



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 96

WHEREAS, service delivery is service provided to an individual or organization by any governmental agency, or by any program or activity receiving financial assistance through a state agency; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin law provides that no person shall, on the basis of age, race, color, handicap, sex, creed, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, arrest record or conviction record be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity, or service provided by or receiving financial assistance through any state department, board, commission, agency, or educational institution; and

WHEREAS, there is a particular need to recognize differences among Wisconsin residents with respect to culture, language or handicap, and to consider the impact state policies and procedures may have on Wisconsin residents due to these differences; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has declared that all states receiving federal funds shall comply with federal civil rights laws and regulations relative to any program or activities in service delivery; and

WHEREAS, these responsibilities can be met by development and implementation of policies and procedures to ensure effective participation of all affected groups in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of service delivery programs; and

WHEREAS, the previous attempts to ensure full access to services for eligible clients have been limited by lack of accountability, consistency, and by federal/state programmatic constraints; and

WHEREAS, this administration is absolutely committed to the removal of discriminatory barriers to and within its service delivery programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEE SHERMAN DREYFUS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby order the pursuit of a civil rights compliance program designed to assure full compliance with state and federal regulations and equal opportunity in service delivery. This program should include the following actions:

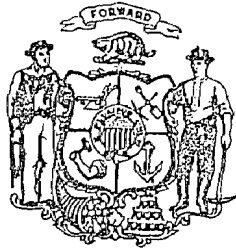
1. The Advisor to the Governor's Ethnic and Minority Initiatives Office shall be responsible for establishing a task force representing state agencies. These individuals will constitute a Civil Rights Compliance (CRC) Task Force which shall develop and recommend Civil Rights Compliance guidelines consistent with state and federal laws and regulations. These guidelines, policies and procedures shall be applicable to all state departments, boards, commissions, agencies, educational institutions, and providers with whom they contract or otherwise provide funds directly and/or indirectly.

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2. The Governor, upon finalization of the Civil Rights Compliance guidelines, shall designate a lead state agency responsible for issuing guidelines, notifying agency heads of implementation requirements, and establishing adequate monitoring procedures.
3. The heads of all state departments, boards, commissions, agencies and educational institutions shall be responsible for effective compliance with these guidelines to their programs and/or activities. Equal opportunity in service delivery covers all program areas including, but not limited to, planning, implementation, and evaluation.
4. The designated lead agency shall monitor and evaluate agency progress in meeting guidelines and shall make an annual report to the Governor and the agency heads of the state civil rights compliance program accomplishments and recommendations for actions to assure continued progress.

FURTHER, I hereby direct the Governor's Advisor for Ethnic and Minority Initiatives to prepare procedures for the full implementation of this Order.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 24th day of July in the year of Our Lord, one thousand nine hundred eighty-two.


LEE SHERMAN DREYFUS

By the Governor:

EL PHILLIPS
Secretary of State