

## **THP-Plus in the Governor's Proposed FY 10-11 Budget**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### ***At what level was THP-Plus funded in the Governor's proposed FY 10-11 budget, released on January 8, 2010?***

In his proposed budget for FY 10-11, Governor Schwarzenegger proposed to entirely eliminate THP-Plus unless the federal government provides \$6.9 billion in federal assistance. Other health and human service programs to be eliminated absent the federal assistance include CALWorks, Healthy Families, the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program and dramatically reducing Medi-CAL eligibility.

#### ***A Special Session of the legislature has been called? Why and how does it differ from the regular budget development process?***

The Governor has declared a fiscal emergency and called the Legislature into Special Session to close \$8.9 billion of the \$19.9 billion budget gap. What makes the Special Session different is that it requires the Legislature to act on the Governor's Special Session proposals within 45 days. If the Legislature fails to pass and send to the Governor a bill, or bills, by the 45th day following this type of proclamation, the Legislature may not act on any other bill. The budget

#### ***Is the THP-Plus budget cut in the current-year? If the \$6.9 billion in federal assistance is provided, is there a proposed reduction to THP-Plus in FY 10-11?***

The THP-Plus budget for the current FY remains unchanged, \$35.8 million. There is no proposed reduction to THP-Plus in FY 10-11 if California receives the federal assistance.

#### ***What about the Governor's \$80 million line-item budget reduction to Child Welfare Services from FY 09-10? What is restored in the FY 10-11 budget?***

No, the \$80 million veto to Child Welfare Services was not restored.

#### ***The Governor's \$80 million line-item budget reduction to Child Welfare Services was allocated to certain programs in October. Will this allocation be revisited and could THP-Plus be cut through that process?***

According to information provided by the California Department of Social Services, the \$80 million veto will be reallocated in the FY 10-11 budget based on changing budget circumstances and priorities. In the initial allocation of the \$80 million, THP-Plus received a very small reduction.

#### ***When will the budget process be complete?***

The Special Session of the California Legislature has until mid-February (45 days) to close \$8.9 billion of the \$19.9 billion budget gap. That will be the first step in the process to address the deficit and pass the budget. California Legislature is constitutionally required to pass a budget by June 15<sup>th</sup>. However, given the extent of the budget crisis, it is virtually guaranteed the budget process will extend past this point

#### ***How can I prevent THP-Plus from being eliminated?***

There is a range of ways to help. These include (1) serving on a press team to get ongoing coverage (2) educating your member of the Assembly and Senate through letters, district visits and visits to their Sacramento office and (3) stay informed about the process through a semi-weekly information call.

