbers of employable family members at sufficient wage levels; and (3) employability plans for every employable member of the family. In local jurisdictions that have both targeted assistance and refugee social services programs, one family self-sufficiency plan may be developed for a family that incorporates both targeted assistance and refugee social services.

Services funded through the targeted assistance program are required to focus primarily on those refugees who, either because of their protracted use of public assistance or difficulty in securing employment, continue to need services beyond the initial years of resettlement. States may not provide services funded under this notice, except for referral and interpreter services, to refugees who have been in the United States for more than 60 months (5 years).

In accordance with 45 CFR 400.314, States are required to provide targeted assistance services to refugees in the following order of priority, except in certain individual extreme circumstances: (a) Refugees who are cash assistance recipients, particularly long-term recipients; (b) unemployed refugees who are not receiving cash assistance; and (c) employed refugees in need of services to retain employment or to attain economic independence.

In addition to the statutory requirement that TAP funds be used "primarily for the purpose of facilitating refugee employment" (section 412(c)(2)(B)(i)), funds awarded under this program are intended to help fulfill the Congressional intent that "employable refugees should be placed on jobs as soon as possible after their arrival in the United States" (section 412(a)(1)(B)(i) of the INA). Therefore, in accordance with 45 CFR 400.313, targeted assistance funds must be used primarily for employability services designed to enable refugees to obtain jobs with less than one year's participation in the targeted assistance program in order to achieve economic self-sufficiency as soon as possible. Targeted assistance services may continue to be provided after a refugee has entered a job to help the refugee retain employment or move to a better job. Targeted assistance funds may not be used for long-term training programs such as vocational training that last for more than a year or educational programs that are not intended to lead to employment within a year.

In accordance with § 400.317, if targeted assistance funds are used for the provision of English language training, such training must be provided in a concurrent, rather than sequential, time period with employment or with other employment-related activities.

A portion of a local area's allocation may be used for services which are not directed toward the achievement of a specific employment objective in less than one year but which are essential to the adjustment of refugees in the community, provided such needs are clearly demonstrated and such use is approved by the State. Allowable services include those listed under § 400.316.

Reflecting section 412(a)(1)(A)(iv) of the INA, States must "insure that women have the same opportunities as men to participate in training and instruction." In addition, in accordance with § 400.317, services must be provided to the maximum extent feasible in a manner that includes the use of bilingual/bicultural women on service agency staffs to ensure adequate

service access by refugee women. The Director also strongly encourages the inclusion of refugee women in management and board positions in agencies that serve refugees. In order to facilitate refugee self-support, the Director also expects States to implement strategies which address simultaneously the employment potential of both male and female wage earners in a family unit. States and counties are expected to make every effort to assure availability of day care services for children in order to allow women with children the opportunity to participate in employment services or to accept or retain employment. To accomplish this, day care may be treated as a priority employment-related service under the targeted assistance program. Refugees who are participating in TAP-funded or social services-funded employment services or have accepted employment are eligible for day care services for children. For an employed refugee, TAP-funded day care should be limited to one year after the refugee becomes employed. States and counties, however, are expected to use day care funding from other publicly funded mainstream programs as a prior resource and are encouraged to work with service providers to assure maximum access to other publicly funded resources for day care.

In accordance with § 400.317, targeted assistance services must be provided in a manner that is culturally and linguistically compatible with a refugee's language and cultural background, to the maximum extent feasible. In light of the increasingly diverse population of refugees who are resettling in this country, refugee service agencies will need to develop practical ways of providing culturally and linguistically appropriate services to a changing ethnic population. Services funded under this notice must be refugee-specific services which are designed specifically to meet refugee needs and are in keeping with the rules and objectives of the refugee program. Vocational or job-skills training, on-the-job training, or English language training, however, need not be refugee-specific.

When planning targeted assistance services, States must take into account the reception and placement (R & P) services provided by local resettlement agencies in order to utilize these resources in the overall program design and to ensure the provision of seamless, coordinated services to refugees that are not duplicative. See § 400.156(b).

ORR strongly encourages States and counties when contracting for targeted assistance services, including

employment services, to give consideration to the special strengths of mutual assistance associations (MAAs), whenever contract bidders are otherwise equally qualified, provided that the MAA has the capability to deliver services in a manner that is culturally and linguistically compatible with the background of the target population to be served. ORR also strongly encourages MAAs to ensure that their management and board composition reflect the major target populations to be served.

ORR defines MAAs as organizations with the following qualifications:

a. The organization is legally incorporated as a nonprofit organization; and

b. Not less than 51% of the composition of the Board of Directors or governing board of the mutual assistance association is comprised of refugees or former refugees, including both refugee men and women.

Finally, in order to provide culturally and linguistically compatible services in as cost-efficient a manner as possible in a time of limited resources, ORR strongly encourages States and counties to promote and give special consideration to the provision of services through coalitions of refugee service organizations, such as coalitions of MAAs, voluntary resettlement agencies, or a variety of service providers. ORR believes it is essential for refugee-serving organizations to form close partnerships in the provision of services to refugees in order to be able to respond adequately to a changing refugee picture. Coalition-building and consolidation of providers is particularly important in communities with multiple service providers in order to ensure better coordination of services and maximum use of funding for services by minimizing the funds used for multiple administrative overhead costs.

The award of funds to States under this notice will be contingent upon the completeness of a State's application as described in section IX, below.

IV. Discussion of Comments Received

We received only two letters of comment in response to the notice of proposed availability of FY 1998 funds for targeted assistance. Both letters concerned discrepancies between a State or county's count of arrivals and the number of arrivals credited to that State or county in the ORR data base. Where warranted, we have made adjustments to our data base.

V. Eligible Grantees

Eligible grantees are those agencies of State governments that are responsible

for the refugee program under 45 CFR 400.5 in States containing counties which qualify for FY 1998 targeted assistance awards.

The use of targeted assistance funds for services to Cuban and Haitian entrants is limited to States which have an approved State plan under the Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program (CHEP).

The State agency will submit a single application on behalf of all county governments of the qualified counties in that State. Subsequent to the approval of the State's application by ORR, local targeted assistance plans will be developed by the county government or other designated entity and submitted to the State.

A State with more than one qualified county is permitted, but not required, to determine the allocation amount for each qualified county within the State. However, if a State chooses to determine county allocations differently from those set forth in this notice, in accordance with § 400.319, the FY 1998 allocations proposed by the State must be based on the State's population of refugees who arrived in the U.S. during the most recent 5-year period. A State may use welfare data as an additional factor in the allocation of its targeted assistance funds if it so chooses; however, a State may not assign a greater weight to welfare data than it has assigned to population data in its allocation formula. In addition, if a State chooses to allocate its FY 1998 targeted assistance funds in a manner different from the formula set forth in this notice,

the FY 1998 allocations and methodology proposed by the State must be included in the State's application for ORR review and approval.

Applications submitted in response to the final notice are not subject to review by State and areawide clearinghouses under Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

VI. Qualification and Allocation

A. Qualified Counties

The 47 counties listed as qualified for TAP funding in the FY 1997 final TAP notice will remain qualified for TAP funding in FY 1998. We have not considered the eligibility of additional counties for FY 1998. In the FY 1996 targeted assistance final notice (61 FR 36739, July 12, 1996) the ORR Director indicated her intention to determine the qualification of counties for targeted assistance funds once every three years, beginning in FY 1996. Therefore, in FY 1999, ORR will again review data on all counties that could potentially qualify for TAP funds on the basis of the most current 5-year refugee/entrant population data available at that time.

B. Allocation Formula

Of the funds available for FY 1998 for targeted assistance, \$35,317,300 is allocated by formula to States for qualified counties based on the initial placements of refugees, Amerasians, entrants, and Kurdish asylees in these counties during the 5-year period from

FY 1993 through FY 1997 (October 1, 1992—September 30, 1997).

With regard to Havana parolees, we are crediting 3,693 Havana parolees who arrived in FY 1997 to qualified counties in Florida based on data the State submitted to ORR during the public comment period. We have credited FY 1997 Havana parolee arrivals to the remaining qualified targeted assistance counties based on the counties' proportion of the 5-year entrant arrival population. For FY 1995 and FY 1996, Florida's Havana parolees for each qualified county are based on actual data submitted by the State of Florida, while Havana parolees credited to counties in other States were prorated based on the counties' proportion of the 5-year entrant population in the U.S. The allocations in this notice reflect these additional parolee numbers.

VII. Allocations

Table 1 lists the qualified counties, the number of refugee and entrant arrivals in those counties during the 5-year period from October 1, 1992—September 30, 1997, the prorated number of Havana parolees credited to each county based on the county's proportion of the 5-year entrant population in the U.S., the sum of the third, fourth, and fifth columns, and the amount of each county's allocation based on its 5-year total population.

Table 2 provides State totals for targeted assistance allocations.

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TABLE 1.—TARGETED ASSISTANCE ALLOCATIONS BY COUNTY: FY 1998

County	State	Refugees ¹	Entrants	Havana parolees ²	Total arrivals FY 1993–1997	\$35,371,300 total FY 1998 final allocation
Maricopa County	Arizona	5,919	659	265	6,843	\$588,726
Alameda County	California	4,029	19	9	4,057	349,037
Fresno County	California	4,596	2	0	4,598	395,581
Los Angeles County	California	20,708	465	284	21,457	1,846,016
Merced County	California	1,067	0	0	1,067	91,798
Orange County	California	17,946	27	16	17,989	1,547,653
Sacramento County	California	11,461	4	3	11,468	986,630
San Diego County	California	10,780	517	222	11,519	991,018
SAN FRANCISCO AREA	California	9,705	85	76	9,866	848,804
San Joaquin County	California	1,708	7	3	1,718	147,805
Santa Clara County	California	13,706	50	16	13,772	1,184,851
Denver County	Colorado	3,384	3	1	3,388	291,481
District of Col.	District of Col.	3,858	14	7	3,879	333,723
Broward County	Florida	1,131	1,581	524	3,236	278,404
Dade County	Florida	9,560	35,152	17,530	62,242	5,354,884
Duval County	Florida	3,430	28	24	3,482	299,568
Palm Beach County	Florida	695	1,109	389	2,193	188,671
DeKalb County	Georgia	6,052	13	9	6,074	522,566
Fulton County	Georgia	5,866	210	97	6,173	531,084
CHICAGO AREA	Illinois	17,240	412	196	17,848	1,535,522
Polk County	Iowa	3,301	1	0	3,302	284,082
Jefferson County ³	Kentucky	3,213	555	178	3,946	339,487
Baltimore City	Maryland	2,689	3	0	2,692	231,602
Suffolk County	Massachusetts	5,090	73	106	5,269	453,309
Ingham County	Michigan	1,715	320	113	2,148	184,800

TABLE 1.—TARGETED ASSISTANCE ALLOCATIONS BY COUNTY: FY 1998—Continued

County	State	Refugees ¹	Entrants	Havana parolees ²	Total arrivals FY 1993–1997	\$35,371,300 total FY 1998 final allocation
Oakland County	Michigan	3,409	8	4	3,421	294,320
Hennepin County	Minnesota	5,490	3	0	5,493	472,581
Ramsey County	Minnesota	3,744	10	4	3,758	323,313
St. Louis County	Missouri	6,614	1	0	6,615	569,110
Lancaster County	Nebraska	2,218	36	11	2,265	194,865
Hudson County	New Jersey	1,910	827	391	3,128	269,112
Bernalillo County	New Mexico	1,322	1,228	559	3,109	267,478
Broome County	New York	1,336	16	11	1,363	117,263
Monroe County	New York	2,884	517	227	3,628	312,129
NEW YORK CITY AREA	New York	69,575	728	479	70,782	6,089,609
Oneida County	New York	3,470	1	0	3,471	298,622
Cass County	North Dakota	1,535	3	1	1,539	132,405
Cuyahoga County	Ohio	4,131	6	2	4,139	356,092
PORTLAND OREGON AREA.	Oregon	10,453	549	228	11,230	966,154
Philadelphia County	Pennsylvania	6,756	55	32	6,843	588,726
Davidson County	Tennessee	3,242	54	16	3,312	284,942
DALLAS AREA	Texas	11,393	610	264	12,267	1,055,370
Harris County	Texas	9,644	169	70	9,883	850,267
FAIRFAX AREA	Virginia	4,336	8	3	4,347	373,987
Richmond County	Virginia	1,981	104	46	2,131	183,337
Pierce County	Washington	2,715	10	3	2,728	234,699
SEATTLE AREA	Washington	15,388	52	17	15,457	1,329,817
Total		342,395	46,304	22,436	411,135	35,371,300

¹ Refugees include: refugees, Kurdish asylees, and Amerasian immigrants from Vietnam.

² For FY 1997, HP arrivals to the qualifying Florida counties (3693) were based on actual data while HP's in the non-Florida qualifying counties (1227) were prorated based on the counties' proportion of the five year (FY 1993–1997) entrant population in the U.S. For FY 1996, HP arrivals to the qualifying Florida counties (6919) were based on actual data while HP's in the non-Florida qualifying counties (1415) were prorated based on the counties' proportion of the five year (FY 1992–1996) entrant population in the U.S. For FY 1995, HP arrivals to the qualifying Florida counties (7855) were based on actual data while HP's in the non-Florida qualifying counties (1327) were prorated based on the counties' proportion of the five year (FY 1991–1995) entrant population in the U.S.

³ The allocation for Jefferson, KY will be awarded to the Kentucky Wilson-Fish project.

TABLE 2.—TARGETED ASSISTANCE ALLOCATIONS BY STATE: FY 1998

State	\$35,371,300 total FY 1998 final allocation
Arizona	\$588,726
California	8,389,193
Colorado	291,481
District of Columbia	333,723
Florida	6,121,527
Georgia	1,053,650
Illinois	1,535,522
Iowa	284,082
Kentucky	339,487
Maryland	231,602
Massachusetts	453,309
Michigan	479,120
Minnesota	795,894
Missouri	569,110
Nebraska	194,865
New Jersey	269,112
New Mexico	267,478
New York	6,817,623
North Dakota	132,405
Ohio	356,092
Oregon	966,154
Pennsylvania	588,726
Tennessee	284,942
Texas	1,905,637
Virginia	557,324
Washington	1,564,516
Total	35,371,300

BILLING CODE 4184-01-M

VIII. Application and Implementation Process

Under the FY 1998 targeted assistance program, States may apply for and receive grant awards on behalf of qualified counties in the State. A single allocation will be made to each State by ORR on the basis of an approved State application. The State agency will, in turn, receive, review, and determine the acceptability of individual county targeted assistance plans.

Pursuant to § 400.210(b), FY 1998 targeted assistance funds must be obligated by the State agency no later than one year after the end of the Federal fiscal year in which the Department awarded the grant. Funds must be liquidated within two years after the end of the Federal fiscal year in which the Department awarded the grant. A State's final financial report on targeted assistance expenditures must be received no later than two years after the end of the Federal fiscal year in which the Department awarded the grant. If final reports are not received on time, the Department will deobligate any unexpended funds, including any unliquidated obligations, on the basis of the State's last filed report.

The requirements regarding the discretionary portions of the targeted assistance program will be addressed separately in the grant announcements for those funds. Applications for these funds are therefore not subject to provisions contained in this notice but to other requirements which will be conveyed separately.

IX. Application Requirements

The State application requirements for grants for the FY 1998 targeted assistance formula allocation are as follows:

States that are currently operating under approved management plans for their FY 1996 or FY 1997 targeted assistance program and wish to continue to do so for their FY 1998 grants may provide the following in lieu of resubmitting the full currently approved plan:

The State's application for FY 1998 funding shall provide:

A. Assurance that the State's current management plan for the administration of the targeted assistance program, as approved by ORR, will continue to be in full force and effect for the FY 1998 targeted assistance program, subject to any additional assurances or revisions required by this notice which are not

reflected in the current plan. Any proposed modifications to the approved plan will be identified in the application and are subject to ORR review and approval. Any proposed changes must address and reference all appropriate portions of the FY 1996 or FY 1997 application content requirements to ensure complete incorporation in the State's management plan.

B. Assurance that targeted assistance funds will be used in accordance with the requirements in 45 CFR 400.

C. Assurance that targeted assistance funds will be used primarily for the provision of services which are designed to enable refugees to obtain jobs with less than one year's participation in the targeted assistance program. States must indicate what percentage of FY 1998 targeted assistance formula allocation funds that are used for services will be allocated for employment services.

D. Assurance that targeted assistance funds will not be used to offset funding otherwise available to counties or local jurisdictions from the State agency in its administration of other programs, e.g. social services, cash and medical assistance, etc.

E. The amount of funds to be awarded to the targeted county or counties. If a State with more than one qualifying targeted assistance county chooses to allocate its targeted assistance funds differently from the formula allocation for counties presented in the ORR targeted assistance notice in a fiscal year, its allocations must be based on the State's population of refugees who arrived in the U.S. during the most recent 5-year period. A State may use welfare data as an additional factor in the allocation of targeted assistance funds if it so chooses; however, a State may not assign a greater weight to welfare data than it has assigned to population data in its allocation formula. The application must provide a description of, and supporting data for, the State's proposed allocation plan, the data to be used, and the proposed allocation for each county.

F. Assurance that local administrative budgets will not exceed 15% of the local allocation. Targeted assistance grants are cost-based awards. Neither a State nor a county is entitled to a certain amount for administrative costs. Rather, administrative cost requests should be based on projections of actual needs. States and counties are strongly encouraged to limit administrative costs to the extent possible to maximize available funding for services to clients.

Results or Benefits Expected

All applicants must establish targeted assistance proposed performance goals for each of the 6 ORR performance outcome measures for each targeted assistance county's proposed service contract(s) or sub-grants for the next contracting cycle. Proposed performance goals must be included in the application for each performance measure. The 6 ORR performance measures are: entered employments, cash assistance reductions due to employment, cash assistance terminations due to employment, 90-day employment retentions, average wage at placement, and job placements with available health benefits. Targeted assistance program activity and progress achieved toward meeting performance outcome goals are to be reported quarterly on the ORR-6, the "Quarterly Performance Report."

States which are currently grantees for targeted assistance funds should base projected annual outcome goals on the past year's performance. Proposed targeted assistance outcome goals should reflect improvement over past performance and strive for continuous improvement during the project period from one year to another.

Budget and Budget Justification

Provide line item detail and detailed calculations for each budget object class identified on the Budget Information form (424A). Detailed calculations must include estimation methods, quantities, unit costs, and other similar quantitative detail sufficient for the calculation to be duplicated. The detailed budget must also include a breakout by the funding sources identified in Block 15 of the SF-424.

Provide a narrative budget justification that describes how the categorical costs are derived. Discuss the necessity, reasonableness, and allocability of the proposed costs. The Office of Refugee Resettlement is particularly interested in the following:

1. A line item budget and justification for State administrative costs limited to a maximum of 5% of the total award to the State. Each total budget period funding amount requested must be necessary, reasonable, and allocable to the project. States that administer the program locally in lieu of the county, through a mutual agreement with the qualifying county, may add up to, but not exceed, 10% of the county's TAP allocation to the State's administrative budget.

2. A line item budget and justification for State administrative costs limited to a maximum of 5% of the total award to

the State. Each total budget period funding amount requested must be necessary, reasonable, and allocable to the project.

States administering the program locally: States that have administered the program locally or provide direct service to the refugee population (with the concurrence of the county) must submit a program summary to ORR for prior review and approval. The summary must include a description of the proposed services; a justification for the projected allocation for each component including relationship of funds allocated to numbers of clients served, characteristics of clients, duration of training and services, and cost per placement. In addition, the program component summary must describe any ancillary services or subcomponents such as day care, transportation, or language training.

X. Reporting Requirements

States are required to submit quarterly reports on the outcomes of the targeted assistance program, using Schedule A and Schedule C of the new ORR-6 Quarterly Performance Report form which was sent to States in ORR State Letter 95-35 on November 6, 1995.

XI. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13)

All information collections within this program notice are approved under the following valid OMB control numbers: 424 (0348-0043); 424A (0348-0044); 424B (0348-0040); Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (0348-0046); Uniform Project Description (0970-0139), Expiration date 10/31/2000. Financial Status Report (SF-269) (0348-0039) and ORR Quarterly Performance Report (0970-0036).

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Dated: May 27, 1998.

Lavinia Limon,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

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