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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON



September 13, 1944

AIR MAIL

Mr. R. R. Best
Project Director
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Attention: Welfare Section

Dear Mr. Best:

We have recently made a statistical analysis of public assistance grants for the fourth quarter of the last fiscal year. In making such an analysis we have assumed that clothing grants made on a needs basis and reported in section 7 D of the report are not included in the cases reported in item B (6) of the report unless the report specifically so indicates. Accordingly, in making a statistical summary we have included both of these items in order to give a complete picture of the number of recipients of financial assistance at the center. According to this analysis there has been a tremendous increase in the number of persons receiving assistance at Tule Lake. In April 1310 persons, or 7.7% of the population, received assistance. However, in May 5,502 persons, or 32.5% of the population, received public assistance and in June this increased to 8,021 persons, or 43.1% of the population.

During the same period, approximately 76% of the population received cash clothing allowances. Accordingly, it may be assumed that 76% of the population of the center during that period were members of family groups in which at least one member was employed and in the absence of unusual conditions there should have been no need of financial assistance to these families.

We believe that you should review these figures immediately and send us any information which may explain this situation. Mrs. Vera McCord, Welfare Consultant, will visit your center sometime early in October and will review this problem with the Welfare staff. In the meantime, we would like to have your comments.

Sincerely,

Marie D. Lane

(Mrs.) Marie D. Lane
Head, Welfare Section

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Memorandum

Washington, D.C.

Date: January 4, 1945

To: The Project Director
Attention: Welfare Section
From: Marie D. Lane Head of Welfare Section
MDL

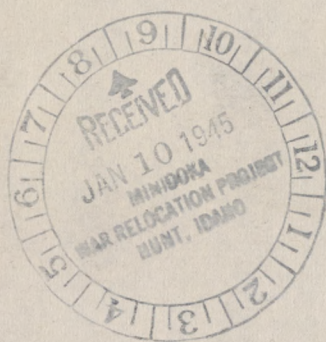
The recent lifting of the exclusion orders and Manual Release No. 158 "Post Exclusion Program", setting forth the general policies of the WRA for the coming year require a reorientation of your program for the Welfare Section. Family counseling becomes the primary function and all other functions and duties are incidental and should be cut to a minimum.

The Welfare Section has the primary responsibility for developing special plans for the resettlement of all dependent and handicapped persons and of unattached children and minor youth in need of foster home or institutional care. Resettlement plans for these families and individuals must be made so as to assure the family that its needs will be met on the outside and so that they know, in advance, the name of the agency participating in the plan. You will receive, in the near future, some Welfare Handbook material for your guidance in developing plans for dependents. This material has been developed in close cooperation with the Staff of the Relocation Division.

Since the primary objective of the WRA is speedy resettlement of all evacuees, the Welfare Section and the Relocation Division must work in even closer cooperation than in the past. We believe that regular meetings of your joint case committee will provide the most effective means for this cooperative activity. The joint case committee is the best possible machinery for dealing with families presenting special problems, for accomplishing the assignment of cases so that the strengths and skills of individual staff members may be fully utilized in dealing with these problems and for keeping Welfare and Relocation working together toward their common objective.

I urge you to immediately sit down together, plan the distribution of your files and case loads so that the evacuee families continue their contacts with the worker they already know or are given an opportunity to select a counselor whom they feel able to help them best. Plan how you can best utilize staff with particular skills, abilities and techniques.

Resettlement of all evacuees is your goal. All your staff and skills and techniques are to be put to one purpose--assisting families who have special problems, with planning which will enable them in resettling in the community of their choice.



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Berkeley Subject Matter

TO: All Project Directors

DATE: 3/ 3/45

ATTENTION: Welfare Section

FROM: Marie D. Lane
Head, Welfare Section

This letter is to bring you up-to-date with the various comments and suggestions we receive here in Washington from the public assistance agencies and our western field office in regard to dependent families.

1. The number of summaries received on the West Coast is smaller than they had expected. We have hoped that it would be possible to have a larger number of summaries go forward as the processing of the first cases is apt to be longer than in later months. The first cases set the precedent and through them the various people concerned will know whether their procedure is efficient or not.

2. The quality of material in the summaries already received is, on the whole, good. However, the summaries are definitely inadequate where residence is concerned. Residence, as the social workers know, is verified not alone by address, but by identification in a given community, such as the dentist, the doctor, the church, grade school records. It is essential that the outside agencies have information leading to identification of that family in a particular community. Undoubtedly you have discussed this by now with Miss Steele, Mrs. McCord, or Mr. Webb, as the case may be.

3. There are some indications that too large promises are being made to evacuees in regard to amounts of Resettlement Assistance. It is essential that both Relocation and Welfare understand that there is no plan to give preferential treatment to evacuees. No public assistance agency can put itself in a position of treating one segment of its case load differently from another. We have made allowances for unusually large payments for household equipment and furniture but this, too, is an item normally carried in a county budget, although not for so many people. We are able to provide this amount of assistance because it is a single item occurring at a specified time. Thereafter, household replacements will be secured as they are for any other families receiving public assistance. The Resettlement Assistance funds are not expended by the WRA Relocation offices, but by the regular public assistance agencies of communities. Those agencies are, of course, under State supervision as to standards, policies, and procedures and for categorical assistance they are under supervision, as to standards and policies, of the Bureau of Public Assistance of the Social Security Board.

4. A Head Counselor from one of the centers recently visited San Francisco and spent three days in the office. The West Coast reports that they feel this was a very valuable experience for the center and that the summaries they are now receiving from that center are much improved as to set-up and it is easier to use them. Since that visit one of the Public

Welfare Consultants from the Washington office has visited each project. However, you may have other questions arise and it may be useful for you to have the Head Counselor spend a few days in the Los Angeles, San Francisco, or Seattle Area office. The names of the Community Adjustment Advisors in these offices are as follows:

Los Angeles - Miss Esther Woods
San Francisco - Miss Winifred Ryder
Seattle - Mr. George Lefabreque

I shall keep you informed as to any suggestions I receive from other offices.

U. S. Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Washington

May 21, 1945

MEMORANDUM TO ALL PROJECTS

Attention: Welfare Section

Mr. E. B. Marks, Jr. of our Relocation Division and I have completed meetings with the WRA area offices and the Department of Public Welfare of Washington, Oregon, and California. Since the Welfare Sections at the centers are, from now on out, referral agencies rather than "case work" agencies, we have discussed your referrals and State procedures in detail. I have set down the high points of our discussions for your information.

- I. All summaries on what you, in your best judgment, consider families or persons needing continuing assistance (390) cases are to be forwarded to Area Relocation Adjustment Advisors by August tenth. Whether or not the family has made a decision as to time of leaving or choice of residence, acceptance of residence may encourage these individuals to set a departure date. Remember county departments of public welfare are geared to work in relation to case load, and a small dribble of cases are apt to be processed slowly. A heavy load merits attention. And also, the Welfare Section must be free to accept and process new cases which are at present unknown to Relocation or Welfare.
- II. Form WRA-390 is to be used only for cases in which continuing dependency factors and long time care are apparent or may be anticipated. These case summaries are all to go to the Area Relocation Adjustment Advisors. Form 390 is not to be used for:
 - A. Cases applying for resettlement assistance in the form of household furniture, one month's rent and initial maintenance cost;
 - B. Cases in which relocation plans are made by the family, but for whom you are suggesting a referral to some local agency for case work or special services. Such referrals will be made, if listed in the "dockets", by the District Relocation Officer.
- III. "390 Summaries"
 - A. California, because general assistance is provided from the county funds only, requires specific data which can be used as a basis for eligibility for financial assistance. For this reason we are calling your attention to the primary items which should be considered in summary content:
 1. Residence - importance of including specific references that may lead to establishment of residence for three years in the State and one year prior to evacuation. Complete identifying

information about the applicant, particularly any American names by which he may have been known and equally complete description of where he lived if only a mailing address is available. A post office box does not establish a person's physical presence in a county and a mailing address is frequently in one county while the actual residence is in another county. The same type of information should be given about references as it is highly possible that many have moved since the evacuee's last contact or that his memory may be faulty. The occupation of the reference usually proves most helpful. Affidavits of old associates and children's school records are also helpful. If the evacuee worked as a member of a migratory labor group, the name and address of the leader of the group or the contractor or both would be helpful.

2. Washington and Oregon

A. Residence

Both States are anxious to have the summaries of all known or presumably dependent cases at once. They suggest that you send on a preliminary summary even if the family has not yet made up its mind. As for residence, they want to know the following things:

- (1) Did the family previously live in the State?
- (2) If possible, does he intend to return?
- (3) References which will be useful in social planning.

They are not interested in County residence; they are interested in knowing whether there is a socially desirable reason for the family returning. They suggest that they might accept cases in which the family itself has not made up its mind and that you might present the family with this acceptance and the family might be influenced to hurry up with the plans. The summaries should, of course, go to the Area Adjustment Advisor, who will take them up with the State.

3. Omit all irrelevant and unnecessary material and comments in connection with "return to Japan", "Japanese culture", etc., as this is definitely prejudicial to county acceptance and has no bearing on eligibility for assistance and residence requirements.
4. Editorial comments by workers at the centers are, as I have read summaries, inaccurate, misleading, show personal prejudice, and are definitely prejudicial to the evacuees' acceptance in the county. For example, I read summaries in the California and Washington State Departments of Public Welfare which carried these phrases: (a) "He wants to return to Japan, but needs assistance until he can...", (b) "...has taken four trips to Japan and wishes to return when the war is over"; (c) "...he drank up \$750 in liquor and now needs assistance"; (d) "...he is fearful to returning to _____ County because of prejudice against Japanese in this county, but he is an accepted resident of _____ County and is totally dependent and has been accepted by the county but he prefers to move where there are Buddhists." Let's be realistic - - Totally dependent persons are not going to be

accepted in California by counties where persons have no legal residence because of whimsical reasons: They may be accepted if the reason is socially desirable. And socially desirable in California ordinarily means a plan for a job or a family reunion.

5. Prior Approvals for Special and Adequate Services

Dependent families and persons in centers, when accepted for medical care and public assistance in all States, will be given the same care as is given any other resident. All care is predicated on budget deficiency of the case under consideration, funds and facilities available and no guarantees can be made prior to physical presence. This is a matter of legislation in categorical assistance of the Social Security Board programs and of county and State general relief programs. Actual amounts granted in individual counties are arrived at following arrival and interview establishing budget deficiency.

6. Medical Information

You will receive specific instructions from Dr. Pressman regarding medical referrals to the west coast States. At the present time, referrals of families in which there is illness, are being slowed up because of the summary does not contain a medical statement from the Medical Officer. The social worker's statement of health is not sufficient. Check such situations with the Medical Social Worker before forwarding the summary.

IV Special Social Service, Psychiatric, and Child Welfare Services

When such services are needed on other than dependency cases and are, in your opinion, essential, inquire through the regular District Relocation Office channels as to availability of such services on the specific case so that you may counsel with the family regarding the actual availability of such services in relation to the place of relocation being considered by the family. For example, I read a summary in which the doctor at the center recommended psychiatric diagnosis for a young wife (there is a 7-year-old child). She has been under care at the center and seems to be in a very serious condition - but she is young and, presumably, susceptible to treatment. There was no record of interview with the husband in regard to available services. He was a resident of one State and had two brothers in another. He went where his brothers are and Welfare at the center sent a summary to the District Relocation Office, recommending psychiatric service for the wife. They are 400 miles from the only psychiatrist in the State. The State to which they went is now relocating the family to their State of residence where psychiatric services are available without cost and at the place they will live. In other words, the family was not given good counseling and no one wrote to the State in advance to find out what services were available.

/s/ Marie D. Lane
(Mrs.) Marie D. Lane
Head, Welfare Section

Balderston

MEMORANDUM TO ALL CENTERS

August 3, 1945

ATTENTION: Welfare Section
Relocation Division

I have just returned from a field visit to a number of centers. At each center I inquired particularly into the experience of the centers in administering temporary assistance under Administrative Notice 263.

My observation, together with questions raised by several of the centers, indicate that the last sentence of Section I of Schedule I is being interpreted too narrowly. It was intended by the use of the word "composition" in the sentence to include not only factors such as age and sex, but also health conditions. Accordingly, in a two-person family if there is a health condition which necessitates separate sleeping accommodations and if the family is otherwise eligible, they may be given a grant.

Several centers have indicated that there are two-person families whose ineligibility for a furniture grant under Administrative Notice 263 creates a hardship either because there are no furnished rooms available in the community in which they plan to resettle, or other factors. We are unable to evaluate this situation without supporting data. If such situations exist in your center, we would appreciate a brief summary of each situation, giving complete details, including your recommendation. Since we are unable to say what action, if any, can be taken in such situations, the families should not be advised that their problem is being reported to Washington.

There are situations in which a single person or a childless couple may need assistance in purchasing one or two blankets or similar household equipment, as distinguished from furniture such as beds, stoves, etc. Public assistance grants for the purchase of blankets and small items of household equipment may be appropriately made under Administrative Notice 226.

Sincerely,

Marie Lane /s/

(Mrs.) Marie D. Lane
Head, Welfare Section