Therefore, applications transmitted to ACF electronically will not be accepted regardless of date or time of submission and time of receipt.

3. Late applications. Applications which do not meet the criteria above are considered late applications.

4. Extension of deadlines. ACF may extend an application deadline when circumstances such as acts of God (floods, hurricanes, etc.) occur, or when there are widespread disruptions of the mail service, or in other rare cases. Determinations to extend or waive deadline requirements rest with ACF's Chief Grants Management Officer.

Reporting Requirements

States are required to submit quarterly reports on the outcomes of the targeted assistance program, using schedule A and Schedule C of the ORR–6 Quarterly Performance Report, OMB Approval No. 0970–0036, which expires 7/31/2002.

Pursuant to 45 CFR 400.210(b), FY 1999 targeted assistance funds must be obligated by the State agency no later than one year after the end of the Federal fiscal year in which the Department awarded the grant. Funds must be liquidated within two years after the end of the Federal fiscal year in which the Department awarded the grant. A State's final financial report on targeted assistance expenditures must be received no later than two years after the end of the Federal fiscal year in which the Department awarded the grant. If final reports are not received on time, the Department will deobligate any unexpended funds, including any unliquidated obligations, on the basis of the State's last filed report.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 93–584.

Dated: August 2, 1999.

Lavinia Limón,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

[FR Doc. 99–20245 Filed 8–9–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of Refuge Resettlement

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

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

ACTION: Final notice of allocations to States of FY 1999 funds for refugee [1] social services.

SUMMARY: This notice establishes the allocations to States of FY 1999 funds for social services under the Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP).

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: August 10, 1999.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A notice of proposed allocations to States of FY 1999 funds for refugee social services was published in the **Federal Register** on April 27, 1999 (64 *FR* 22626).

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).

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) will 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.

[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.

• $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 have added $15,500,000 in unexpended FY 1997 CMA funds to the FY 1999 formula social services allocation as a set-aside for referral and interpreter services, and $20,000,000 in unexpended FY 1997 CMA funds to the FY 1999 formula social services allocation as part of the standard formula allocation, increasing the total amount available for the formula social services program in FY 1999 to $104,341,500.

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 is allocating $88,841,500, which includes $20,000,000 in unexpended FY 1997 cash and medical assistance (CMA) funds, 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 is also allocating 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 45 CFR 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 Mutual Assistance Association (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 (LEN) 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 the 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 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.

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. 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 (64 FR 19793, April 22, 1999).

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. Discussion of Comments Received

We received one letter of comment in response to the notice of proposed FY l999 allocations to States for refugee social services. This comment is summarized below and followed by the Department's response.

Comment: The commenter expressed concern about the proposal to allocate $15.5 million as a set-aside to provide referral services 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 services and certain legal services. The commenter believes that refugees are able to adequately access public assistance and medical assistance programs. Instead, the commenter recommended that the set-aside funds be allocated to States based upon the estimated number of refugees who have been in the country for over seven years who are losing eligibility for Federal Food Stamps. The commenter recommended that States should be given the discretion on how to use the funds in providing food assistance, employment services, or naturalization services in order to mitigate the loss of Federal Food Stamp eligibility. The commenter also recommended that the funds should be used by states to translate notices and information relating to programs and services which refugees need because translation is more cost-effective and efficient than interpreter services. And lastly, the commenter indicated that the President's budget for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2000 includes $40 million to increase and expand the use of TANF funds for the current Medicaid outreach program to include children newly eligible for CHIP and therefore the ORR set-aside would be duplicative of this initiative.

Response: With the continuing increase in diversity among newly arriving refugee groups, and the increased ability of these groups to become employed soon after arrival, we believe that there is a strong need for refugees to receive specially directed assistance to help them access medical and other assistance programs for low-economic populations. We believe this assistance is critical to helping refugees make the transition from the entry and low level jobs which are obtained soon after arrival, when families are struggling to adjust to their new lives, jobs, and communities, to becoming self-sufficient members of the community.

We also believe that it is vital to have appropriate interpreter services available so that the diverse newly arriving populations receive the services necessary for their well-being and integration into their new communities. While both interpreter and translation services are currently allowable social services for States to fund under ORR regulations, it is our understanding that newly arriving refugees would particularly benefit from having additional interpreter services available in the community. In many communities, it is no longer possible for each local resettlement provider to have on staff a bilingual worker for each arriving refugee group. New strategies and means of addressing the diverse population must be found. It is our intent that the set-aside funds will support that need. And finally, while funding to augment access to CHIP may be provided under the FFY 2000 budget, and we would certainly encourage States to do whatever possible to ensure that refugee populations are served if these funds are included in the final appropriations legislation, we do not believe this to be a duplication because refugee program funds would have been available to serve refugees before next year's appropriation is made available to States.

III. Allocation Formulas

Of the funds available for FY 1999 for social services, $88,841,815 is allocated to States in accordance with the formula specified below. In addition, $15.5 million in set-aside funds are 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 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 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 through 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.

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 formula amounts which the population estimates yield (col. 5); the allocation amounts after allowing for the minimum amounts (col. 6); the set-aside amount (col. 7); and the total final allocation (col. 8).

V. Allocation Amounts

Funding subsequent to the publication of this notice 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 for allocation for refugee social services in FY 1999:

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

State	Refugees [1] (1)	Entrants (2)	Havana parolees [2] (3)	Total population (4)	Proposed formula amount (5)	Proposed allocation (6)	Set-aside	Final allocation
Alabama	484	55	75	614	$198,965	$198,965	$34,829	$233,794
Alaska [3]	0	0	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arizona	6,105	387	421	6,913	2,240,139	2,240,139	392,139	2,632,278
Arkansas	141	9	9	159	51,524	85,321	9,019	94,340
California	34,833	342	575	35,750	11,584,691	11,584,691	2,027,912	13,612,603
Colorado	3,284	2	6	3,292	1,066,764	1,066,764	186,738	1,253,502
Connecticut	2,362	150	201	2,713	879,140	879,140	153,894	1,033,034
Delaware	58	2	3	63	20,415	75,000	3,574	78,574
Dist. of Columbia	1,498	4	9	1,511	489,635	489,635	85,711	575,346
Florida	12,594	8,201	21,455	42,250	13,690,998	13,690,998	2,396,624	16,087,622
Georgia	8,307	98	155	8,560	2,773,845	2,773,845	485,564	3,259,409
Hawaii	120	1	0	121	39,210	75,000	6,864	81,864
Idaho [4]	1,622	0	0	1,622	525,605	525,605	92,008	617,613
Illinois	11,262	231	304	11,797	3,822,786	3,822,786	669,183	4,491,969
Indiana	1,451	5	7	1,463	474,081	474,081	82,988	557,069
Iowa	5,288	2	3	5,293	1,715,182	1,715,182	300,244	2,015,426
Kansas	1,025	9	11	1,045	338,629	338,629	59,277	397,906
Kentucky [5]	3,375	802	638	4,815	1,560,288	1,560,288	273,130	1,833,418
Louisiana	1,296	79	141	1,516	491,256	491,256	85,995	577,251
Maine	607	0	0	607	196,697	196,697	34,432	231,129
Maryland	3,000	46	95	3,141	1,017,833	1,017,833	178,173	1,196,006
Massachusetts	6,727	85	105	6,917	2,241,435	2,241,435	392,366	2,633,801
Michigan	7,078	347	340	7,765	2,516,227	2,516,227	440,468	2,956,695
Minnesota	8,245	7	15	8,267	2,678,899	2,678,899	468,944	3,147,843
Mississippi	71	10	19	100	32,405	75,000	5,672	80,672
Missouri	6,514	8	13	6,535	2,117,649	2,117,649	370,697	2,488,346
Montana	126	0	0	126	40,830	75,000	7,147	82,147
Nebraska	2,064	36	36	2,136	692,165	692,165	121,164	813,329
Nevada [5]	1,233	609	640	2,482	804,285	804,285	140,791	945,076
New Hampshire	1,095	0	0	1,095	354,832	354,832	62,114	416,946
New Jersey	3,371	365	654	4,390	1,422,568	1,422,568	249,022	1,671,590
New Mexico	346	467	565	1,378	446,537	446,537	78,167	524,704
New York	29,693	756	876	31,325	10,150,782	10,150,782	1,776,905	11,927,687
North Carolina	3,639	29	32	3,700	1,198,975	1,198,975	209,882	1,408,857
North Dakota	1,304	0	2	1,306	423,206	423,206	74,083	497,289
Ohio	4,134	44	44	4,222	1,368,128	1,368,128	239,492	1,607,620
Oklahoma	471	7	10	488	158,135	158,135	27,682	185,817
Oregon	4,616	344	388	5,348	1,733,005	1,733,005	303,364	2,036,369
Pennsylvania	6,893	245	261	7,399	2,397,626	2,397,626	419,707	2,817,333
Rhode Island	331	5	5	341	110,500	110,500	19,343	129,843
South Carolina	226	6	7	239	77,447	100,000	13,557	113,557
South Dakota [4]	750	0	0	750	243,035	243,035	42,544	285,579
Tennessee	3,636	171	179	3,986	1,291,653	1,291,653	226,105	1,517,758
Texas	11,165	778	837	12,780	4,141,325	4,141,325	724,943	4,866,268
Utah	3,163	1	0	3,164	1,025,286	1,025,286	179,477	1,204,763
Vermont	885	0	0	885	286,782	286,782	50,201	336,983
Virginia	4,484	114	163	4,761	1,542,789	1,542,789	270,067	1,812,856
Washington	16,391	45	49	16,485	5,341,920	5,341,920	935,109	6,277,029
West Virginia	8	0	0	8	2,592	75,000	454	75,454
Wisconsin	1,606	9	11	1,626	526,901	526,901	92,235	619,136
Wyoming [3]	0	0	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	228,977	14,913	29,359	273,249	88,545,602	88,841,500	15,500,000	104,341,500

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

[2] For FY 1998, Florida's Havana Parolees (10,183) were based on actual data, while HP's in other States (3,258) were prorated according to 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 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: August 2, 1999.

Lavinia Limón,

Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement.

[FR Doc. 99–20246 Filed 8–9–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4184–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary

[FA–108–2810–00–24–1E]

Reopening of the Call for Non-Federal Nominations to the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Reopening of the public call for nominations to the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture are reopening the call for public nominations to the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group to allow more time for the public to assemble and submit nomination materials. The initial notice was published in the **Federal Register** on Monday, June 21, 1999 (64 FR 33112).

The purpose of this Stakeholder Advisory Group is to provide advice concerning priorities and approaches for research and implementation of research findings for the management of wildland fuels on lands administered by the Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Department of Agriculture, through the Forest Service.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted to the address listed below no later than September 9, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Bob Clark, Joint Fire Science Program Manager, National Interagency Fire Center, 3833 S. Development Ave., Boise, Idaho 83705, (208) 387–5349. Internet: bob—clark@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Stakeholder Advisory Group will consist of 30 members, 15 Federal and 15 nonfederal. This call for nominations will establish the nonfederal membership on the Group. Group membership will be balanced in terms of categories of interest represented.

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Joint Fire Science Program Stakeholder Advisory Group. Individuals may also nominate themselves for Group membership. All nomination letters should include the name, address, profession, relevant biographic data, and reference sources for each nominee, and should be sent to the above address. Letters of support should be from interests or groups that nominees claim to represent. This material will be used to evaluate nominees in terms of their expertise and qualifications for advising the Secretaries on matters pertaining to research into wildland fuels problems and implementation of strategies and solutions for managing the increasing fuel loadings on federally administered wildlands.

Nominations may be made for the following categories of interest:

Wildland fire management
Wildland fuels management
Air quality management
Public lands management
Forest ecology
Rangeland ecology
Hydrology
Conservation
Social science
Computer science and modeling
Tribal government
Public-at-large

The specific category that the nominee will represent should be identified in the letter of nomination.

Agency administrators will nominate Federal representatives, including: four (4) members from the U.S. Forest Service, and one member each from the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Each Stakeholder Advisory Group Member will be appointed to serve a 2-year term. Members will serve without salary, but non-federal members will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Government employees.

The Group will meet at least once annually. Additional meetings may be called in connection with special needs for advice. The Department's Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Managing Risk and Public Safety, will be the Designated Federal Officer who will call meetings of the Group.

Dated: August 2, 1999.

John Berry,

Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget.

[FR Doc. 99–20507 Filed 8–9–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–84–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO–110–1060–04]

Public Hearing; Helicopters and Motorized Vehicle Use During the Gather of Wild Horses and Capture of Wild Horses From the North Piceance Herd Area and the Piceance/East Douglas Herd Management Area; Colorado

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public hearing; Capture of wild horses.

SUMMARY: A public hearing regarding the use of helicopters and motorized vehicles has been scheduled in one location in Colorado in 1999. Included is the time and date of this hearing.

SUMMARY: The capture of wild horses from two locations in Colorado in 1999 has been scheduled. Included are dates and locations of the wild horse gather.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: A hearing to discuss helicopter use in the North Piceance Herd Area and the Piceance/East Douglas Herd Management Area, White River Field Office, will be held in Meeker, Colorado at the White River Field Office on September 21, 1999 at 7 P.M.

A wild horse helicopter gather is scheduled to take place in the North Piceance Herd Area and the Piceance/East Douglas Herd Management Area between September 28, 1999 and October 31, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Valerie Dobrich; White River Field Office; 73544 Highway 64; Meeker, Colorado; 81641; Telephone (970) 878–3601 extension 5539.

John M. Mehlhoff,

White River Field Office Manager.

[FR Doc. 99–20567 Filed 8–9–99; 8:45 am]

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