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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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Transmittal No: 90 LCM-157

Date: October 4, 1990

Division: Commissioner's
Office

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: Welfare Reform Conference

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment I - Workshop List (Available On-Line)
Attachment II - Registration Form (Not Available On-Line)

As part of this agency's commitment to the goals of welfare reform, I am pleased to invite you and members of your staff to a statewide conference to be held on November 19-21 in Albany. Invited speakers include Governor Mario M. Cuomo and Jo Anne Barnhart of the Family Support Administration. In addition, representatives from a number of states which have already implemented the JOBS program will share their experiences with us.

In keeping with the broad based changes which the Family Support Act will introduce in local social services districts, the theme of this year's conference will be "Working Together to Promote Independence." The goal of the conference is to demonstrate how various units within local social services districts, e.g., employment, income support, child support enforcement and child care can come together to focus client energies on improving their employability and leaving public assistance.

The workshop listings reflect our efforts to show how to increase the level of LDSS coordination of services and develop model approaches to address specific implementation issues of the JOBS program.

Attached is a registration form and workshop list. Please submit a copy of this form for each individual who will represent your district at the conference. The completed forms must be returned by November 1, 1990.

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Each local district will have the opportunity to send six (6) representatives. This number includes local district staff and any provider agency representatives you may invite. (Service Delivery Areas will be invited to send one representative each, under separate cover.) Local commissioners are asked to endorse the attendance of non-DSS registrants, included in the district's six, by signing the appropriate page on the registration form.

As indicated in previous correspondence, two nights' lodging, seven meals, and transportation costs will be paid by the State. Other expenses, such as phone calls and meals or beverages other than those provided by conference meal tickets, will not be covered. Due to the cost of conference accommodations and the limited number of single occupancy overnight accommodations, we request that your staff reserve double rooms. Individuals who choose a single occupancy accommodation will be charged \$34.00 per night to cover the additional cost and will be required to pay this directly to the hotel at check-out. Vouchers for reimbursement of travel expenses will be provided at registration. Participants should note mileage and obtain receipts for tolls, taxis, etc., in order to help us expedite voucher processing.

Since room reservations will be made for all pre-registered participants, you may check in directly at the hotel desk upon arrival. Conference registration will be in the Americana's "Fort Orange Square" between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. A luncheon at 12:00 will open the conference, followed by a general session at 1:15 featuring the keynote address.

I also want to extend an invitation to you to participate in the conference employment fair. Previous years' fairs provided local districts and private sector representatives an opportunity to share their employment training experiences in an exhibition setting. Since space is limited, please let the Conference Coordinator, Russell J. Weinlein, know as soon as possible if you plan to take part in the employment fair. Mr. Weinlein can be reached at (518) 474-9307.

My staff and I look forward to your arrival on Monday, November 19. You will spend a productive three days discussing the implementation of welfare reform. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Weinlein at (518) 474-9307.

Cesar A. Perales
Commissioner

New York State Department of Social Services
1990 Welfare Reform Conference

Monday Afternoon Workshops
(November 19 - 3:15 - 5:00 p.m.)

1. Operational Implications of JOBS for Local Districts: How To
Successful implementation of the JOBS program will involve a well-coordinated effort across several program areas at the local level. This workshop will provide an overview of client flow, worker responsibility, and the worker/systems interactions that will evolve.
2. Child Care: Major provisions under the Family Support Act
Discussion will focus on the provisions for child care under Welfare Reform, with specific attention to slot development including day care start-up and expansion of programs through use of coordinated funding streams.
3. Approval of Training: Satisfactory Progress; Supportive Services; Self-Initiated Training
Local social services districts are required to meet specific guidelines in developing the local policy for approving/disapproving training. This workshop will include a review of these guidelines with specific focus on what constitutes making progress in training. Also included will be a review of the supportive services available to those in approved training under JOBS.
4. TASA/JOBS Coordination
Discussions will focus on State and local efforts to foster independence for teens through a case management approach by coordinating TASA projects with JOBS activities.
5. Conciliation for Grievances and Non-Compliance Issues
Panel members will review the legislative requirement for conciliation of JOBS. A description of a model conciliation process will be presented by a representative of agencies offering dispute resolution as a service.
6. Orientation: How to Meet the New Requirements for Client Orientation:
Welfare Reform legislation creates a new requirement: providing client orientation. This workshop will review methods of providing a quality orientation, including a review of the Department Orientation Video.

New York State Department of Social Services
1990 Welfare Reform Conference

Tuesday Morning Workshops
(November 20 - 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)

7. Meeting federal participation rates, serving target populations and related reporting issues
Discussion will focus on the federal requirements regarding participation in JOBS, a walk-through of employment subsystem modifications, and how to use target group lists available through WMS.
8. Child Care: Making the Right Choice
Local social services districts are required to provide clients who request assistance locating child care with information to enable them to make an informed choice. Discussion will focus on ways of supporting client choice including a review of the Department video.
9. IVA/IVD Interface
Discussion will focus on changes brought about by Welfare Reform relating to implementation of child support guidelines to ensure the financial participation of noncustodial parents, the purpose and goals of the Child Assistance Program (CAP) and the coordination between Income Maintenance and Child Support Enforcement.
10. Assessment and Developing the Employability Plan
This workshop will focus on the key elements of assessment and employability planning for JOBS participants. Local districts and employment and training representatives will discuss various approaches to implementing JOBS assessment requirements.
11. Focus on Education and the Teen Parent
Panelists will examine the special design considerations for meeting the educational needs of teen parents through alternative high school programs.
12. JOBS Questions and Answers
Representatives from the Bureaus of Employment, Child Care and Income Support Programs will be available to answer questions on JOBS.

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1990 Welfare Reform Conference

Tuesday Afternoon Workshops
(November 20 - 1:45 - 3:15 p.m.)

13. JOBS Questions and Answers
Representatives from the Bureaus of Employment, Child Care and Income Support Programs will be available to answer questions on JOBS.
14. Transitional Benefits
Representatives from Child Care, Medicaid and Income Support Programs will discuss recent changes to Social Services law and Administrative Directives which relate to transitional child care, transitional Medicaid, Third Party benefits and supplementation of net loss of cash income.
15. Preparing the Local District IM Workforce: Some Strategies for the Future
The welfare examiner position poses one of the more persistent human resource issues for the social services system. A number of districts are piloting an innovative approach to enlist community colleges in preparing the future workforce. This workshop will review the key issues which led to the project and present a progress report from some of the programs now underway.
16. The WEP/JOBS Connection
An overview of the Education for Gainful Employment (EDGE) project which creatively enhances the delivery of services through coordination with JOBS.
17. Working with the Substance Abuser
Discussion will include ways to identify the substance abuser and how line staff can effectively deal with the problem. This workshop will include a related video presentation.
18. Coordinated Local Service Delivery
Representatives from a variety of employment and education agencies will discuss the new coordination requirements under JOBS. The discussion will focus on enhancing the range of activities while avoiding duplication of services.

New York State Department of Social Services
1990 Welfare Reform Conference

Tuesday Afternoon Employment Fair
(November 20 - 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.)

1. Employment Fair

You are invited to attend our Employment Fair during this period.

New York State Department of Social Services
1990 Welfare Reform Conference

Wednesday Morning Workshops
(November 21 - 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)

19. Operational Implications of JOBS for Local Districts: How To
Successful implementation of the JOBS program will involve a well-coordinated effort across several program areas at the local level. This workshop will provide an overview of client flow, worker responsibility, and the worker/systems interactions that will evolve.
20. Child Care: Major provisions under the Family Support Act
Discussion will focus on the provisions for child care under Welfare Reform, with specific attention to slot development including day care start-up and expansion of programs through use of coordinated funding streams.
21. TASA/JOBS Coordination
Discussions will focus on State and local efforts to foster independence for teens through a case management approach by coordinating TASA projects with JOBS activities.
22. Conciliation for Grievances and Non-Compliance Issues
Panel members will review the legislative requirement for conciliation of JOBS. A description of a model conciliation process will be presented by a representative of agencies offering dispute resolution as a service.
23. Meeting federal participation rates, serving target populations and related reporting issues
Discussion will focus on the federal requirements regarding participation in JOBS, a walk-through of employment subsystem modifications, and how to use target group lists available through WMS.