

Form	Number of Respondents	Responses per respondent	Total responses	Hours per response	Total burden hours
Survey	39,360	1	39,360	20	13,120

Written comments and recommendations concerning the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of this notice to: Wendy A. Taylor, Human Resources and Housing Branch, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: April 16, 1999.

Jane Harrison,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

[FR Doc. 99-10559 Filed 4-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

AIDS Advisory Council; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463), announcement is made of the following National Advisory body scheduled to meet during the month of May 1999.

Name: HRSA AIDS Advisory Committee (HAAC).

Date and Time: May 13-14, 1999; 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Place: The Rockville Doubletree Hotel—Rockville, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852, (301) 468-1100.

The meeting is open to the public.

Agenda: Reauthorization of the Ryan White Care Act.

For further information, call Ms. Joan Holloway at (301) 443-8143.

Agenda items are subject to change as priorities dictate.

Dated: April 16, 1999.

Jane M. Harrison,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

[FR Doc. 99-10558 Filed 4-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as

amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5, U.S.C. as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel—Development of Assay Methods for Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease.

Date: April 30, 1999.

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: Sheraton Columbia, Wincopin Circle, Columbia, Maryland 21044.

Contact Person: Jeffrey H. Hurst, Ph.D., Scientific Review Administrator, NHLBI/ Review Branch, Two Rockledge Center, Room 7208, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7924, (301) 435-0303.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting due to the timing limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs Nos. 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; and 93.839, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health)

Dated: April 20, 1999.

Anna Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 99-10457 Filed 4-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Refugee Resettlement Program: Proposed Allocations to States of FY 1999 Funds for Refugee Social Services

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

ACTION: Notice of proposed allocations to States of FY 1999 funds for refugee¹ social services.

SUMMARY: This notice establishes the proposed allocations to States of FY 1999 funds for social services under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP). In the final notice, allocation amounts could be adjusted slightly based on final adjustments in the FY 1998 arrivals in some States. This notice includes a \$15.5 million set-aside to: (1) Provide outreach and referral to ensure that eligible refugees access the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and other programs for low income working populations; and (2) provide specialized interpreter training and the hiring of interpreters to enable refugees to have equal access to medical and legal services.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Comments on the proposed allocations contained in this notice must be received by May 27, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Address written comments, in duplicate, to: Barbara Chesnik, Division of Self-Sufficiency, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, Washington, DC 20447. FAX: (202) 401-5487 or (202) 401-0981.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara R. Chesnik, Division of Refugee Self-Sufficiency, (202) 401-4558.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Amounts for Allocation

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has available \$139,990,000 in FY 1999 refugee social service funds as part of the FY 1999 appropriation for the Department of Health and Human Services (Pub. L. 105-277).

¹ In addition to persons who meet all requirements of 45 CFR 400.43, "Requirements for documentation of refugee status," eligibility for refugee social services also includes: (1) Cuban and Haitian entrants, under section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-422); (2) certain Amerasians from Vietnam who are admitted to the U.S. as immigrants under section 584 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988, as included in the FY 1988 Continuing Resolution (Pub. L. 100-202); and (3) certain Amerasians from Vietnam, including U.S. citizens, under title II of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Acts, 1989 (Pub. L. 100-461), 1990 (Pub. L. 101-167), and 1991 (Pub. L. 101-513). For convenience, the term "refugee" is used in this notice to encompass all such eligible persons unless the specific context indicates otherwise.

The FY 1999 House Appropriations Committee Report (H.R. Rept. No. 105-635) reads as follows with respect to social services funds:

The bill provides \$134,990,000 for social services, an increase of \$5,000,000 over the comparable fiscal year 1998 appropriation and the budget request. Funds are distributed by formula as well as through the discretionary grant making process for special projects. The Committee agrees that \$19,000,000 is available for assistance to serve communities affected by the Cuban and Haitian entrants and refugees whose arrivals in recent years have increased. The Committee has set-aside \$16,000,000 for increased support to communities with large concentrations of refugees whose cultural differences make assimilation especially difficult justifying a more intense level and longer duration of Federal assistance. Finally, the Committee has set aside \$14,000,000 to address the needs of refugees and communities impacted by recent changes in Federal assistance programs relating to welfare reform. The Committee urges ORR to assist refugees at risk of losing, or who have lost, benefits including SSI, TANF and Medicaid, in obtaining citizenship. In addition, ORR may initiate planning grants to create alternative cash and medical assistance programs for refugees. The Committee has included funding for health screening of new arrivals.

The Committee encourages ORR to award grants for mental health and other health services for victims of torture if such activities are authorized in law.

The Committee encourages ORR to consider supporting education and outreach activities related to female genital mutilation if such activities are authorized in law.

The FY 1999 Senate Appropriations Committee Report (S. Rept. No. 105-300) adds the following:

The Committee provides \$19,000,000 to serve communities affected by the Cuban and Haitian entrants and refugees, the same as the amount contained in last year's appropriation. In addition, the Committee recommends \$14,000,000 to address the needs of refugees and communities affected by recent changes in Federal assistance programs, and \$16,000,000 to assist communities with large concentrations of refugees whose cultural differences make assimilation difficult. These funds are included in the social services line item.

The FY 1999 Conference Report on Appropriations (H.R. Conf. No. 105-825) reads as follows concerning social services:

The conference agreement provides \$139,990,000 for social services, an increase of \$5,000,000 over the House and \$10,000,000 over the Senate. The conference agreement includes \$26,000,000 for increased support to communities with large concentrations of refugees whose cultural differences make assimilation especially difficult justifying a more intense level and longer duration of Federal assistance, and \$14,000,000 to address the needs of refugees

and communities impacted by the recent changes in Federal assistance programs relating to welfare reform. The agreement includes \$19,000,000 for assistance to communities impacted by Cuban and Haitian entrants and refugees whose arrivals in recent years have increased.

The Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) proposes to use the \$139,990,000 appropriated for FY 1999 social services as follows:

- \$68,841,500 will be allocated under the 3-year population formula, as set forth in this notice for the purpose of providing employment services and other needed services to refugees.

- \$12,148,500 will be awarded as social service discretionary grants through competitive grant announcements that will be issued separately from this notice.

- \$19,000,000 will be awarded to serve communities most heavily affected by recent Cuban and Haitian entrant and refugee arrivals. These funds would be awarded through a discretionary grant announcement that will be issued separately from this notice.

- \$26,000,000 will be awarded through discretionary grants for communities with large concentrations of refugees whose cultural differences make assimilation especially difficult justifying a more intense level and longer duration of Federal assistance. A grant announcement will be issued separately from this notice.

- \$14,000,000 will be awarded to address the needs of refugees and communities impacted by recent changes in Federal assistance programs relating to welfare reform. Awards will be made through announcements issued separately from this notice.

In addition, we are proposing to add \$15,500,000 in unexpended FY 1997 CMA funds to the FY 1999 formula social services allocation as a set-aside, increasing the total amount available for the formula social services program in FY 1999 to \$84,341,500.

Congress provided ORR with broad carry-over authority in the FY 1999 HHS appropriations law to use FY 1997 CMA carry-over funds for assistance and other activities in the refugee program in fiscal years 1998 and 1999. The appropriations law states:

“* * * That funds appropriated pursuant to section 414(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act under Pub.L. 104-208 for fiscal year 1997 shall be available for the costs of assistance provided and other activities conducted in such year and in fiscal years 1998 and 1999.”

Refugee Social Service Funds

The population figures for the social services allocation include refugees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Amerasians from Vietnam, and Kurdish asylees since these populations may be served through funds addressed in this notice. (A State must, however, have an approved State plan for the Cuban/Haitian Entrant Program or indicate in its refugee program State plan that Cuban/Haitian entrants will be served in order to use funds on behalf of entrants as well as refugees.)

The Director proposes to allocate \$68,841,500 to States on the basis of each State's proportion of the national population of refugees who had been in the U.S. 3 years or less as of October 1, 1998 (including a floor amount for States which have small refugee populations).

The use of the 3-year population base in the allocation formula is required by section 412(c)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) which states that the “funds available for a fiscal year for grants and contracts [for social services] . . . shall be allocated among the States based on the total number of refugees (including children and adults) who arrived in the United States not more than 36 months before the beginning of such fiscal year and who are actually residing in each State (taking into account secondary migration) as of the beginning of the fiscal year.”

As established in the FY 1991 social services notice published in the **Federal Register** of August 29, 1991, section I, “Allocation Amounts” (56 FR 42745), a variable floor amount for States which have small refugee populations is calculated as follows: If the application of the regular allocation formula yields less than \$100,000, then—

(1) A base amount of \$75,000 is provided for a State with a population of 50 or fewer refugees who have been in the U.S. 3 years or less; and

(2) For a State with more than 50 refugees who have been in the U.S. 3 years or less: (a) a floor has been calculated consisting of \$50,000 plus the regular per capita allocation for refugees above 50 up to a total of \$100,000 (in other words, the maximum under the floor formula is \$100,000); (b) if this calculation has yielded less than \$75,000, a base amount of \$75,000 is provided for the State.

The Director also proposes to allocate an additional \$15.5 million from FY 1997 carry-over funds as a set-aside to: (1) Provide referral services, including outreach, to ensure that refugees are able to access the Children's Health

Insurance Program (CHIP) and other programs for low income populations; and (2) provide for the hiring of interpreters and special interpreter training to enable refugees to have equal access to medical and certain legal services. Depending upon the existing capacity and need in the community, we encourage States to use the funds equally for both activities. Both types of services are not subject to the 5-year limitation and may be provided to refugees regardless of their length of time in the U.S. See § 400.152(b).

Eligible refugee families often are not aware of, or do not know how to access, other Federal support programs available to low income working families in the community. We believe that these programs, including CHIP, Food Stamps, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Medicaid, Head Start, low-income housing, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), child care assistance, adult day care for aged dependents, and other support programs for low-income families, are important for the well-being of working refugees, particularly refugee families, and are necessary to help these refugees maintain employment and move toward full self-sufficiency.

The organizations funded by the set-aside amount are expected to conduct outreach into the community to identify low-income refugees and to help these refugees enroll in and to be familiar with the services available and the participation requirements of these programs. We expect States to fund community-based organizations, to the maximum extent possible, to provide hands-on assistance, which means having the application forms available and helping refugees to fill out the application, accompanying the refugee to the eligibility office, assisting in the communication between the family and the eligibility worker, closely following the application process until the family has been found eligible, and then helping the family effectively use the service or support program in which they have been enrolled. For example, there may be different levels of medical coverage available to a family, depending on the ages of the children and the income level of the family, each with different requirements. It is important for the caseworkers/advocates funded through this initiative to understand the program requirements (such as a co-payment structure) in order to help the family make decisions and fully participate.

The organizations funded under this set-aside should develop effective ways

to provide an on-going link between these services, the population they serve, and the targeted low income programs. Methods might include: partnering with schools to identify refugee children who may be eligible for CHIP by virtue of their eligibility for the school lunch program; connecting with local Head Start programs to help identify refugee children who are eligible for CHIP and other health care programs; arranging to have Medicaid eligibility workers visit the MAA or other participating organization on a scheduled basis; and working with other groups serving low income families, such as hospitals, WIC programs, low-income housing programs, and food assistance programs to make these services widely known to the refugee community being served.

It is also important that States provide as high a standard as possible in interpretation to non-English speaking and to Limited-English-Proficient (LEP) refugees, particularly in regard to medical and legal issues. As mentioned earlier, we are therefore including funding in the set-aside for States to improve the availability and quality of interpreter services for refugees in their communities. The set-aside funds are to be used by States: (1) to fund specialized interpreter training for medical and legal services; and (2) to pay for the hiring and employment of these trained interpreters by MAAs, voluntary agencies, and other community-based organizations serving refugees, to the maximum extent possible, in order to increase the number of skilled interpreters in the community.

Interpretation requires a great deal of skill—interpreters need to be fluent in English and the language spoken by the refugee. They must have the ability to quickly understand the message and terminology, if technical, in one language and to express it as quickly and correctly in another language. In addition to fluency in two languages, interpreters must have the skills to handle confidential client information and to deal with a variety of professionals in the medical, legal, law enforcement, social services, and other fields.

States should use qualified training programs or trainers to provide the interpreter training. Several strategies may be employed, e.g., the direct training of interpreters in a group setting, paying the course tuition and associated expenses for individuals at a community college or university, and the training of trainers in order to establish and maintain an efficient training capacity in the community. To

the extent possible, we would expect States to use an established curriculum rather than incurring costs to develop a new one. Funding of interpreter services should be directed to areas of greatest need and to the most linguistically isolated communities.

States must determine a community's capacity to ensure refugee access to medical and other services, and then examine how best to fund and maintain interpreter services for refugees based upon the need and size of refugee population. For example, an interpreter bank with dedicated interpreters may be a preferred option if the needs of the community can justify full-time interpreters. However, because the provision of interpreter services may not fully occupy funded staff in some locations or in certain languages, States may choose to train bilingual caseworkers at voluntary resettlement agencies, MAAs and refugee service providers. States may also consider cross-training of interpreters so that they may also assist, for example, in enrolling clients in CHIP, Medicaid, or other services for low-income clients, and/or serve as case managers or in other staff positions. Staff with both bilingual interpreter skills and knowledge of the family services network, such as child protective services and the domestic violence system, are also highly desirable.

We also encourage States to set up creative ways to maintain and expand the availability of interpreter services in the community, such as seeking reimbursement for services from the courts, hospitals, and agencies which may be able to pay for interpreter services but have been otherwise hindered in providing these services by the lack of available and appropriately trained individuals. Fees from low-income refugee clients, however, may not be sought.

In light of the unique position that refugee mutual assistance associations (MAAs) have in the communities where refugees reside, we are asking that States give special consideration to MAAs in using the set-aside amount, where possible, to provide these services to refugee families. However, qualified community based organizations with refugee experience, voluntary resettlement agencies, or refugee service providers may be funded as well.

In order to receive the optional funding under the set-aside, the appropriate State agency official, State designee, or Wilson/Fish project director where the State is not participating in the program must provide written assurance to the Office of Refugee Resettlement that the

following conditions will be observed by the State agency in using funds made available to the State under this special allocation:

- That such funds will be used to fund (1) services to provide the support necessary to enroll refugees in low income support programs, such as CHIP, Headstart, WIC, Food Stamps, LIHEAP, child care services, and low-income housing assistance and, (2) training and salaries for refugee interpreters; and
- That special consideration will be given to interested and qualified refugee MAAs, where possible.

Written assurance should be sent to Barbara R. Chesnik, Division of Refugee Self-Sufficiency, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Administration for Children and Families, 370 L'Enfant Promenade SW., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20447. States must respond by 30 days from the date of the final notice in order to avail themselves of this special allocation. ORR's ability to award the proposed \$15.5 million set-aside is contingent upon the availability of funds when the final notice of social services allocations is published.

Population To Be Served

Although the allocation formula is based on the 3-year refugee population, in accordance with the current requirements of 45 CFR Part 400 Subpart I—Refugee Social Services, States are not required to limit social service programs to refugees who have been in the U.S. only 3 years. However, under 45 CFR 400.152, States may not provide services funded by 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 400.147, States are required to provide services to refugees in the following order of priority, except in certain individual extreme circumstances: (a) all newly arriving refugees during their first year in the U.S., who apply for services; (b) refugees who are receiving cash assistance; (c) unemployed refugees who are not receiving cash assistance; and (d) employed refugees in need of services to retain employment or to attain economic independence.

ORR funds may not be used to provide services to United States citizens, since they are not covered under the authorizing legislation, with the following exceptions: (1) Under current regulations at 45 CFR 400.208, services may be provided to a U.S.-born minor child in a family in which both parents are refugees or, if only one parent is present, in which that parent is a refugee; and (2) under the FY 1989

Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act (Pub. L. No. 100-461), services may be provided to an Amerasian from Vietnam who is a U.S. citizen and who enters the U.S. after October 1, 1988.

Service Priorities

In the past, a number of States have focused primarily on serving refugee cash assistance (RCA) recipients because of the need to help these refugees become employed and self-sufficient within the 8-month RCA eligibility period. Now, with the passage of welfare reform, refugee recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) also face a time limit for cash assistance and need appropriate services as quickly as possible to become employed and self-sufficient. In order for refugees to move quickly off TANF, we believe it is crucial for these refugees to receive refugee-specific services that are designed to address the employment barriers that refugees typically face. We are pleased with the efforts that State Refugee Coordinators have made to date to develop agreements with their State TANF program to utilize the existing refugee service system in a State for refugee TANF participants. We encourage States to continue their efforts in this regard.

Refugee social service funding should be used to assist refugee families to achieve economic independence. To this end, States 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.

Some States are doing remarkably well in achieving refugee self-sufficiencies. For this reason, this may be a good time for these States to re-examine the range of services they currently offer to refugees and expand the range of services beyond employment services to address the broader needs that refugees have in

order to successfully integrate into the community.

Reflecting section 412(a)(1)(A)(iv) of the INA, and in keeping with 45 CFR 400.145(c), States must ensure that women have the same opportunities as men to participate in all services funded under this notice, including job placement services. In addition, 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, particularly in the case of large families. States are expected to make every effort to assure the 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 refugee social services program. Refugees who are participating in employment services or have accepted employment are eligible for day care services for children. For an employed refugee, day care funded by refugee social service dollars should be limited to one year after the refugee becomes employed. States are expected to use day care funding from other publicly funded mainstream programs to the maximum extent possible and are expected to work with service providers to assure maximum access to other publicly funded resources for day care.

In accordance with 45 CFR 400.146, social service funds must be used primarily for employability services designed to enable refugees to obtain jobs within one year of becoming enrolled in services in order to achieve economic self-sufficiency as soon as possible. Social 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. Social service 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 45 CFR 400.156(e), refugee social services must be provided, to the maximum extent feasible, in a manner that is culturally

and linguistically compatible with a refugee's language and cultural background. 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 (45 CFR 400.156(d)).

English language training must be provided in a concurrent, rather than sequential, time period with employment or with other employment-related activities (45 CFR 400.156(c)).

When planning State refugee 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 (45 CFR 400.156(b)).

In order to provide culturally and linguistically compatible services in as cost-efficient a manner as possible, ORR encourages States and counties to promote and give special consideration to the provision of refugee social services through coalitions of refugee service organizations, such as coalitions of mutual assistance associations (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.

States should also expect to use funds available under this notice to pay for social services which are provided to refugees who participate in Wilson/Fish projects. Section 412(e)(7)(A) of the INA provides that:

The Secretary [of HHS] shall develop and implement alternative projects for refugees who have been in the United States less than thirty-six months, under which refugees are provided interim support, medical services, support [social] services, and case

management, as needed, in a manner that encourages self-sufficiency, reduces welfare dependency, and fosters greater coordination among the resettlement agencies and service providers.

This provision is generally known as the Wilson/Fish Amendment. The Department has already issued a separate notice in the **Federal Register** with respect to applications for such projects (60 FR 15766, March 27, 1995) and expects to issue a revised notice in the near future.

The Use of MAAs

ORR believes that the use of qualified refugee mutual assistance associations in the delivery of social services helps to ensure the provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate services as well as increasing the effectiveness of the overall service system. Therefore, we expect States to use MAAs as service providers to the maximum extent possible. We strongly encourage States when contracting for services, including employment services, to give consideration to the special strengths of 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 expects States to continue to assist MAAs in seeking other public and/or private funds for the provision of services to refugee clients.

States may use a portion of their social service grant, either through contracts or through the use of State/county staff, to provide technical assistance and organizational training to strengthen the capability of MAAs to provide employment services and other social services, particularly in States where MAA capability is weak or undeveloped.

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.

II. (Reserved for Discussion of Comments in Final Notice)

III. Allocation Formulas

Of the funds available for FY 1999 for social services, \$68,841,815 is proposed to be allocated to States in accordance with the formula specified below. In addition, \$15.5 million in set-aside funds are proposed to be allocated in accordance with the formula specified below. A State's allowable allocation is calculated as follows:

1. The total amount of funds determined by the Director to be available for this purpose; divided by—
2. The total number of refugees, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Amerasians from Vietnam, and Kurdish asylees who arrived in the United States not more than 3 years prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which the funds are appropriated, as shown by the ORR Refugee Data System. The resulting per capita amount is multiplied by—
3. The number of persons in item 2, above, in the State as of October 1, 1998, adjusted for estimated secondary migration.

The calculation above yields the formula allocation for each State. Minimum allocations for small States are taken into account.

IV. Basis of Population Estimates

The population estimates for the proposed allocation of funds in FY 1999 are based on data on refugee arrivals from the ORR Refugee Data System, adjusted as of October 1, 1998, for estimated secondary migration. The data base includes refugees of all nationalities, Amerasians from Vietnam, Cuban and Haitian entrants, and Kurdish asylees.

For fiscal year 1999, ORR's proposed formula allocations for the States for social services are based on the numbers of refugees, Amerasians, Kurdish asylees, and entrants who arrived during the preceding three fiscal years: 1996, 1997, and 1998, based on arrival data by State. Therefore, estimates have been developed of the numbers of refugees and entrants with arrival or resettlement dates between October 1, 1995, and September 30, 1998, who are thought to be living in each State as of October 1, 1998.

The estimates of secondary migration were based on data submitted by all participating States on Form ORR-11 on secondary migrants who have resided in the U.S. for 36 months or less, as of September 30, 1998. The total migration reported by each State was summed, yielding in-and out-migration figures and a net migration figure for each State. The net migration figure was applied to

the State's total arrival figure, resulting in a revised population estimate.

Estimates were developed separately for refugees and entrants and then combined into a total estimated 3-year refugee/entrant population for each State. Eligible Amerasians and Kurdish asylees are included in the refugee figures.

With regard to Havana parolees, in the absence of reliable data on the State-by-State resettlement of this population, we are crediting each State that received entrant arrivals during the 3-year period from FY 1996–FY 1998 with a prorated share of the 13,442 parolees reported by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to have come to the U.S. directly from Havana in FY 1998. In addition, we have credited each State with the same share of FY 1996 and FY 1997 Havana parolees that they were

credited with in the final FY 1997 and FY 1998 social service notices. The allocations in this notice reflect these additional parolee numbers.

If a State does not agree with ORR's population estimate and wishes ORR to reconsider its population estimate, it should submit written evidence to ORR, including a list of refugees identified by name, alien number, date of birth, and date of arrival. Listings of refugees who are not identified by their alien number will not be considered. Such evidence should be submitted separately from comments on the proposed allocation formula no later than 30 days from the date of publication of this notice and should be addressed to: Loren Bussert, Division of Refugee Self-Sufficiency, Office of Refugee Resettlement, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW, Washington, DC 20447, Telephone: (202) 401-4732.

Table 1, below, shows the estimated 3-year populations, as of October 1, 1998, of refugees (col. 1), entrants (col. 2), Havana parolees (col. 3); total refugee/entrant population, (col. 4); the proposed formula amounts which the population estimates yield (col. 5); the proposed allocation amounts after allowing for the minimum amounts (col. 6); the set-aside amount (col. 7); and the total proposed allocation (col. 8).

V. Proposed Allocation Amounts

Funding will be contingent upon the submittal and approval of a State annual services plan that is developed on the basis of a local consultative process, as required by 45 CFR 400.11(b)(2) in the ORR regulations. The following amounts are proposed for allocation for refugee social services in FY 1999:

FY 1999 Proposed Social Services Formula Notice

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED 3-YEAR REFUGEE/ENTRANT POPULATIONS OF STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE REFUGEE PROGRAM AND PROPOSED SOCIAL SERVICE FORMULA AMOUNT AND PROPOSED ALLOCATION FOR FY 1999

State	Refugees ¹	Entrants	Havana parolees ²	Total population	Proposed formula amount	Proposed allocation	Set-aside	Total proposed allocation
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)		
Alabama	495	55	97	647	\$162,184	\$162,184	\$36,704	\$198,888
Alaska ³	0	0	0	0				
Arizona	6,269	387	581	7,237	1,814,106	1,814,106	410,552	2,224,658
Arkansas	144	9	13	166	41,611	79,078	9,417	88,495
California	32,975	342	717	34,034	8,531,339	8,531,339	1,930,735	10,462,074
Colorado	3,336	2	6	3,344	838,244	838,244	189,704	1,027,948
Connecticut	2,380	150	263	2,793	700,124	700,124	158,446	858,570
Delaware	59	2	4	65	16,294	75,000	3,687	78,687
Dist. of Columbia	1,538	4	10	1,552	389,041	389,041	88,044	477,085
Florida	12,708	8,225	18,679	39,612	9,929,582	9,929,582	2,247,172	12,176,754
Georgia	8,281	97	195	8,573	2,149,003	2,149,003	486,343	2,635,346
Hawaii	126	1	1	128	32,086	75,000	7,261	82,261
Idaho ⁴	1,639	0	0	1,639	410,850	410,850	92,980	503,830
Illinois	11,334	231	400	11,965	2,999,279	2,999,279	678,770	3,678,049
Indiana	1,456	5	9	1,470	368,486	368,486	83,392	451,878
Iowa	5,489	2	4	5,495	1,377,437	1,377,437	311,729	1,689,166
Kansas	1,075	9	15	1,099	275,487	275,487	62,346	337,833
Kentucky ⁵	3,431	799	968	5,198	1,302,988	1,302,988	294,880	1,597,868
Louisiana	1,339	77	172	1,588	398,066	398,066	90,087	488,153
Maine	620	0	0	620	155,416	155,416	35,172	190,588
Maryland	3,077	46	114	3,237	811,422	811,422	183,634	995,056
Massachusetts	6,763	85	140	6,988	1,751,689	1,751,689	396,426	2,148,115
Michigan	7,099	347	484	7,930	1,987,821	1,987,821	449,866	2,437,687
Minnesota	8,353	7	18	8,378	2,100,122	2,100,122	475,280	2,575,402
Mississippi	75	10	23	108	27,072	75,000	6,127	81,127
Missouri	6,562	8	16	6,586	1,650,920	1,650,920	373,621	2,024,541
Montana	130	0	0	130	32,587	75,000	7,375	82,375
Nebraska	1,516	36	51	1,603	401,826	401,826	90,938	492,764
Nevada ⁵	1,255	609	893	2,757	691,100	691,100	156,403	847,503
New Hampshire	1,102	0	0	1,102	276,240	276,240	62,516	338,756
New Jersey	3,409	365	806	4,580	1,148,073	1,148,073	259,822	1,407,895
New Mexico	357	467	758	1,582	396,562	396,562	89,746	486,308
New York	29,771	757	1,191	31,719	7,951,035	7,951,035	1,799,406	9,750,441
North Carolina	3,684	29	44	3,757	941,771	941,771	213,133	1,154,904
North Dakota	1,320	0	2	1,322	331,387	331,387	74,997	406,384
Ohio	4,160	44	62	4,266	1,069,363	1,069,363	242,008	1,311,371
Oklahoma	484	7	13	504	126,338	126,338	28,592	154,930
Oregon	4,658	344	531	5,533	1,386,963	1,386,963	313,885	1,700,848
Pennsylvania	7,021	240	358	7,619	1,909,863	1,909,863	432,223	2,342,086
Rhode Island	339	5	7	351	87,986	100,000	19,912	119,912

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED 3-YEAR REFUGEE/ENTRANT POPULATIONS OF STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE REFUGEE PROGRAM AND PROPOSED SOCIAL SERVICE FORMULA AMOUNT AND PROPOSED ALLOCATION FOR FY 1999—Continued

State	Refugees ¹	Entrants	Havana parolees ²	Total population	Proposed formula amount	Proposed allocation	Set-aside	Total proposed allocation
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)		
South Carolina	231	6	10	247	61,916	99,382	14,012	113,394
South Dakota ⁴	821	0	0	821	205,801	205,801	46,575	252,376
Tennessee	3,740	171	250	4,161	1,043,042	1,043,042	236,052	1,279,094
Texas	11,506	778	1,159	13,443	3,369,771	3,369,771	762,616	4,132,387
Utah	3,232	1	1	3,234	810,670	810,670	183,463	994,133
Vermont	889	0	0	889	222,847	222,847	50,433	273,280
Virginia	4,555	114	210	4,879	1,223,024	1,223,024	276,784	1,499,808
Washington	16,511	45	68	16,624	4,167,156	4,167,156	943,073	5,110,229
West Virginia	9	0	0	9	2,256	75,000	511	75,511
Wisconsin	1,618	9	15	1,642	411,602	411,602	93,150	504,752
Wyoming ³	0	0	0	0
Total	228,941	14,927	29,358	273,226	68,489,848	68,841,500	15,500,000	84,341,500

¹ Includes: refugees, Kurdish asylees, and Amerasian immigrants from Vietnam adjusted for secondary migration.

² For FY 1998, 13,442 Havana Parolees (HP's) were prorated to all States based on their proportions of the three-year (FY 1996-1998) entrant population. For FY 1997, Florida's HP's (3,957) were based on actual data, while HP's in other States (2,035) were prorated according to their proportions of the three-year entrant population. For FY 1996, Florida's HP's (7,315) were based on actual data, while HP's in other States (2,611) were prorated according to their proportions of the three-year entrant population.

³ Alaska and Wyoming no longer participate in the Refugee Program.

⁴ The allocations for Idaho and South Dakota are expected to be awarded to the State designee.

⁵ The allocations for Kentucky and Nevada are expected to be awarded to Wilson/Fish projects.

VI. Paperwork Reduction Act

This notice does not create any reporting or recordkeeping requirements requiring OMB clearance.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93.566 Refugee Assistance—State Administered Programs)

Dated: April 20, 1999.

Lavinia Limon,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

[FR Doc. 99-10486 Filed 4-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 concerning opportunity for public comment on proposed collections of information, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will publish periodic summaries of proposed projects. To request more information on the proposed projects or to obtain a copy of the information collection plans, call the SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer on (301) 443-7978.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collections of information

are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Proposed Project: Persistent Effects of Treatment for a National Sample of Treatment Recipients

(New) The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) is undertaking a major initiative to study the long-term course of substance abuse within the context of receipt of substance abuse treatment. Research indicates that success in treating substance abuse may require multiple episodes of treatment. The Persistent Effects of Treatment Studies (PETS) will be a family of studies structured to provide data on a wide range of populations and treatment approaches over a three-year period following admission to a substance abuse treatment program in a community setting. The family of studies will be built on existing studies currently being conducted by other organizations (including Federal, State, and local governments) in order to minimize costs and response burden.

Collectively, the PETS studies are expected to provide valuable insights into the factors that lead to long-term success in treatment of substance abuse.

Persistent Effects of Treatment Studies in a National Sample of Treatment Recipients offers an opportunity for PETS to include a prospective national study among its family of studies. This study would permit PETS to answer research questions on the extent to which results on treatment effectiveness generalize to a more nationally representative universe of persons receiving substance abuse treatment. As such, it would provide national benchmarks on treatment outcomes that one could use for placing the results of the state and local studies in context.

This study, also known as the National Evaluation of Substance Abuse Treatment or NESAT, is an ongoing national treatment outcome study that was funded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and would continue under funding from CSAT. It includes a national probability of sample of 164 privately and publicly funded service delivery units (SDUs) and 2,100 clients who received services at those SDUs. The sample includes approximately equal numbers of SDUs in each of five treatment modalities: (a) therapeutic community, (b) residential, (c) methadone, (d) outpatient-intensive, and (e) outpatient-nonintensive. The populations to be studied will be diverse in the nature and severity of