

Dated: June 17, 2004.

Tina M. Cheatham,

Director, Division of Policy Review and Coordination.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

National Advisory Council on the National Health Service Corps; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463), notice is hereby given of the following meeting:

Name: National Advisory Council on the National Health Service Corps.

Dates and Times: July 22, 2004, 5 p.m.–7 p.m.; July 23, 2004, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.; July 24, 2004, 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; July 25, 2004, 8 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

Place: Capitol Hilton, 1001 16th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036, (202) 393-1000.

Status: The meeting will be open to the public.

Agenda: The Council will be meeting in Washington, DC, in conjunction with the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Conference. Members will meet with newly awarded loan re-payers, as the program pilots a new conference to share program expectations.

For Further Information Contact: Tira Robinson-Patterson, Division of National Health Service Corps, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 8A-55, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, telephone (301) 594-4140.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration of Children and Families

Office of Refugee Resettlement

[CFDA No.: 93.566, Refugee Assistance—State Administered Programs]

Final Notice of Allocations to States of FY 2004 Funds for Refugee Social Services

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

ACTION: Final notice of allocations to States of FY 2004 funds for refugee social services.

SUMMARY: This notice establishes the final allocations to States of FY 2004 funds for refugee¹ social services under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP). The final notice reflects amounts adjusted based upon final adjustments to FY 2001, FY 2002 and FY 2003 data submitted to ORR by twenty-two States.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathy Do, Division of Budget, Policy, and Data Analysis (BPDA), telephone: (202) 401-4579, e-mail: kdo@acf.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Amounts for Allocation

The Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has available \$152,217,586 in FY 2004 refugee social service funds. See Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, Pub. L. 108-199. This amount reflects a rescission of 0.59 percent applied across the board to all line items.

The FY 2004 Conference Report (H.R. Rept. No. 108-401) reads as follows with respect to social service funds:

The conference agreement appropriates \$450,276,000 rather than the \$461,853,000 as proposed by H.R. 2660 and \$428,056,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within this amount, \$153,121,000 is provided for social services as proposed in H.R. 2660. The Senate bill included \$140,000,000 for this purpose.

The agreement also includes \$19,000,000 for increased support to communities with large concentrations of Cuban and Haitian refugees of varying ages whose cultural differences make assimilation especially difficult justifying a more intense level and longer duration of Federal assistance for healthcare and education.

The conferees recognize the importance of continued educational support to schools with a significant proportion of refugee children, consistent with previous support to schools heavily impacted by large concentrations of refugees, and urge the Office of Refugee Resettlement to support these efforts should funding become

¹ Eligibility for refugee social services include refugees, asylees, Cuban and Haitian entrants, certain Amerasians from Viet Nam who are admitted to the U.S. as immigrants, certain Amerasians from Viet Nam who are U.S. citizens, and victims of a severe form of trafficking who receive certification or eligibility letters from ORR. See 45 CFR 400.43 and ORR State Letter #01-13 on the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, dated May 3, 2001, as modified by ORR State Letter # 02-01, January 4, 2002. Due to recent legislative changes, certain family members who are accompanying or following to join victims of severe forms of trafficking also are eligible for ORR-funded benefits and services. These individuals have been granted nonimmigrant visas under 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)(ii). 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.

available in the social services or other programs.

ORR intends to use the \$152,217,586 appropriated for FY 2004 social services as follows:

- \$79,728,429 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.

- Approximately \$5,200,000 is expected to be awarded as new social service discretionary grants under new and prior year standing competitive grant announcements issued separately from this proposed notice.

- Approximately \$19,000,000 is expected to be awarded to serve communities most heavily affected by recent Cuban and Haitian entrant and refugee arrivals. These funds will be awarded under a prior year separate announcement.

- Approximately \$35,400,000 is expected to be awarded through discretionary grants for continuation of awards made in prior years.

- Approximately \$10,887,416 in FY 2004 social services funding will be utilized to continue the awards for educational support to schools with a significant proportion of refugee children, consistent with previous support to schools heavily impacted by large concentrations of refugees.

- Approximately \$2,000,000 is expected to be awarded through contracts for an evaluation of the effectiveness of ORR employment programs.

Refugee Social Service Funds

The FY 2004 population figures that have been used for this final formula social services allocation include refugees, Amerasians from Viet Nam, Cuban/Haitian entrants, Havana parolees, and victims of severe forms of trafficking. These population figures are adjusted in the final allocation to reflect more accurate information on arrivals in 2003, secondary migration (including that of victims of severe forms of trafficking), asylee, and entrant data submitted by States. (See Section IV. Basis of Population Estimates.)

The Director allocates \$79,728,429 to States on the basis of each State's proportion of the national population of refugees who have been in the U.S. three years or less as of October 1, 2003 (including a floor amount for States that have small refugee populations). Of the amount proposed to be awarded, approximately \$6 million is expected to be awarded to Wilson/Fish Alternative Projects providing social services.

The use of the 3-year population base in the allocation formula is required by