

*California Department
of Social Services*

**REFUGEE PROGRAMS
BUREAU**

Presented by
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REFUGEE PROGRAMS BUREAU'S MISSION

To provide leadership and coordination of California refugee programs and services to achieve successful refugee resettlement and self-sufficiency.

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REFUGEE PROGRAMS BUREAU

The Refugee Programs Bureau (RPB) works in partnership with many organizations, including government agencies at the federal, state and local levels, and private and community/faith-based organizations, such as Voluntary Resettlement Agencies and Mutual Assistance Associations, to administer refugee program benefits and services.

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REGUGEE PROGRAMS FUNDING

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) received the following federal funding awards in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008/09 for the administration of the State's refugee programs:

Cash, Medical, Administration (CMA)	\$13,646,996
Refugee Social Services (RSS)	\$10,074,282*
Targeted Assistance (TA)	\$ 3,892,227
Older Refugee Discretionary	\$ 263,125
<u>Refugee School Impact Grant</u>	<u>\$ 1,700,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 29,576,630

Note: Awards are 100% federally funded from the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).

*includes San Diego's Wilson/Fish project funding (\$1,215,572)

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REFUGEE PROGRAMS FUNDING HISTORY FFY 2004 – 2008

GRANT / YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Cash, Medical and Administration	\$ 8,617,337	\$ 9,747,631	\$ 9,910,745	\$ 10,696,568	\$ 13,646,996
Refugee Social Services	\$ 9,360,178	\$ 7,570,827	\$ 8,917,090	\$ 8,555,156	\$ 10,074,282*
Targeted Assistance Formula	\$ 5,288,081	\$ 4,850,033	\$ 4,457,150	\$ 4,080,571	\$ 3,892,227
TA Discretionary	\$ 944,186	\$ 949,786	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Discretionary Grant for Services to Older Refugees	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 263,125	\$ 263,125
Refugee School Impact Grant	\$ -	\$ 1,360,000	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 1,700,000
TOTAL	\$ 24,209,782	\$ 24,528,277	\$ 25,034,985	\$ 25,295,420	\$ 29,576,630
Total Refugee Arrivals to California by Year	6,748	7,512	5,200	6,707	9,478

Note: FFY is October 1 through September 30

*includes San Diego's Wilson/Fish project funding (\$1,215,572)

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REFUGEE CASH ASSISTANCE

- Refugees, typically single adults and childless couples, who are not eligible for other cash assistance programs may be eligible for the Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) program
- The RCA program is available for 8 months from date of arrival in the United States (U.S.) for refugees, from date asylum is granted for asylees, and from date certified by ORR for human trafficking victims
- RCA benefits are available in all 58 California counties
- RCA estimate for FFY 2008/09 is \$10,459,511*

*for cash assistance payments and county administration which is taken from CMA grant

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REFUGEE SOCIAL SERVICES

- Counties must meet the threshold of 400 or more refugee arrivals over the last five years to be eligible for Refugee Social Services (RSS) funding
- Refugees who have been in the U.S. for 60 months or less are eligible to participate in RSS-funded services
- RSS funds are primarily for employment, training, and other supportive services
- California's total RSS allocation for FFY 2008/09 is \$10,074,282*

*includes San Diego's Wilson/Fish project funding (\$1,215,572)

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CURRENT RSS ELIGIBLE COUNTIES

- Alameda
- Fresno
- Los Angeles
- Merced
- Orange
- Sacramento
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Joaquin
- Santa Clara
- Stanislaus

Note: San Diego receives Wilson/Fish funding directly from ORR that comes out of the State's RSS funding.

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TARGETED ASSISTANCE

- Counties receive Targeted Assistance (TA) funds to provide additional resources to communities with large refugee populations
- Eligible counties and funding allocations are determined by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement based on refugee arrivals during the last five years and on the concentration of the arrivals population as a percentage of the general population
- Services are the same as RSS services
- Refugees who have been in the U.S. for 60 months or less are eligible to participate in TA funded-services
- Total California TA grant for FFY 2008/09 is \$3,892,227

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CURRENT TA FUNDED COUNTIES

- Fresno
- Los Angeles
- Sacramento
- San Diego
- Santa Clara

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OLDER REFUGEE DISCRETIONARY GRANT

- \$263,125 Older Refugee Discretionary grant funds were awarded to California for FFY 2008/09
- Funds are used for projects that provide citizenship and naturalization services to refugees that are age 60 years or older who may be at risk of losing, or have lost, their Supplemental Security Income benefits because of non-citizenship time-limit
- Funds are also used to continue to link older refugees with mainstream services provided by the local Area Agencies on Aging

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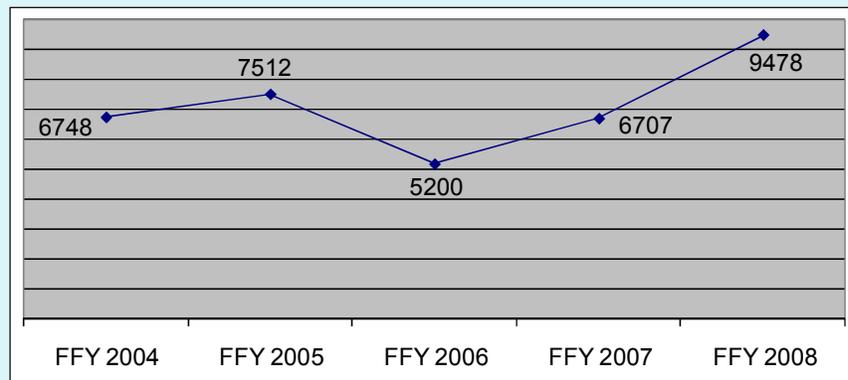
REFUGEE ARRIVALS

- Total refugee arrivals into California FFY 2008 was 9,478 and FFY 2009 (through May 31, 2009) is 7,161
- The U.S. Department of State (DOS) provides monthly refugee arrivals data to CDSS for the state
- CDSS provides arrivals reports to each county of the number of refugees resettling in their county

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REFUGEE ARRIVALS

*FFY 2004 – 2008



*October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2008

From October 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009, 7,161 refugees have arrived in California

REFUGEES FROM IRAQ

- In FFY 2006/07, a large influx of refugees from Iraq began arriving in California. In early 2007, President Bush approved 7,000 Iraqi refugees for resettlement to the U.S. and the DOS approved an additional 12,000 for FFY 2007/08.
- California received approximately 402 Iraqi refugee arrivals in FFY 2006/07, 2,923 in FFY 2007/08, and approximately 3,106 in FFY 2008/09 as of May 31, 2009. Most have resettled in San Diego (5,153) where a large Iraqi population resides. Other counties impacted by this recent influx are Los Angeles (878), Orange (391), and Stanislaus (401).
- Iraqi refugees are not a new population to the state. Since 1995, California has received 7,968 Iraqi refugee arrivals.
- Iraqi refugees are fleeing intense conflict and war in the region. Many have experienced various forms of violence, including torture and other traumatic events. These refugees may require specialized assistance or services to help with traumatic-stress related problems and conditions.

REFUGEE ARRIVALS FROM IRAQ

County	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009 (to date)	Total
Alameda	4	--	--	1	--	6	--	--	--	--	1	--	4	33	32	71
Butte	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
Contra Costa	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	9	23	14	47
El Dorado	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	3
Fresno	--	--	--	--	4	1	11	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	8	31
Imperial	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Kern	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	3
Los Angeles	36	6	12	1	13	16	4	--	3	--	--	1	29	300	405	676
Marin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	4
Monterey	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	12	14
Orange	46	10	3	11	1	16	15	--	7	--	6	7	21	125	121	381
Placer	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	7
Riverside	12	--	--	1	--	4	4	--	--	--	--	--	53	62	50	213
Sacramento	--	2	--	--	2	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	13	53	107	173
San Bernardino	1	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	28	34
San Diego	281	117	81	87	82	130	167	5	14	5	6	16	282	1,265	1,665	3,133
San Francisco	26	6	7	7	4	2	12	--	4	--	--	--	--	13	48	129
San Joaquin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10	--	10
San Luis Obispo	--	--	--	--	7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7
San Mateo	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	7	13
Santa Barbara	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
Santa Clara	12	2	7	--	2	13	21	11	--	--	1	--	10	77	140	296
Solano	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	7
Sonoma	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
Stanislaus	46	10	10	10	5	14	19	8	--	--	--	--	8	164	100	481
Yuba	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	7	10
Total	466	161	130	96	130	286	261	38	38	5	14	34	482	2,323	3,156	7,940

Note: 2009 data is from October 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009

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REFUGEE ARRIVALS FROM IRAN

- In October 2006, the DOS began processing a large number of refugees from Iran for resettlement to the U.S.
- From October 2005 to May 2009, California received 12,891 refugee arrivals from Iran.
- The majority of these arrivals are family reunification cases, and most have resettled in Los Angeles County.
- The largest number of refugee arrivals from Iran have resettled in Los Angeles (9,761), Stanislaus (1,179), and Santa Clara (655).

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REFUGEE ARRIVALS FROM IRAN

CALIFORNIA COUNTIES	FFY 2006 (Total) (Oct 05 to Sept 06)	FFY 2007 (Total) (Oct 06 to Sept 07)	FFY 2008 (Total) (Oct 07 to Sept 08)	FFY 2009 (To Date) (as of May 31, 2009)								TOTALS	
				Oct-08	Nov-08	Dec-08	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09		Total (to date)
Alameda	4	3	0	-	-	3	-	0	10	1	-	30	40
Contra Costa	20	20	11	-	-	4	-	1	3	2	4	54	80
El Dorado	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	7
Fresno	2	0	3	-	-	-	2	3	1	1	-	7	21
Kern	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	7	8
Los Angeles	1,057	2,705	3,645	314	142	203	406	85	120	365	381	1,876	9,241
Marin	1	2	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	7
Monterey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Orange	60	84	89	2	7	-	54	22	9	7	54	25	316
Placer	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	4	13
Riverside	-	7	1	3	3	-	-	5	3	-	-	14	22
Sacramento	24	24	20	2	3	-	6	15	10	8	-	42	126
San Bernardino	-	5	2	4	4	-	-	1	4	-	10	25	30
San Diego	87	74	48	1	1	8	-	187	185	13	10	282	470
San Francisco	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	7	8
San Joaquin	8	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
San Luis Obispo	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
San Mateo	2	1	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	8
Santa Clara	161	166	197	24	4	8	34	9	15	22	5	199	655
Solano	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	6
Sutter	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	10
Tulare	212	426	334	28	26	9	40	13	8	30	27	181	1,179
Yuba	2	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Yuba	20	16	23	-	-	2	-	-	1	4	2	9	71
Yuba	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	1,943	3,696	4,382	319	190	232	503	275	360	443	429	2,810	12,891

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REFUGEE ARRIVALS FROM BURMA

- An estimated 150,000 Burmese refugees, largely from the Karen ethnic group, have lived in camps in Thailand, often for more than a decade. The refugees fled to Thailand to escape fighting between the Burmese military and ethnic insurgent groups. During the conflict, they were frequently targeted by the military, seeking to cut off any links between the insurgent groups and the civilian population.
- Refugees in camps represent just a very small fraction of the estimated two million Burmese in Thailand. At present, 11 countries are resettling Burmese refugees, with the U.S. taking in the largest number.
- A new wave of Burmese refugees began arriving in FFY 2007. California has received approximately 1,593 arrivals between FFY 2007 and May 2009 - and a total of 1,943 since FFY 1999.

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REFUGEE ARRIVALS FROM BURMA

County	FFY 1999	FFY 2000	FFY 2001	FFY 2002	FFY 2003	FFY 2004	FFY 2005	FFY 2006	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009 (To Date)	Totals
ALAMEDA		2			2	11	15	1	12	28	5	65
CONTRA COSTA			3		6	2	2		15	6	2	40
EL DORADO										2	-	2
FRESNO									6	11	-	17
KERN		1				7	11	4	43	100	5	171
LOS ANGELES	7	15	4			1	2	3	18	23	24	91
ORANGE	4	15	11	2	1	2	3	2	12	57	22	132
SACRAMENTO							12			14	7	33
SAN BERNARDINO							5		21		4	30
SAN DIEGO			5			6	13	23	206	207	68	512
SAN FRANCISCO		25	24	5			17	5	62	63	31	262
SAN MATEO		7				21	5	4	6	15	1	59
SANTA CLARA						13	6	1	28	57	24	121
STANFORD											1	1
SONOMA									3		1	4
STANISLAUS											3	3
VENTURA	3	1							2		-	6
TOTALS	14	63	27	7	6	26	53	42	328	394	248	1,345

Note: FFY 2009 data is from October 1, 2008 through May 31, 2009

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New Refugee Population

- Bhutanese refugees from refugee camps in Nepal were recently approved for U.S. resettlement. The refugees, almost all ethnic Nepalis from southern Bhutan, have been living in camps in eastern Nepal since they were expelled from their homes in Bhutan more than 16 years ago. The refugees are unable to return to Bhutan or to settle permanently in Nepal.
- The U.S. launched a program to resettle tens of thousands of Bhutanese refugees. Between October 2008 and May 2009, California received 488 Bhutanese refugee arrivals.

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SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISAS FOR INDIVIDUALS FROM IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN

- Displaced persons from Iraq and Afghanistan are being admitted to the U.S. with Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs).
- These Iraqis and Afghans were employed by, or assisted, the U.S. Armed Forces with translation and interpreter services.
- Three new laws have recently passed that allow benefits and services for these individuals to the same extent as refugees:
 - Public Law (PL) 110-161, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008, effective December 26, 2007;
 - PL 110-181, the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, effective January 28, 2008; and
 - PL 111-08, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 effective March 11, 2009.
- These individuals do not have refugee status.

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SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISAS FOR INDIVIDUALS FROM IRAQ & AFGHANISTAN (CONT'D)

- Afghans and Iraqis with SIVs are allowed benefits and services for a maximum of **eight months** from their date of entry to the U.S. or date of adjustment of status if applying from within the U.S. for Special Immigrant Status
- Benefits and services may include, but are not limited to, RCA and federally-funded employment services through the RSS or TA programs.
- The ORR has reported 2,009 Afghans and Iraqis with SIVs entered the U.S. between October 1, 2007 and January 31, 2009.
- Approximately 401 Afghans and Iraqis with SIVs have resettled in California between October 1, 2008 and January 31, 2009.

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PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CUBAN ENTRANTS/PAROLEES

- On August 11, 2006, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced the Parole for Cuban Medical Personnel in Third World Countries Program.
- This program allows certain Cuban medical personnel located outside of Cuba to apply for admission to the U.S.
- To qualify under this program applicants must:
 - Provide evidence of their Cuban nationality or citizenship;
 - Be working as a medical professional outside of Cuba under the direction of the Cuban government; and,
 - Be otherwise admissible to the U.S.
- CDSS' All County Information Notice No. 1-71-08 describing this program can be found at the following link:
www.dss.cahwnet.gov/lettersnotices/

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PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES FOR CUBAN ENTRANTS/PAROLEES (CONT'D)

- If all other eligibility requirements are met, Cuban medical professionals and their spouses and children may be eligible for Entrant Cash Assistance, RSS, TA, and ORR discretionary assistance. To be eligible for the Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program, applicants must meet the definition of a Cuban Entrant contained in the CDSS Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) Section 69-302: Cuban/Haitian Entrants Status Requirements.
- Eligibility for ORR benefits and services begins on the date of parole located on the I-94 form per MPP Section 69-303: Time-Eligibility.
- Spouses and children who are non-Cuban and are nationals or citizens of a country other than Cuba do not meet the definition of a Cuban entrant and are not eligible for Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program benefits and services unless they have another status qualifying them for those benefits and services, such as asylee or other qualifying status.

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REFUGEE SCHOOL IMPACT GRANT

- CDSS in collaboration with the California Department of Education (CDE) applied for the Refugee School Impact Grant and was awarded \$1.7 million for FFY 2008/09 (the fourth year of a five year grant)
- This grant provides a variety of social and educational services to refugee students and their families that may include, but are not limited to, English as a Second Language instruction, parental involvement programs, interpreter services for parent/teacher meetings and conference, etc.
- CDE issued ten sub-grants to local educational agencies (LEAs) within Alameda, Fresno, Los Angeles, Sacramento and Santa Clara counties
- CDSS has developed a monitoring tool and has begun conducting on-site reviews of LEAs in 2009
- California has applied for \$1.7 million in continuation funding for FFY 2009/10

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REFUGEE SCHOOL IMPACT GRANT AWARDS 2008/09

COUNTY	AGENCY
Alameda	Oakland Unified School District
Fresno	Clovis Unified School District
Los Angeles	Glendale Unified School District
Los Angeles	Los Angeles Unified School District
Los Angeles	Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District
Sacramento	Folsom-Cordova Unified School District
Sacramento	Grant Union High School District
Sacramento	Sacramento City Unified School District
Sacramento	San Juan Unified School District
Santa Clara	East Side Union High School District

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ASYLEES

- After granted asylum, asylees are eligible for the same benefits and services as refugees.
- Asylees are in the U.S. when granted their asylum status, while refugees receive their refugee status outside the U.S.
- California has served over 12,000 asylees in the last five years.

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING OVERVIEW

- Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery.
- It is a crime that involves the use of force, fraud or coercion to recruit, harbor, transport, provide or obtain a person for the purposes of sexual or labor exploitation.
- Women and children are the most frequent victims, but men can also be subjected to human trafficking.
- Many victims are forced to work in prostitution or the sex industry; others are forced into domestic, restaurant, janitorial, factory or migrant agricultural work.
- Traffickers employ debt bondage, threats, physical and emotional violence to instill fear in victims and compel them to engage in activities against their will.

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING LEGISLATION

Federal Legislation:

- The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 made human trafficking a federal crime and made certified victims of human trafficking eligible for federally-funded benefits and services to the same extent as refugees.
- The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Acts of 2003, 2005 and 2008 extended eligibility for federally-funded benefits and services to certain family members of victims.

California Legislation:

- Senate Bill (SB)180 and Assembly Bill 22 became law on January 1, 2006, making human trafficking a crime in California, and established the California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery (CA ACTS) Task Force to study the problem of human trafficking in California and develop strategies for combating the crime. The CA ACTS Task Force issued its final report on December 04, 2007 and disbanded.
- SB 1569 (Chapter 672, Statutes of 2006), effective January 1, 2007, established the Trafficking and Crime Victims Program (TCVAP), which provides for services and benefits to non-citizen victims of human trafficking, domestic violence, or other serious crimes, to the same extent as persons admitted to the U.S. as refugees.

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CERTIFIED TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

- Persons certified by the federal ORR as trafficking victims, who meet each program's income, resource and other eligibility requirements may receive federally-funded benefits and services to the same extent as refugees including, but not limited to:
 - RCA,
 - California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs),
 - Food Stamps,
 - In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS),
 - RSS and TA,
 - Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA),
 - Medi-Cal,
 - Healthy Families Program.

Note: CDSS administers the CalWORKs, IHSS, Food Stamps Programs. The Department of Health Care Services administers Medi-Cal. The Department of Public Health administers the RMA. The Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board administers the Healthy Families Program.

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CERTIFIED TRAFFICKING VICTIMS (CONT'D)

- Adult human trafficking victims receive a certification letter from the federal ORR if they are willing to cooperate with law enforcement authorities in the investigation and/or prosecution of the traffickers and complete a bona fide application for a T Non-Immigrant Status (T Visa) or have been granted continued presence status by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).
- Children under 18 years of age who have been subjected to a severe form of trafficking do not need to be certified in order to receive benefits.
- Minors are issued an eligibility letter from ORR declaring them victims of a severe form of trafficking and therefore eligible for federal benefits and services; however, they are not required to cooperate with law enforcement authorities.
- Human trafficking victims may be eligible for TCVAP, state-funded program benefits and services before they have been certified by ORR.

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TCVAP BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Under TCVAP, non-citizen victims of human trafficking, domestic violence or other serious crimes may be eligible for state-funded benefits and services equivalent to those provided in federally-funded programs such as:

- TCVAP Cash Assistance;
- State-funded CalWORKs;
- TCVAP Food Stamps [California Food Assistance Program (CFAP)];
- Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI);
- In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS);
- TCVAP State-funded Employment Services;
- TCVAP State-funded Medical Assistance (Medi-Cal); and
- Healthy Families Program.

Note: CDSS administers the state-funded CalWORKs, TCVAP, CFAP and IHSS Programs. The Department of Health Care Services administers Medi-Cal. The Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board administers the Healthy Families Program.

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TCVAP BACKGROUND INFORMATION (CONT'D)

- Non-citizen applicants must meet all other program eligibility requirements, e.g., income/resource limits, family composition, etc.
- They are subject to all other program requirements, e.g., participation in employment services activities, time limits, etc.
- Because of their undocumented immigration status, most applicants will not have a social security number or work authorization documents.

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PROVISIONS OF TCVAP RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

- Eligible human trafficking victims are defined as those who:
 - 1) Have filed an application for T Visa with the USCIS;
 - 2) Are preparing to file an application for a T Visa; or
 - 3) Are taking steps to meet the conditions for federal eligibility.
- In determining whether an applicant has been a victim of human trafficking, TCVAP requires the individual to give a sworn statement and to provide certain corroborating evidence, if available.
- If evidence is not available, the law allows a victim to self-certify his/her trafficking status, provided they are deemed credible.

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PROVISIONS OF TCVAP RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS (CONT'D)

- Within one year of submitting an application for public social services, a trafficking victim must show proof that s/he has filed an application for a T Visa with USCIS.
- If a T Visa application has not been filed within the one year period, the individual will be ineligible for continued state-funded benefits and services.
- If and when a person receiving benefits and services under TCVAP is certified as a human trafficking victim by ORR, s/he becomes eligible for federal benefits and services, and will be transferred from the state-funded program to the federal program.
- Eligibility for state-funded services will be terminated if the recipient's application for a T Visa is finally administratively denied by USCIS.

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PROVISIONS OF TCVAP RELATING TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR OTHER SERIOUS CRIMES

- Non-citizen victims of domestic violence and other serious crimes are not currently eligible for federal benefits or services.
- These victims may apply for special non-immigrant status (U Visa) from USCIS, and if granted such status, they are permitted to remain lawfully in the U.S. temporarily, and are granted authorization to work.
- TCVAP extends eligibility for state-funded benefits and services to non-citizen victims of domestic violence or other serious crimes who have filed an application for a U Visa with USCIS.

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PROVISIONS OF TCVAP RELATING TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR OTHER SERIOUS CRIMES (CONT'D)

- Crimes considered serious crimes include: manslaughter, kidnapping, rape, torture, blackmail, extortion and numerous other felonies.
- Although preparing to file an application for federal status is sufficient to confer eligibility for trafficking victims for non-citizen victims of domestic violence or other serious crimes, an individual must demonstrate that s/he has actually submitted an application for a U Visa.
- Eligibility for state-funded services will be terminated if a recipient's application for a U Visa is finally administratively denied by USCIS.

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TCVAP Informational Resources

- All County Letter (ACL) No. 06-60 issued instructions to counties for implementing the provisions of TCVAP effective January 1, 2007.
- All County Information Notice (ACIN) No. I-41-07 addresses policy issues in a question-and-answer format.
- ACL No. 08-15 notified counties of new U Visa regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- Final state regulations became effective on February 5, 2009.
- ACIN No. I-27-09 notified counties that the TCVAP regulations were finalized.

Note: The ACLs/ACINs are available on the RPB Human Trafficking web page at www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/PG1268.htm

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TCVAP

Regulation and Fiscal Updates

- Emergency regulations were adopted on July 1, 2008, as required by the legislation.
- Effective April 2009, new aid and alien eligibility codes were established in the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) for the TCVAP populations. CDSS is preparing an ACL to notify counties of the new TCVAP codes.
- On September 29, 2008 instructions on TCVAP claiming was transmitted to the counties via County Fiscal Letter 08/09-18 from ³⁹

RPB WEB SITE

For more information about California's refugee programs, please visit the RPB web site at:

www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram

*California Department
of Social Services*

**REFUGEE PROGRAMS
BUREAU**

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