700-10: Connecting CalWORKs with Home Visiting

PURPOSE

To ensure that the California Home Visiting Program (CHVP) local sites develop a process to promote collaboration and coordination with their local California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, known as the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) federal welfare program.

GUIDANCE

The local CHVP site must follow Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP), Healthy Families America (HFA) and State CHVP guidelines as they relate to coordination of services and promoting collaboration with CalWORKs providers at the local level.

PROCEDURE

Local CHVP staff are encouraged to establish a process to conduct ongoing training and education opportunities with the local county CalWORKs/welfare offices. The following are State CHVP recommendations for collaboration with the local CalWORKs/welfare program in respective counties.

- I. Coordination: Local CHVP staff are to foster a collaborative relationship with the county CalWORKs/welfare office to ensure eligible low-income families are served and home visitors have access to needed resources. To ensure cross-coordination, sites are encouraged to participate in one or more of the following:
 - A. Have a representative from the CalWORKs/welfare agency serve as a member of the local CHVP Community Advisory Board (CAB).
 - B. Co-locate home visiting staff and the local CalWORKs/welfare staff in order to provide outreach and the resources needed to facilitate services so families can become self-sufficient.
 - C. Establish written interagency agreements with service providers around joint procedures between CHVP and CalWORKs which include referral processes, early identification of eligibility, tracking for age eligibility attainment, and interagency coordination.
 - D. Participate in CHVP and CalWORKs staff cross-training about respective programs twice each state fiscal year.

REFERENCES

CalWORKs Issue Brief: Connecting CalWORKs with Home Visiting

Department of Social Services CalWORKs website at www.cdss.ca.gov/calworks/