



## CalWORKs Domestic Violence Informing Notice

The purpose of this notice is to inform all adult CalWORKs applicants and recipients of the options available to survivors of abuse. If you are, or ever have been, harmed by an intimate partner or other person, your CalWORKs Employment/Resource Specialist (ERS) can talk to you about community resources that can help you. If abuse is happening in your life, an ERS/ERS IV will work with you to develop a welfare-to-work plan in a way that keeps you safe. You may also receive waivers for other program requirements if they would endanger you or your children, or you might have problems meeting because of the abuse.

- ▶ The county is required by law to contact your children's noncustodial parent to seek child support. If doing this would endanger you or your children, you can choose to claim good cause and potentially be excused from this requirement.
- ▶ If you and your children are currently fleeing from your abuser with no place to stay and have a pending CalWORKs application, you may be eligible to Expanded Temporary Homeless Assistance that will help pay for a temporary stay in a motel. Ask your ERS/ERS IV for details.
- ▶ If you choose to talk to an ERS, or anyone else in the department, about the abuse in your life, know that everything you say is confidential and will not be shared unless there is suspicion of child or elder abuse. All Social Services employees are required by law to report suspected child or elder abuse.
- ▶ If you are an immigrant and you or your children are being abused by your spouse or by the children's other parent and the abuser is a U.S. Citizen or lawful permanent resident, you may be able to apply for residency and receive public assistance. If you have a sponsor, you may be required to provide information about your sponsor's income and resources. However, if the sponsor is the abuser, you may be exempt from this requirement.
- ▶ If you don't feel you are able to talk about this now, or would feel more comfortable talking to someone else about this, you can always tell your CalWORKs ERS/ERS IV later if current or prior abuse is interfering with your ability to meet the program requirements. If you feel uncomfortable talking to your CalWORKs ERS/ERS IV about the abuse, you can choose to discuss these issues with a community advocate and ask them to contact the ERS about your needs. To find a community advocate, please see brochure in the informational packet given at application called "Domestic Violence Affects the Entire Family" (form DSS 208) or ask your CalWORKs ERS/ERS IV for the brochure.

I have given the above notice orally and in writing to: \_\_\_\_\_ Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of CalWORKs ERS

Worker #

Date

**The information on this form was reviewed with me and I received a copy.**

Signature of Applicant/Recipient

Date

Copy to applicant/recipient