

Dated: November 13, 2003.

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[FR Doc. 03-28865 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4163-18-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Administration for Children and Families**

#### **Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority for Regional Offices**

This Notice amends Part K of the Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegations of Authority of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF) as follows: Chapter KD, the Regional Offices of the Administration for Children and Families for: Region I, as last amended (61 FR 50029-30) September 24, 1996; Region II, as last amended (61 FR 18147-49) April 24, 1996, and (60 FR 21211-12) May 1, 1995; Region III, as last amended (61 FR 68045) April 26, 1996; Region IV, as last amended (62 FR 15897-99) April 3, 1997; Region V, as last amended (65 FR 8173-74) February 17, 2000; Region VI, as last amended (61 FR 18147-49) April 24, 1996, and (60 FR 27315-16) May 23, 1995; Region VII, as last amended (61 FR 3937-38) February 2, 1996; Region VIII, as last amended (61 FR 52565-66) October 8, 1997; Region IX, as last amended (62 FR 31610-11) June 10, 1997; and Region X, as last amended (61 FR 68045-47) December 26, 1996.

This Notice reflects the elimination of the five-region "Hub" structure and the re-establishment of a ten-region organizational structure.

Each Regional Office is headed by a Regional Administrator who serves as the principal senior official for the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in providing executive leadership, direction and coordination of ACF programs, goals and priorities in the ten Regional Offices.

#### **I. Chapter KD Is Amended as Follows**

A. Delete KD.00 Mission in its entirety and replace with the following:

KD.00 Mission. The Regional Offices of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) operate with ten Regional Offices and are located as follows: Region I Boston, MA; Region II New York, NY; Region III Philadelphia, PA; Region IV Atlanta, GA; Region V Chicago, IL; Region VI Dallas, TX;

Region VII Kansas City, MO; Region VIII Denver, CO; Region IX San Francisco, CA; and Region X Seattle, WA.

Each Regional Office in its respective region represents ACF to state, county, city or town, territories, and tribal governments, grantees, and public and private local organizations in the administration of programs that assist vulnerable and dependent children and families in achieving independence, stability, and self-reliance. These programs include: Child Support Enforcement (CSE), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, Head Start, Early Head Start, Child Welfare, Child Care and Development Fund, Child Abuse and Neglect, Runaway and Homeless Youth, and Developmental Disabilities.

The ACF Regional Offices oversee the programmatic and financial management and coordination of the ACF programs in the regions and provide guidance and assistance to the various entities responsible for administering these programs. They monitor the programs to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and adherence to program and fiscal policies and procedures. They contribute to the development of ACF national policy based on knowledge of implementation and services in the region. The ACF Regional Offices review and approve state plans and, if warranted, submit recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families for state plan disapproval. They issue grant awards directly for certain programs, and make recommendations to approve and/or disapprove grant awards for other programs. They advise the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families of problems and issues that may have significant regional or national impact. The ACF Regional Offices act as liaison with the entities responsible for administering the programs, other Federal agencies, and public and private local organizations serving children and families. They develop plans to meet ACF goals and objectives and HHS initiatives. They participate in regional activities to inform the public about ACF programs in coordination with the ACF Office of Public Affairs and the Office of the Secretary at the regional level.

#### **II. Region I, Boston Office of ACF**

A. Delete KD1.10 Organization in its entirety and replace with the following:

KD1.10 Organization. The Administration for Children and Families, Region I, Boston Office has a

goal-driven structure and is organized as follows:

Office of the Regional Administrator (KD1A)

Goal#1—Family Self Sufficiency

Goal#2—Healthy Children, Families and Communities

Goal#3—Financial Management

B. Delete KD1.20 Functions, Paragraph A, in its entirety and replace with the following:

KD1.20 Functions. A. The Regional Office is headed by a Regional Administrator who reports to the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families through the Director, Office of Regional Operations. In addition, the Office of the Regional Administrator has a Deputy Regional Administrator. The Office provides executive leadership to state, county, city, territorial and tribal governments, as well as public and private local grantees to ensure effective, efficient, results-oriented program and financial management. In addition, the Regional Administrator is responsible for alerting the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families through the Director, Office of Regional Operations to issues that may have significant regional and/or national impact. ACF's primary goal is to assist vulnerable and dependent children and families to achieve economic independence, stability and self-reliance. The Office is responsible for providing centralized management and technical administration of ACF formula, block, entitlement and discretionary grant programs which are designed to assist families achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency, and to ensure that children have safe, healthy and permanent environments in which to grow. It oversees ACF operations and the management of ACF regional staff, coordinates activities across regional programs; and assures that goals and objectives are met and departmental and agency initiatives are carried out.

In order to ensure that agency goals are accomplished, the Office of the Regional Administrator provides leadership to grantees through a staff organized around and focused on ACF goals and priorities. ACF programs and functions are grouped within offices according to ACF goals and priorities. Each group reports to a goal leader charged with achieving measurable progress towards ACF goals and priorities, through its work with state and local grantees, the public, other Federal agencies and internally within the Department. The Regional goal structure is designed to allow ACF to respond quickly in a dynamic and changing environment to emphasize,