



# Agenda

## FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

July 25, 2022  
9:00 A.M.

To slow the spread of COVID-19, in lieu of a public gathering, the meeting will be accessible via Zoom to all members of the public as permitted by Government Code section 54953(e).

To join virtually via Zoom:

<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/84983385190?pwd=NW5Scxk3TFFEZVJvVEI1YVdOVGIQQT09>

To join by telephone:

USA 214 765 0478  
USA 888 278 0254 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 985922

To indicate you wish to speak on an agenda item via Zoom, please “raise your hand” in the Zoom application. If you are joining the meeting via a telephone, you may dial \*2 using your phone’s dial pad.

Supervisor Diane Burgis, Chair  
Supervisor Candace Andersen, Vice Chair

### Agenda Items:

Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).
3. RECOMMEND to the Board of Supervisors the reappointment of Talia Moore to the Member At-Large Seat 3 on the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board with a term expiring on June 30, 2025, as recommended by the Health Services Department.
4. CONSIDER accepting the status report from the Employment and Human Services (EHS) Department on CalFresh participation, benefit enhancements and expansions, as well as outreach efforts, and FORWARD to the Board of Supervisors for their information. *(Rebecca Darnell, Interim Workforce Services Director)*
5. CONSIDER accepting the status report from the Employment and Human Services (EHS) Department on the Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP) activities and presentation on youth services, and FORWARD to the Board of Supervisors for their information. *(Don Graves, ILSP Coordinator)*
6. The regularly scheduled meeting for August is canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2022.
7. Adjourn

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*The Family & Human Services Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Family & Human Services Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.*

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*Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Family & Human Services Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1025 Escobar St., 4th Floor, Martinez, during normal business hours.*

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*Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.*

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For Additional Information Contact:

Danielle Fokkema, Committee Staff  
Phone (925) 655-2047, Fax (925) 655-2066  
Danielle.Fokkema@cao.cccounty.us



# Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

## Subcommittee Report

### FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

3.

**Meeting Date:** 07/25/2022  
**Subject:** Reappointment to the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board  
**Submitted For:** Monica Nino, County Administrator  
**Department:** County Administrator  
**Referral No.:** N/A  
**Referral Name:** Advisory Board Appointment  
**Presenter:** N/A                               **Contact:** Fatima Matal Sol; (925) 335-3307

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#### **Referral History:**

On January 7, 2020, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 2020/1 adopting policy amendments governing appointments to boards, committees, and commissions that are advisory to the Board of Supervisors. Included in this resolution was a requirement that applications for at large/countywide seats be reviewed by a Board of Supervisors committee. At-Large seats on the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board (AODAB) are assigned to the Family and Human Services Committee (FHS) for review and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

The Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board provides input and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and the Health Services Department concerning family and community needs regarding prevention and treatment of alcohol and drug related problems. The mission of the Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board is to assess family and community needs regarding treatment and prevention of alcohol and drug abuse problems. The board reports their findings and recommendations to the Contra Costa Health Services Department, the Board of Supervisors, and the communities they serve. The Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board works in collaboration with the Alcohol and Other Drugs Services of Contra Costa Health Services. The board provides input and recommendations as they pertain to alcohol and other drugs prevention, intervention, and treatment services.

#### **Referral Update:**

Dr. Talia Moore was previously appointed to the Member At-Large Seat 3 of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board by the Board of Supervisors for the term December 10, 2019 through June 30, 2022. The AODAB's Executive Committee reviewed Dr. Moore's new application and requested that the Family and Human Services Committee recommend the reappointment of Dr. Moore to the Board of Supervisors.

#### **Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):**

RECOMMEND to the Board of Supervisors the reappointment of Talia Moore to Member At-Large Seat 3 on the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board with a term expiring on June 30, 2025.

#### **Fiscal Impact (if any):**

None.

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#### **Attachments**

T. Moore Application Redacted  
AODAB Reappointment Recommendation Memo  
AODAB Roster

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### Application Form

#### Profile

Talia \_\_\_\_\_ Moore \_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Suite or Apt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address  
 El Sobrante CA 94803  
 City State Postal Code

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Primary Phone

\_\_\_\_\_ Email Address

#### District Locator Tool

#### Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 1

Holy Names University College Professor  
 Employer Job Title

#### Length of Employment

4.8 years

#### Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes  No

#### If Yes, in which District do you work?

#### How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

22 years

#### Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

Yes  No

#### Board and Interest

#### Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board: Submitted

**Seat Name**

District 1- Member at large

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?**

Yes  No

**If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?**

40

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**Education**

**Select the option that applies to your high school education \***

High School Diploma

**College/ University A**

**Name of College Attended**

University of California, Berkeley

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

Social Welfare, Psychology, African-American Studies

**Degree Awarded?**

Yes  No

**College/ University B**

**Name of College Attended**

Golden Gate University

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

Psychology

**Degree Awarded?**

Yes  No

---

**College/ University C**

**Name of College Attended**

Argosy University

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

Counseling Psychology and Forensics

**Degree Awarded?**

Yes  No

**Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses**

**Other Training A**

**Certificate Awarded for Training?**

Yes  No

**Other Training B**

**Certificate Awarded for Training?**

Yes  No

**Occupational Licenses Completed:**

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**Qualifications and Volunteer Experience**

**Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.**

I currently serve on the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board. I have been on this board for five years. My term is nearing expiration, and I would like to remain in my position. I would like to renew/ continue my AOD Board position. I would like to serve on the Racial Justice Oversight Body. At this time, there is a national call to action to ensure equal treatment across the races and within law enforcement. As a Black woman, a former Deputy Probation Officer and now as a college professor and criminologist, I believe my skill set, life experiences, formal education and employment background, provide a wealth of knowledge to help inform the process of ensuring racial justice. I feel compelled to give back to my community and work towards a cause I support.

**Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)**

Please review Curriculum Vitae/ Resume Attached

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

Yes  No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

Yes  No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

Yes  No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

Alcohol and Other Drug Advisory Board

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

Juvenile Justice Commission

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Alcohol and Other Drugs Board Member Juvenile Justice Commissioner

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### Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

Yes  No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

Yes  No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

**Please Agree with the Following Statement**

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**I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.**

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I Agree

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Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
  - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
  - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
  - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
  - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
  - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
  - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.





**Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board**  
**1220 Morello Avenue, Suite 101**  
**Martinez, CA 94553**  
**(925) 335-3307; fax (925) 335-3318**

“The mission of the Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board is to assess family and community needs regarding prevention and treatment of alcohol and other drug-related problems. Resultant findings and recommendations are forwarded to the Health Services Department and the Board of Supervisors. The Board also serves as an advocate for these findings and recommendations to the communities that we serve.”

Date: June 21, 2022  
 To: Family and Human Services Committee, Contra Costa Board of Supervisors  
 From: Fatima Matal Sol, Staff contact for the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board  
 RE: **Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board – At Large Member Vacancy Seat 3**

**District 1**  
 Antwon Clourd

**District 2**  
 Guita Bahramipour

**District 3**  
 Cynthia Chavez

**District 4**  
 Dylan Johnston

**District 5**  
 Logan Campbell

**At- Large Member**  
 Jonathan Ciampi  
 Victor Ortiz  
 Talia Moore  
 Rhiannon Shires  
 Michael Ward  
 Azi Carter

**At- Large Alternate**  
 Nicolette Schumacher  
 Candace Cowing  
 Robert Frey

The Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board (AODAB), in its continued efforts to maintain full membership that represents the diversity in our community and county, hereby makes the following recommendation to reappoint Dr. Talia Moore to the Member At Large Seat 3 with a new term expiring 6/30/2025. Dr. Talia Moore is currently the Chair of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board.

NOMINEE	SEAT	TERM EXPIRATION
Talia Moore	Member At-Large 3	6/30/2025

Dr. Moore is a resident of District I. She was previously appointed by the Board of Supervisors to the Member At Large Seat 3 for the term December 10, 2019 through June 30, 2022. District I Supervisor Gioia recommended her reappointment to the Member At Large Seat 3. Should you have any questions, please contact me at:

Phone: 925-335-3307  
 Email: Fatima.MatalSol@hsd.cccounty.us

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration in this matter.

**CCCAODS will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the meetings who should contact staff at least 24 hours before the meeting at (925) 335-3307.**

The Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board welcomes and encourages public participation at each meeting. Public comments on the agenda or any item of interest within the jurisdiction of the Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board are restricted to a maximum of three minutes per speaker. Topics not posted on the agenda may be addressed by the general public, however, California Law prohibits a Board or Commission from taking action on matters which are not on the agenda, unless in specific instances as stated under the Brown Act. Any person wishing to address this Board on any matter not posted on the agenda should bring their request to the attention of the Chair, Vice Chair or Staff of the Board. Thank you. For more information, contact Fatima Matal Sol (925) 335-3307.

**Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board Membership**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>District of Residence</b>
District I	Vacant	Richmond, CA, 94804	I
District II	Guita Bahramipour	Moraga, CA, 94556	II
District III	Cynthia Chavez	Antioch, CA, 94531	III
District IV	Dylan Johnston	Concord, CA 94518	IV
District V	Logan Campbell	Martinez, CA, 94553	V
At Large - 1	Jonathan Ciampi	San Ramon, CA, 94583	II
At Large - 2	Victor Ortiz	Concord, CA, 94518	IV
At Large - 3	Talia Moore E.D.D.	El Sobrante, CA, 94803	I
At Large - 4	Rhiannon Shires, Psy.D.	Danville, CA 94526	II
At Large - 5	Michael Ward	Lafayette, CA, 94549	II
At Large - 6	Azi Carter	Pittsburg, CA 94565	V
At Large - Alternate 1	Nicolette Schumacher	Walnut Creek, CA 94597	IV
At Large - Alternate 2	Candace Cowing	Alamo, CA 94507	II
At Large - Alternate 3	Robert Frey	Walnut Creek, CA 04598	IV



# Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

## Subcommittee Report

### FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

4.

**Meeting Date:** 07/25/2022  
**Subject:** SNAP/CalFRESH Program Annual Update  
**Submitted For:** Marla Stuart, Employment and Human Services Director  
**Department:** Employment & Human Services  
**Referral No.:** 103  
**Referral Name:** SNAP/CalFRESH Update  
**Presenter:** Rebecca Darnell, EHSD **Contact:** Enid Mendoza, (925) 655-2051

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#### **Referral History:**

The SNAP Program was originally referred to the Family and Human Services Committee by the Board of Supervisors on February 15, 2011. This program was formerly known as Food Stamps and is currently known as the Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). In California, the name of the program is CalFresh. EHSD has presented periodic status reports to the FHS related to concerns about extended wait times for benefits and the anticipated impact of the expansion of CalFresh benefits to SSI (Supplemental Security Income/Supplementary Payments) recipients effective June 1, 2019. FHS received status reports on September 24 and December 3, 2018; and on April 22, June 10, July 29, and September 23, 2019. Staff reported that CalFresh applications were beginning to level off at about 2,700 per month as compared to 2,200 per month prior to the SSI expansion. EHSD also presented a status report directly to the Board of Supervisors on July 9, 2019. In November 2019, Kathy Gallagher and Rebecca Darnell updated the FHS Committee. EHSD staff provided updates to the Committee on June 22, 2020 and September 28, 2020. On May 24, 2021, Kathy Gallagher and Kelly Curtis updated the FHS Committee.

#### **Referral Update:**

Please see attached report providing an update on the Employment and Human Services Department's status of CalFresh participation, updates on the CalFresh benefit enhancements and expansions, as well as outreach efforts.

#### **Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):**

ACCEPT status report from the Employment and Human Services Department on CalFresh participation, updates on the CalFresh benefit enhancements and expansions, as well as outreach efforts, and FORWARD to the Board of Supervisors for their information.

#### **Fiscal Impact (if any):**

There is no fiscal impact.

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#### **Attachments**

CalFresh Annual Update

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# Employment and Human Services Department CalFresh Report



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (EHSD)  
REPORT TO THE FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE | JULY 25, 2022  
PRESENTED BY REBECCA DARNELL, WORKFORCE SERVICES INTERIM BUREAU DIRECTOR



# CalFresh Overview



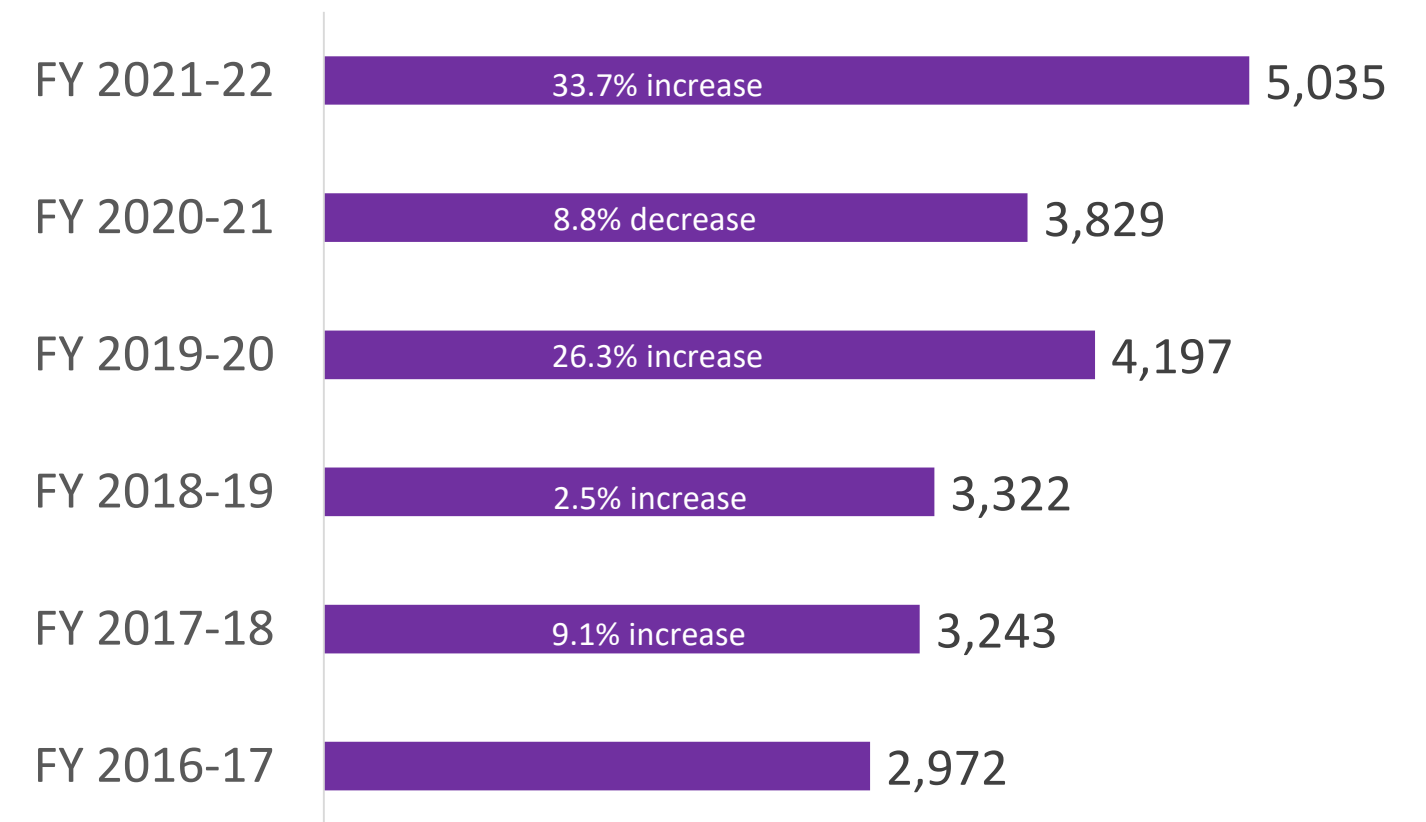
## Contra Costa County at a Glance

**CalFresh Emergency Allotment anticipated to end October 2022  
This results in at least a \$95 reduction in monthly benefit**

**\$259,997,322**  
CalFresh assistance issued to  
Contra Costa residents  
between  
July 2021 – June 2022

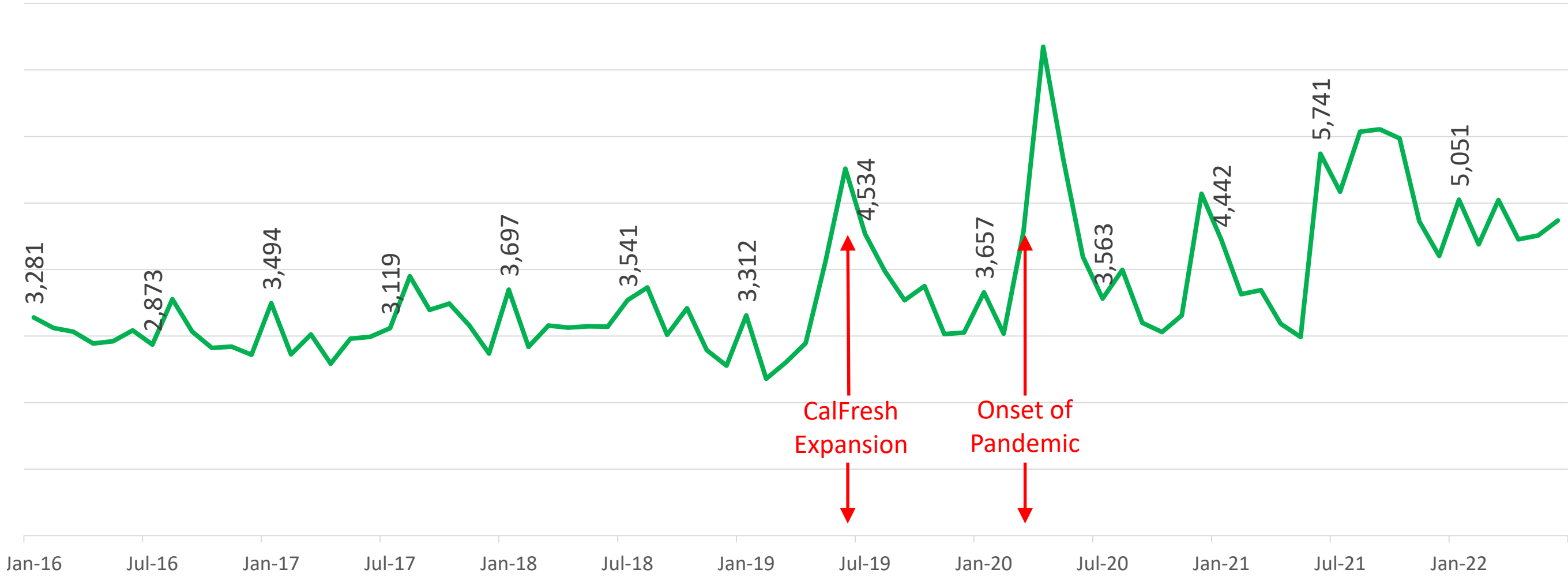
**87,462**  
Residents on CalFresh as of  
June 2022  
**31,486 (36%)**  
of CalFresh recipients are  
children

Average Monthly CalFresh Applications 2019 - 2021



# Application Trends

## CalFresh Applications by Month January 2016 - April 2022



Source: CalWIN table AR\_PGM\_REQ\_ON\_SAWS1

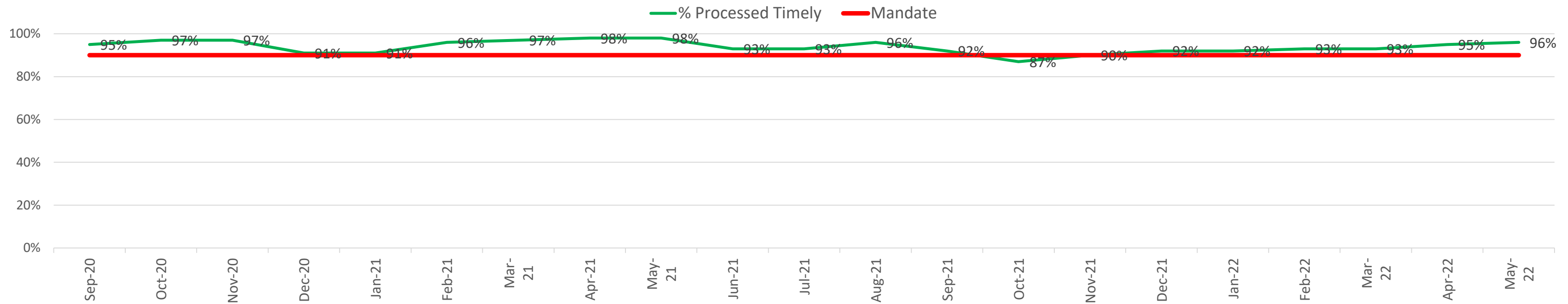
Fiscal Year	Total Apps	Denial Rate
FY 2016-17	35,659	59.8%
FY 2017-18	38,910	54.8%
FY 2018-19	39,860	54.8%
FY 2019-20	50,358	83.9%
FY 2020-21	45,946	59.9%
FY 2021-22	60,424	60.3%

### Top 3 Denial Reasons

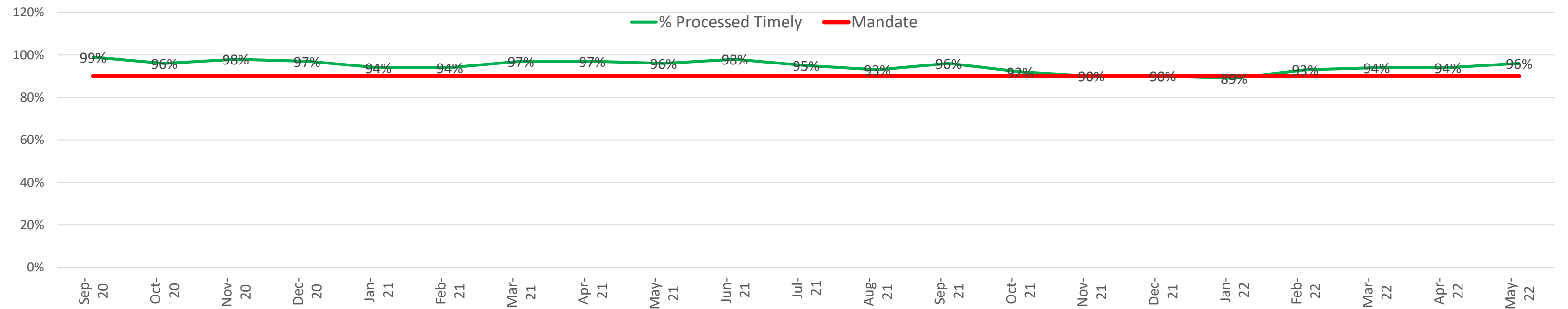
1. Over income
2. Missed mandatory interview appointment
3. Failed to provide mandatory verification

# Application Processing Mandates

## Percentage of Expedited CalFresh Benefits Processed Timely



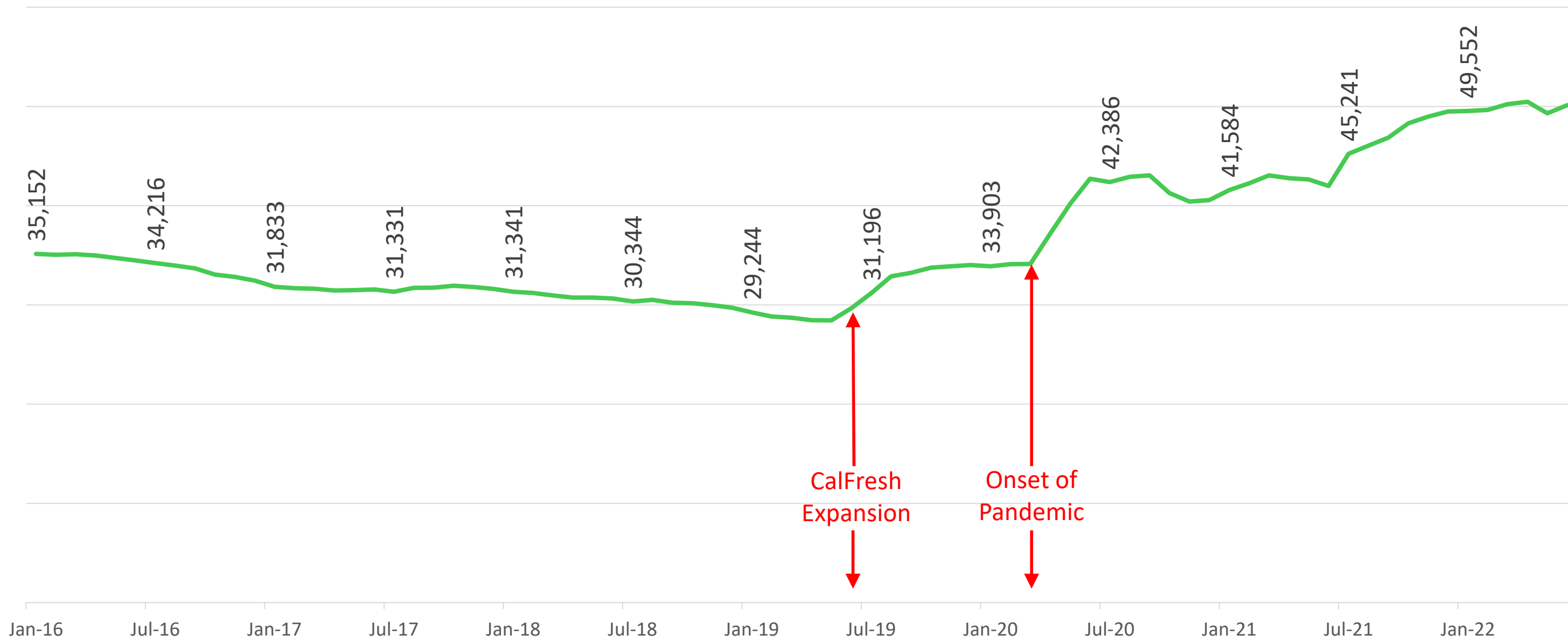
## Percentage of Applications Processed Timely



Source: CF 296 State Report, September 2020 to May 2022

# Caseload Trends

## Participant Households by Month January 2016 - April 2022



Fiscal Year	Average Individuals per Household
FY 2016-17	2.01
FY 2017-18	1.99
FY 2018-19	1.95
FY 2019-20	1.83
FY 2020-21	1.80
FY 2021-22	1.76

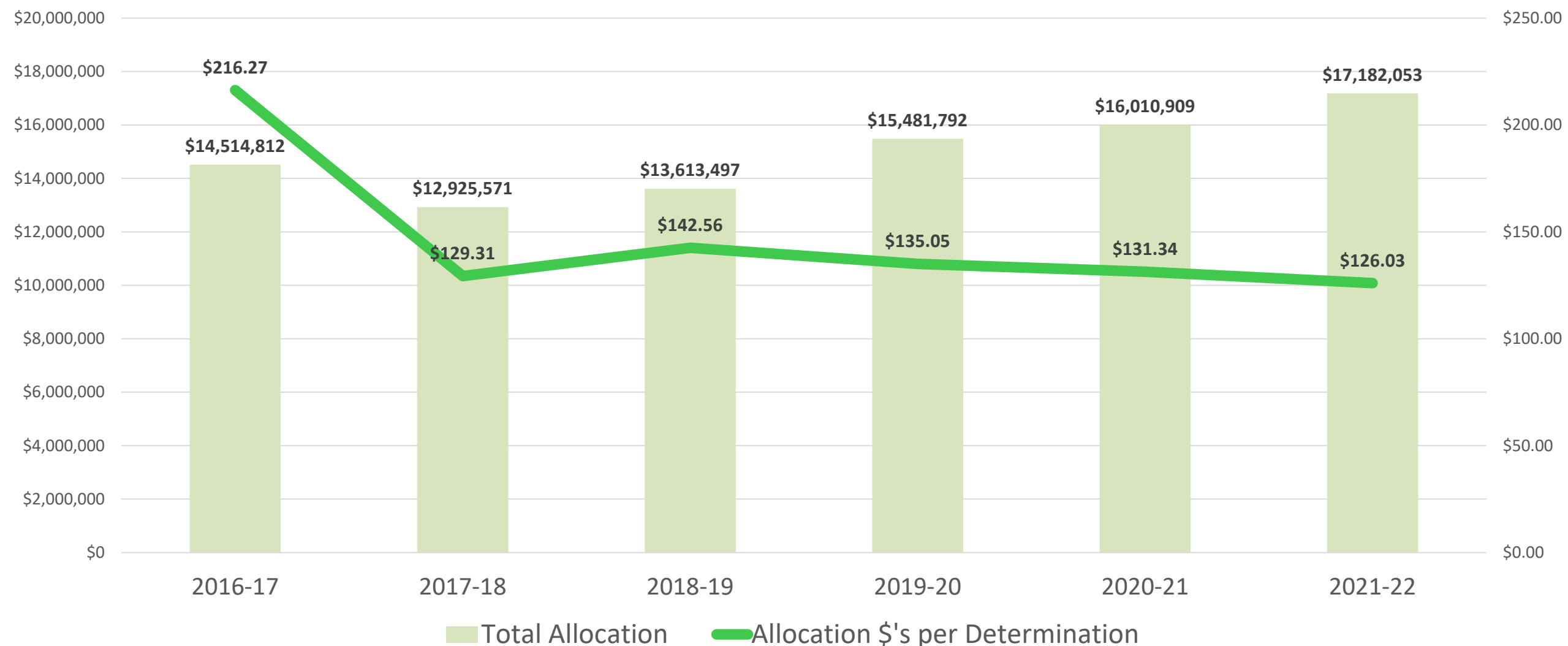
Source: EHS Program and Data Dashboard (CF 296 State Report)



# Allocation Amounts



**CalFresh: Total Allocations vs. Allocation per Eligibility Determination, FY 2016-17 to Present (through May 2022)**



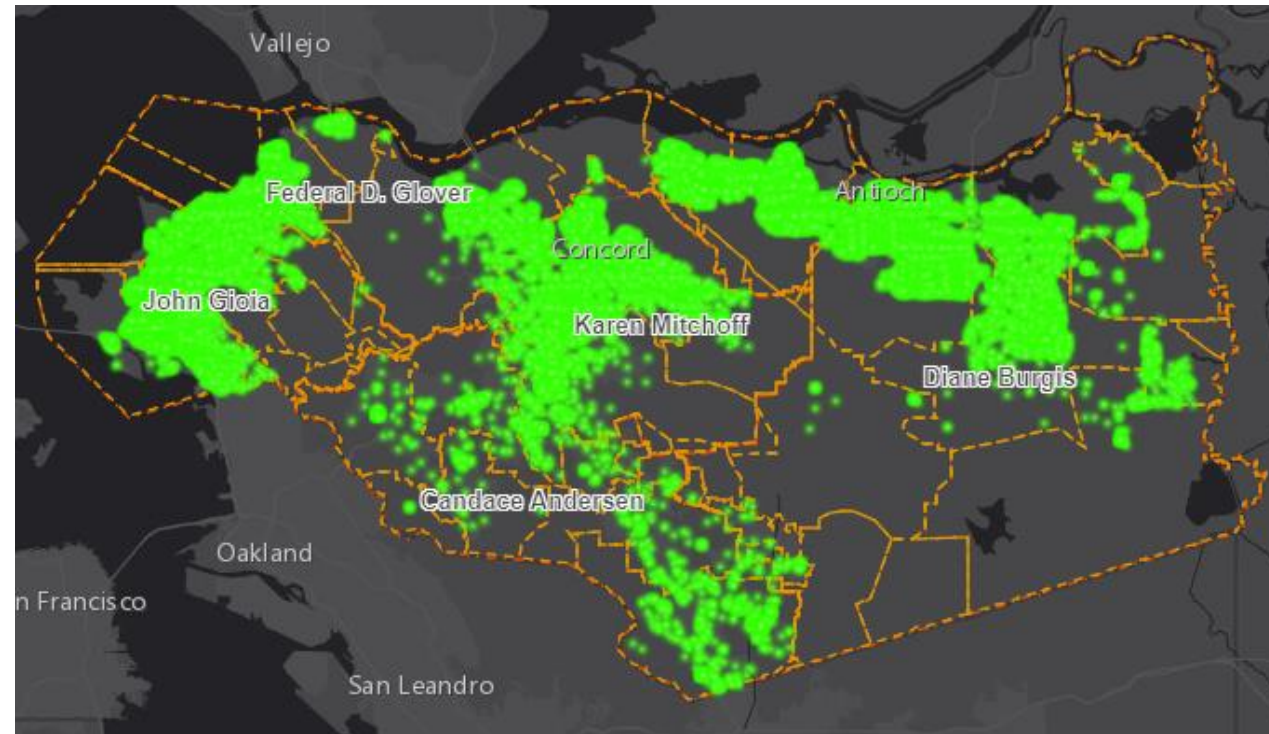
While the CalFresh allocation increased over time, the workload associated with higher demand for CalFresh increased at a faster rate. From FY 2016-17 to present, allocation dollars per CalFresh eligibility determination decreased by nearly 42%.

Many counties throughout California are raising concerns regarding the methodology for determining CalFresh allocation amounts. Unfunded mandates coupled with increased outreach have resulted in the inability to staff appropriately for the CalFresh workload.

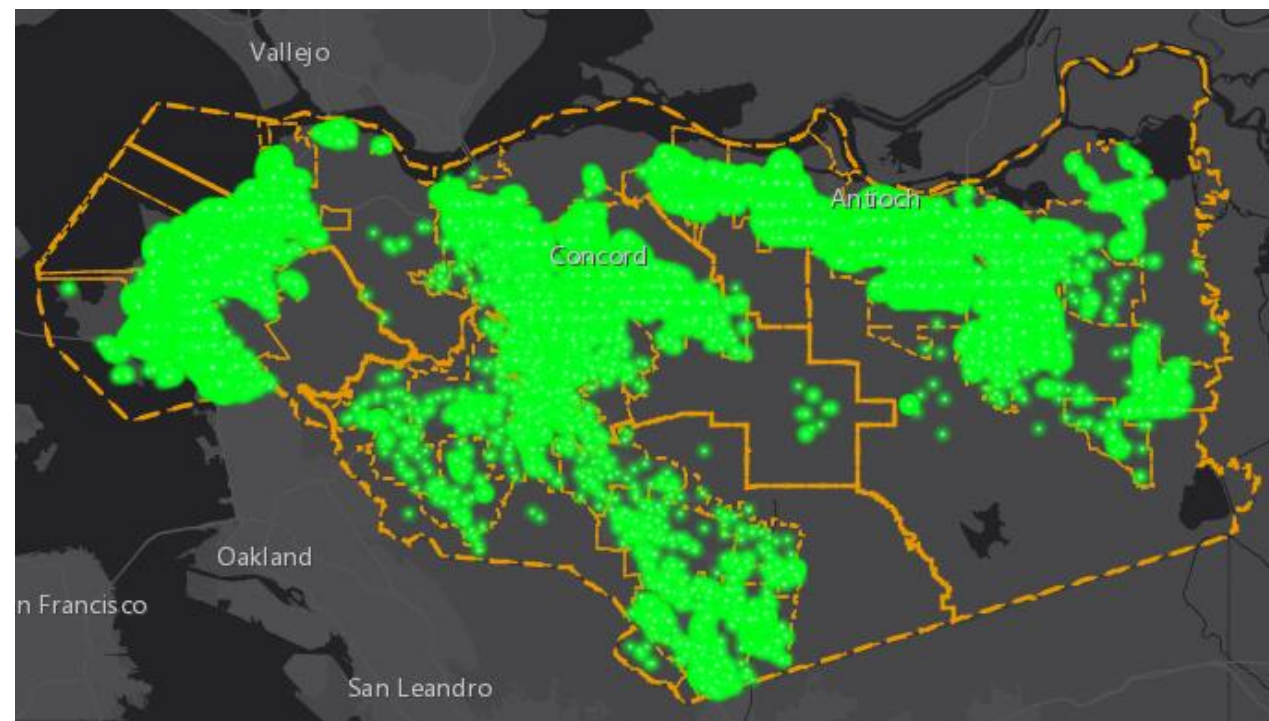
Source: Allocation dollars per determination includes eligibility determinations, processing SAR7s and redeterminations. Case management, phone calls and case action such as add a person are not included.

# Caseload Changes

## March 2020 Households



## May 2022 Households



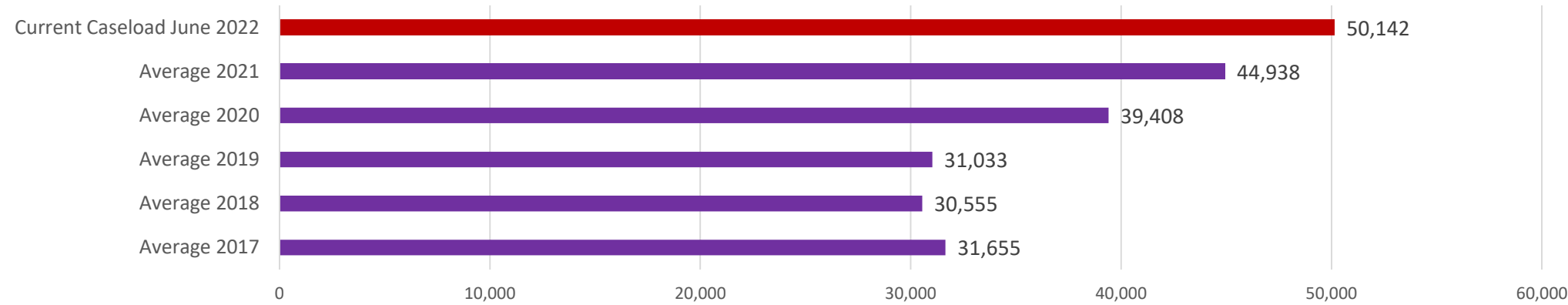
Sup District	March 2020 Households	May 2022 Households	Change
District 1	9,601	13,383	+39%
District 2	1,101	2,062	+87%
District 3	7,678	10,376	+35%
District 4	4,871	7,454	+53%
District 5	10,336	14,006	+36%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,587</b>	<b>47,281</b>	<b>+41%</b>

### Key Observations

1. There was an overall increase in CalFresh households in Contra Costa (+41%) since the beginning of the pandemic
2. Some areas in the County experienced a higher increase than others; most notably, District 2 (+87%) and District 4 (+53%)

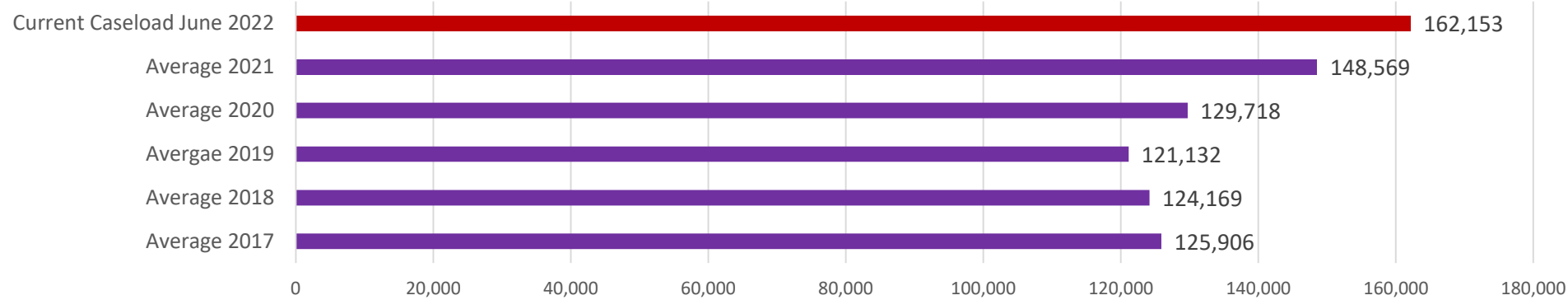
# Program Comparison

CalFresh Caseload Averages 2017-2021 and Current (as of June 2022)



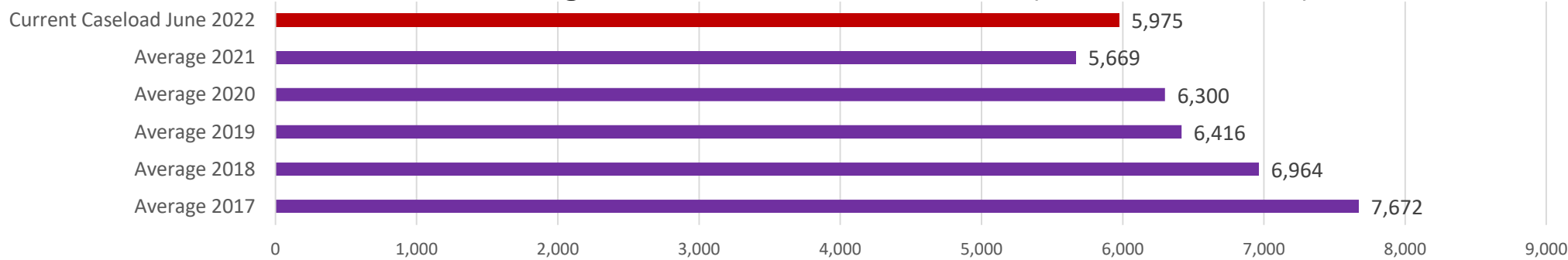
Number of CalFresh  
Individuals served as of  
June 2022:  
**87,462**

Medi-Cal Caseload Averages 2017-2021 and Current (as of June 2022)



Number of Medi-Cal  
Individuals served as of  
June 2022:  
**314,305**

CalWORKs Caseload Averages 2017-2021 and Current (as of June 2022)



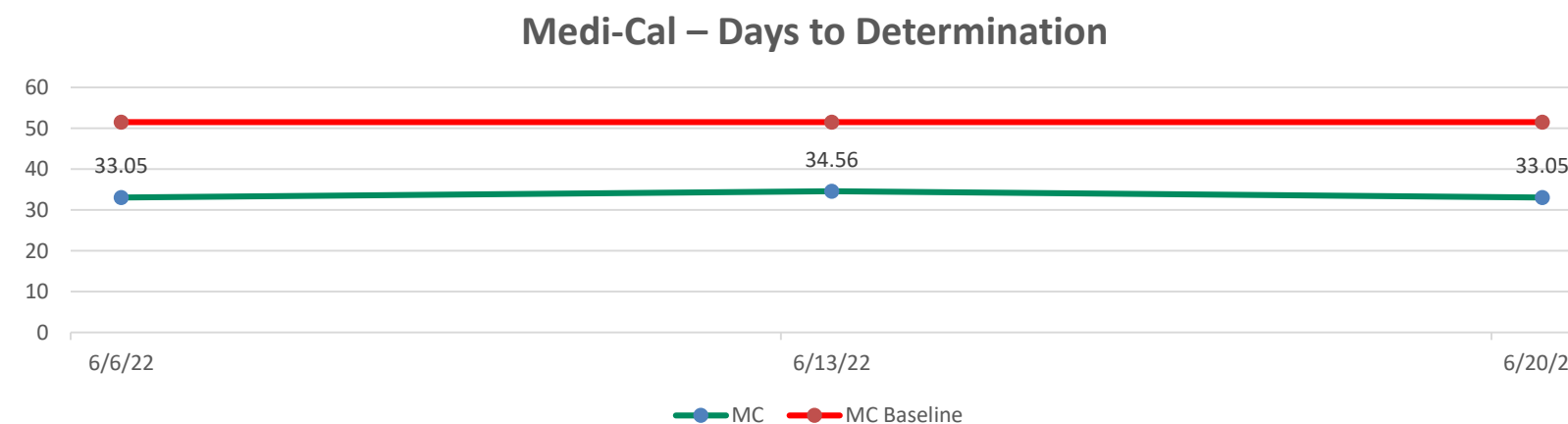
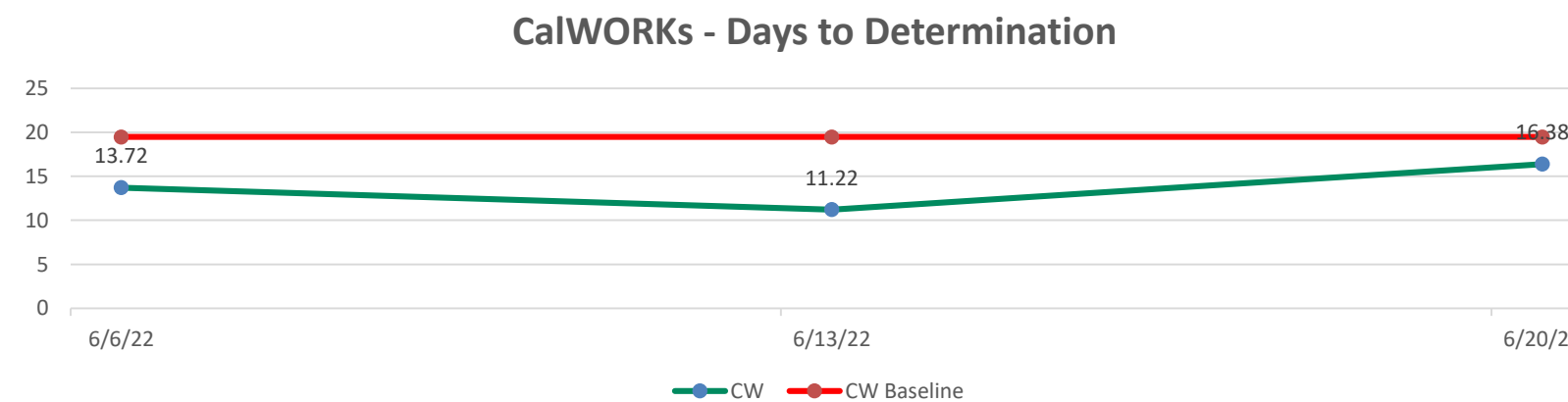
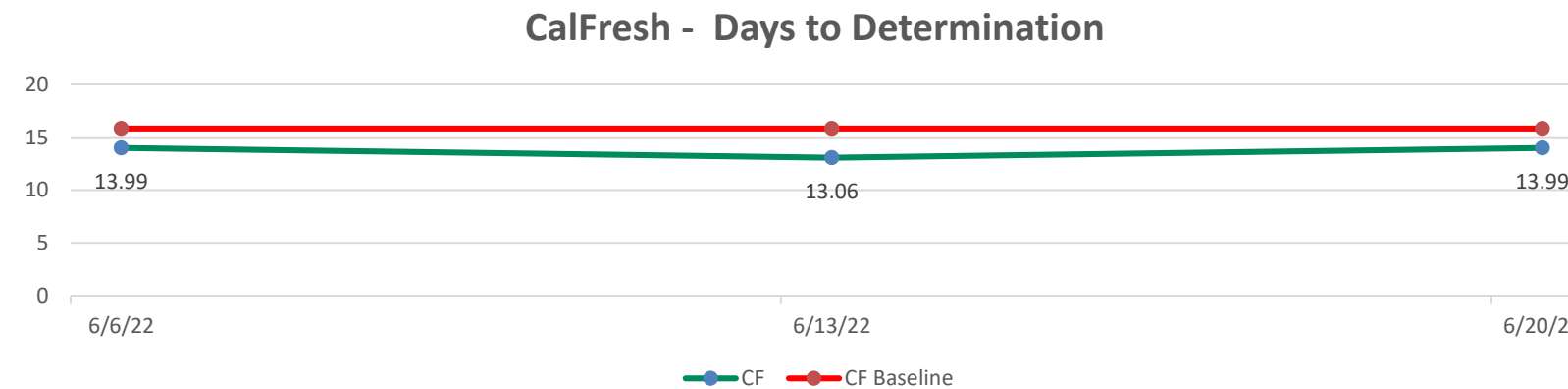
Number of CalWORKs  
Individuals served as of  
June 2022:  
**14,219**

**Workforce  
Services  
benefit  
programs serve  
321,305  
unduplicated  
individuals  
in 174,901  
CalFresh, Medi-  
Cal, and  
CalWORKs  
cases as of  
June 30, 2022**

# Business Process Redesign Update Charts

In October 2021, CDSS, Change and Innovation Agency (CIA), and EHSD began **Business Process Redesign** efforts to increase the likelihood of successful determination of eligibility

- Staff on workgroups developed the county plan
- Three main efforts were implemented:
  - ✓ Cold Calls
  - ✓ First Contact Resolution
  - ✓ Consistency Tools





# KEYS Program for CalFresh Recipients



## KEYS (Keeping Employment equals Your Success) Auto Loan Program

- Provides auto loans to assist participants in purchasing a reliable vehicle.
- Previously, this program was only available to CalWORKs recipients. In FY 2018-19 (pre-pandemic), 7 customers received cars with this program.
- Starting in May 2022, EHSD was able to expand the program to include a small pilot of CalFresh recipients.



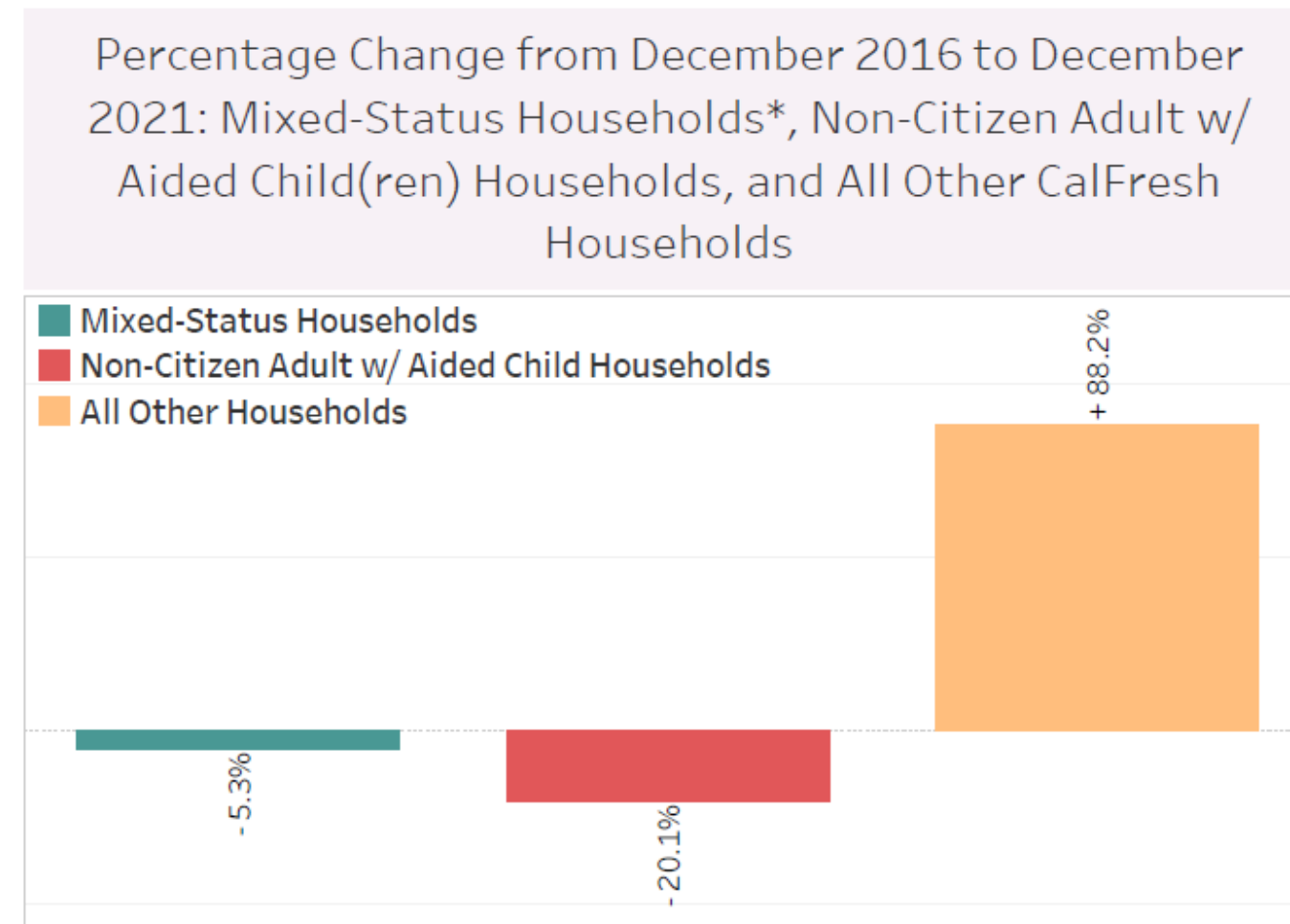
# Wrap Up

## CalFresh has been a key support to vulnerable populations

- Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) allowed families with school age children to temporarily receive emergency nutrition benefits. School-age children eligible to free or reduced-price meals and age 0-5 CalFresh recipients received the benefit. In Contra Costa, P-EBT has assisted approximately **65,919 free or reduced-meal recipients per year over three school years<sup>1</sup>**, plus **a portion of 14,847 age 0-5 CalFresh recipients<sup>2</sup>** between October 2020 and August 2021 not receiving free or reduced-price meals.
- Per latest Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) Fact Sheet dated April 25, 2022, **each \$1 in CalFresh spent results in \$1.5 in economic activity<sup>3</sup>**

## What's going on with the populations we serve?

- The Public Charge “chilling effect” continues to have lingering impacts on enrollment of mixed-status and non-citizen w/ aided child households



\* Mixed-status households are households which have at least one non-citizen and one citizen

**Erick:**  
**Confirming that “all other households” does not include mixed and non-citizen households**

- Impact of inflation on purchasing power, stimulus supports fading, and risk of an economic recession

<sup>1</sup> California Department of Education (CDE) Free or Reduced Meals Data

<sup>2</sup> CalWIN Table MR0007E

<sup>3</sup> Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: California CalFresh SNAP Fact Sheet



# Questions?







# Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

## Subcommittee Report

### FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

5.

**Meeting Date:** 07/25/2022

**Subject:** Youth Services Report - Independent Living Skills Program Update

**Submitted For:** Marla Stuart, Employment and Human Services Director

**Department:** Employment & Human Services

**Referral No.:** 93

**Referral Name:** Youth Services Report - Independent Living Skills Program Update

**Presenter:** Don Graves, ILSP Coordinator

**Contact:** Enid Mendoza, (925) 655-2051

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#### **Referral History:**

An annual update of the Independent Living Schools Program administered by the Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD) was first referred to the Family and Human Services Committee by the Board of Supervisors on October 17, 2006.

On June 7, 2016, EHSD requested, and the Board approved, expanding Referral #93 – Independent Living Skills Program to include additional youth services updates and retitling the referral to “Youth Services Report”, so that the department can include reports on all youth services offered in the community through EHSD, including Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and CalWORKs youth services.

On June 28, 2021, EHSD presented its last update to the Family and Human Services on youth services and the Independent Living Skills Program activities.

#### **Referral Update:**

Please see attached report and presentation providing an update on the Employment and Human Services Department's Independent Living Skills Program, which serves transitional age foster youth. Included in the report are details about the skill-building and youth engagement activities provided to the youth clients within the core areas of education, employment/vocational, housing, and well-being.

#### **Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):**

ACCEPT status report from the Employment and Human Services Department on the Independent Living Skills Program activities and youth services, and FORWARD to the Board of Supervisors for their information.

#### **Fiscal Impact (if any):**

There is no fiscal impact.

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#### **Attachments**

Independent Living Skills Program Report

Youth Service Programs Presentation

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EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN SERVICES

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

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TO: Family and Human Services Committee Members  
Monica Nino, Contra Costa County Administrator

DATE: June 28, 2022

FROM: Marla Stuart, Director, Employment and Human Services Department

SUBJECT: Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP)

RECOMMENDATION: Accept this report from the Employment and Human Services Department, and continue to support the Children and Family Services Bureau's efforts to serve transitional age foster youth through the Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP).

BACKGROUND OF ILSP SERVICES AND SERVICES FOR TRANSITION AGE YOUTH:

In 1999, the Federal government passed the Foster Care Independence Act. This legislation, sponsored by the late Senator John Chafee, doubled funding for statewide Independent Living Skills Programs (ILSP). There was overwhelming evidence emerging that youth who aged out of foster care were in need of greater support to establish permanent connections and make a successful transition into adulthood. Foster youth nationwide were found to have increased likelihood of early parenting, instability in relationships, not graduating from high school, lower school performance, increased health and mental health problems, homelessness, substance abuse, and a higher rate of unemployment.

For the past thirty-four years, the Children and Family Services Bureau has provided services through the Contra Costa ILSP Program. Contra Costa ILSP serves eligible youth and nonminors between the ages of 15.5 and 21. Contra Costa ILSP has received recognition throughout the state of California and the nation for its service and service delivery model.

The Contra Costa ILSP Unit consists of an ILSP Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator, and two ILSP Specialists. ILSP is funded by the federal Title IV-E dollars with a 20% state match towards administrative costs and realignment funds.

PROGRESS TO DATE:

The uncertainties of the pandemic continue to affect ILSP service delivery, in terms of limiting large group gatherings. Despite these challenges, Contra Costa ILSP continues to provide quality services to eligible youth. ILSP Specialists, in collaboration with the youth's Child and Family Team (CFT), which

includes other staff members from CFS, develop plans to help prepare foster youth for a successful transition into adulthood. Contra Costa ILSP offers support to youth through one-on-one mentoring, workshops, support groups, recreational activities, needs-based supportive services (e.g., housing resources, on-site emergency food pantry, housing resources, employment resources, help with applying for financial assistance for college and vocational programs), and partnering with youth and CFS staff members to develop a Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) for each youth.

This fiscal year, most of the group work has continued virtually via weekly Zoom workshops. ILSP offered skill-building and youth engagement activities, all of which cover the mandated four core areas, referred to as the Four Pillars. The Four Pillars consist of: Education, Employment/Vocational, Housing, and Well Being.

This year, four hundred and sixty-nine (469) youth in Contra Costa have been served both individually and in group settings (e.g. Zoom workshops, classes, activities). Five hundred and eighty (580) youth were deemed eligible for ILSP services. Contra Costa's focus this fiscal year was to provide targeted outreach and support to Contra Costa dependent youth, in an attempt to identify those denoted as not having any ILSP services rendered, and to notify the case carrying social workers about the mandate to send TILPs and referrals to the ILSP Unit. By engaging district social workers in a collaborative way, Contra Costa ILSP hopes to improve outcomes and alleviate some of their workload, as it relates to preparing youth for life after foster care.

Contra Costa ILSP continues to receive financial and tangible support from community donors. These funds are managed by Volunteer & Emergency Services Team in Action (VESTIA, Inc.) through an account known as the ILSP Fund. The purpose of the ILSP Fund is to support the well-being and enrichment of older youth (starting at age 15.5) and Nonminor Dependents (NMDs) by providing timely and flexible access to gift cards and tangible items. These funds can provide assistance when there are emergency, time-sensitive situations, and no other financial resources have been identified. These funds also provide an opportunity for foster youth to participate and explore interests in music, dance, and other self-enrichment extracurricular activities.

VESTIA, Inc. continues to receive donations to fund scholarships for Contra Costa ILSP youth who are continuing their education post high school, as does the Assistance League of Diablo Valley, and the Orinda Women's Club.

This fiscal year, Contra Costa ILSP was selected by Jack and Jill of America, Inc. as a recipient to receive funds raised during Foster Care Awareness Month. Additionally, the Methodist Church of Walnut Creek increased their giving this year and has stocked the ILSP food pantry on a regular basis. Methodist Church donated emergency backpacks filled with first aid kits that served as carrying bags for non-perishable foods donated for youth experiencing food insecurity. Methodist Church has also regularly assisted in keeping the ILSP Clothes Closet stocked and organized.

#### ILSP PILLAR – HOUSING:

Contra Costa ILSP's commitment to providing housing for eligible youth led Contra Costa ILSP to solidify communication amongst local housing partners. Monthly meetings occur with the Health, Housing and Homeless (H3) Program to shore up case management, resources, and selection processes in regards to

the Transitional Housing Plus dollars allocated from the state, which is then contracted to H3 to provide housing for former foster youth.

Transitional housing for foster youth and emancipated foster youth continues to be delivered in Contra Costa through three transitional housing programs:

- Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP). THPP is designed for foster youth ages 16 and 17. There are two providers in Contra Costa County, who served two (2) foster youth in this fiscal year. Historically, the number of youth in this type of placement setting is low.
- Transitional Housing Placement-Plus-Foster Care (THP+FC – also known as THP-NMD). THP+FC is for Nonminor Dependents (NMDs) from age 18 up to age 21. There are five in-county providers. This fiscal year, sixty-two (62) NMDs on average were in a THP+FC placement.
- Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus). THP-Plus is a transitional housing program for young adults who exited foster care on or after turning 18, and up to 24 years of age. In this current fiscal year, fourteen (14) nonminors on average were in THP-Plus housing.

Housing continues to be a significant challenge for foster youth as they transition into adulthood. Locating affordable housing and possessing the necessary skill sets to command employment to afford housing are paramount in reducing homelessness post-emancipation.

Efforts continue to be developed to create permanency options for youth in the community (e.g., rooms for rent, locating family members, extended family, friends, etc.) through collaborations with case-carrying social workers, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and individual citizens with resources to offer. The need to develop permanent housing options for youth remains urgent, as CFS has identified forty-two (42) youth who will turn twenty-one (21) by December 31, 2022. Strengthening ILSP collaboration with THP+ providers and H3 to identify mutual youth in need will streamline entry points so that youth and NMDs will be able to access the supports they need to stabilize their housing. Additional subsidized housing slots are needed to reduce homelessness amongst foster youth facing challenges securing housing.

#### ILSP PILLAR – EMPLOYMENT:

Contra Costa ILSP collaborates with the Contra Costa County Office of Education to refer youth to the Workforce Innovative Opportunities Act (WIOA). WIOA case managers help provide employment services to ILSP participants enrolled in their program. Contra Costa ILSP created a referral partnership with Civic Corps so interested youth can take advantage of their job-training program and high school diploma track. Contra Costa ILSP also continues to work with Job Corps to refer youth to the Treasure Island Job Corps site. This year, the following two employment workshops were offer to youth:

- First Job – Discover the power of a resume, job search techniques, interview best practices, and how to have a good attitude in the workplace.
- Finding a Job in a Pandemic – Job options and opportunities during the era of COVID-19.

These workshops were offered through ILSP's partnership with Travis Credit Union and the Youth Finance Institute of America. Family Harvest Farm (FHF), an employment training program in regenerative farming for transition age foster youth, is flourishing in its location in Pittsburg/Bay Point,

and is entering its third year of operation. FHF employed nine (9) Contra Costa dependent youth in paid internship positions and was featured on Channel 2 KTVU news.

#### ILSP PILLAR – EDUCATION:

This current fiscal year, Contra Costa ILSP collaborated with the Office of Education to identify fifty-eight (58) Contra Costa County dependent youth who were eligible to graduate from high school this school year. All dependent Contra Costa graduates will be honored with the ILSP High School Graduation Stipend to celebrate their achievement.

Contra Costa ILSP's collaboration with the Assistance League of Diablo Valley (ALDV) continues. The ALDV administered fifteen (15) Senior Sponsorships this year. As there are few funding streams to support extracurricular activities and expenses for foster youth, the Senior Sponsorship program was created to assist graduating seniors so they can partake in events that are difficult for caregivers to afford. The Senior Sponsorship program can fund senior pictures, yearbooks, and graduation caps and gowns. The ALDV also funded 12 scholarships totaling \$17,200 for youth pursuing higher education, and the Orinda Women's Club funded two scholarships of \$1,000 each. Each year, thousands of dollars are donated via VESTIA, Inc. to provide scholarship opportunities for Contra Costa youth, as well as several private families who are funding scholarships for Contra Costa youth. This year the Methodist Church of Walnut Creek committed \$2,000 to create new scholarships that they will award to youth pursuing their higher educational goals.

In collaboration with the local community colleges, ILSP hosted workshops to inform CCC youth of supportive services on each community college campus to create a successful college transition. One of Contra Costa ILSP's active participants who graduated from San Diego State University in 3 years created and delivered a presentation encouraging ILSP youth to consider attending a 4-year college after high school and identified support services at colleges and universities throughout the state. Supporting foster youth by connecting them to on-campus resources can support youth in obtaining their degree. iFoster has also continued to offer free phones to foster youth and laptops to college students.

Contra Costa ILSP's partnerships with vocational training providers also gives Contra Costa youth an opportunity to learn valuable skills via a trade. Job Corps, Civic Corps, and Apprenticeship presentations were offered to Contra Costa youth in the past year. ILSP has also continued their connection with YearUp, which offers higher education classes and job placement services to youth interested in pursuing a career in the field of technology. ILSP also established a collaboration with Bridge-Tech. Bridge-Tech philanthropy refurbishes Think Pad laptops and provides them to Contra Costa youth free of charge. Bridge-Tech filled all fifteen (15) laptop requests from CFS Social Workers and youth who expressed a need for a laptop. iFoster has continued to offer free phones to foster youth and laptops to college students.

#### ILSP PILLAR – WELL-BEING:

Youth in foster care often do not experience childhood in the way most children who live with their families of origin do. Youth involved in the child welfare system have suffered abuse and neglect. Not all parents successfully complete Family Reunification services, which leaves their children in foster care

until a relative, extended family member, or resource parent is willing and able to provide permanency. Many older youth experience placement instability while a permanent connection is being looked for.

Contra Costa ILSP has provided financial support to Contra Costa youth to help encourage positive social development and exposure to activities. This year, through fund raising efforts, more youth were funded to attend prom, camps, and driver's education classes. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has emphasized the importance of supporting the well-being of youth in foster care, and Contra Costa ILSP is an available mechanism to provide this intervention. Contra Costa ILSP has collaborated with several former foster youth who have successful careers in coaching and motivational speaking to present on their challenges and successes, and offer tools for Contra Costa youth to develop their skills and visions for creating a positive future. Contra Costa ILSP also connected with Shores of Hope, which offered a 14-session Healthy Relationship curriculum that helps youth identify and choose healthy relationships. The ILSP staff are trained in an approach called Positive Youth Development. This approach enables them to engage youth and motivate them to strive to improve their lives, and build on their existing strengths to tackle life's challenges.

#### SUMMARY/CONCLUSION:

Youth who emancipate from foster care are expected to become self-sufficient by twenty-one (21) years of age, which includes the ability to maintain stable housing, employment, and quality physical and mental health. Research on the outcomes of emancipated foster youth indicates that these tasks are difficult for this population to achieve. Rates of homelessness for emancipated foster youth have been found to be as high as 42%, and housing moves are generally related to poverty and lack of stable family relationships.

Child Welfare programs have implemented ILSP programs to help prevent these negative outcomes. Contra Costa ILSP serves upwards of 500 youth each year, and continues to strive to improve the lives of at-risk foster youth. Much of the work the ILSP staff does is to cultivate collaborative partnerships with community-based organizations and other foster youth serving groups. ILSP staff have expertise in engaging youth and motivating them to stay in school, graduate, and obtain life-sustaining employment. These services are critical right now. With the Board's continuing support and commitment to Contra Costa's ILSP, foster youth will continue to be provided supportive services, skill-building workshops, social skill development, financial support, and improved transitions into adulthood.



# Employment and Human Services Department Youth Services Report



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (EHSD)  
REPORT TO THE FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE | JULY 25, 2022  
PRESENTED BY Don Graves, Independent Living Skills Program Coordinator



# Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP)

The **Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP)** administered by Children and Family Services (CFS) Bureau provides a variety of services to youth who are in-care or recently emancipated from the Foster Care System. Our program is staffed with Program Specialists who specialize in Education, Employment, Housing and Health and Well Being. Our program serves youth up to age 21.

## Education

- Graduation Stipend for Contra Costa foster youth who graduated from high school this year. In partnership with the Office of Education, 58 eligible youth were identified.
- Scholarships from Assistance League of Diablo Valley, Orinda Women's Club, and Methodist Church of Walnut Creek
- Community College workshops
- YearUp, Bridge Tech, and iFoster
- ILSP continues to support foster youth and NMDs with applying for college financial aid, and also provide educational resources

## Employment

- Referrals to Job Corps and Civic Corps
- Referrals to WIOA case managers, who help provide employment services to ILSP participants enrolled in their program
- Workshops by Travis Credit Union and Youth Finance Institute of America
- Family Harvest Farm: 9 foster youth employed in paid internship positions
- ILSP continues to assist youth/NMDs in creating resumes, and supports them in filling out job applications

## Housing

- Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP). **In FY 21/22, two foster youth resided in THPP.**
- Transitional Housing Placement-Plus-Foster Care (THP+FC, also known as THP-NMD). **In FY 21/22, 62 NMDs on average were in a THP+FC placement.**
- Transitional Housing Program-Plus (THP-Plus). **In FY 21/22, 14 non-minors on average were in THP-Plus housing.**

## Well-Being

- **In FY 21/22, 469 unique youth in Contra Costa were served individually and in group settings by ILSP staff**
- 14-session Healthy Relationship curriculum provided by Shores of Hope to help youth/non-minor dependents (NMDs) identify healthy relationships
- One-on-one mentoring
- Transitional Independent Living Plans (TILPs) developed
- Emergency food pantry and clothes closet at ILSP building
- ILSP-run recreational activities
- ILSP-run support groups
- ILSP Fund (managed by VESTIA, Inc.) provided timely access to gift cards and tangible items

ILSP Website:  
<https://cocoilsp.org>  
Contact Number: 1-866-994-4577



# HYPE Summer Youth Program

## Helping Youth Participate in Employment

**(HYPE)** is a pilot Younger Summer Youth Program administered by the Workforce Services (WFS) Bureau. WFS coordinates with Pittsburg High School to serve teens age 14 and 15 whose parents are receiving CalWORKs.

## Program Highlights

**To date, fifteen teens are enrolled in HYPE and the WFS Bureau has become aware of additional teens who are interested in participating.**

- As the teens attend Pittsburg High School “Credit Recovery”, commonly known as summer school, the teens will be earning pay for attending and making satisfactory progress in their enrolled course(s)
- Additionally, the teens will have the opportunity to attend various workshops, such as resume writing, money management, mock interviews etc. with the goal being to provide the teens with soft skills and job readiness education in preparation to enter the more formal Summer Youth Program through the Workforce Development Board





# Cal-Learn

**Cal-Learn** is a statewide program administered by the Workforce Services (WFS) Bureau for pregnant and parenting teens, including the child's father if in the home, who are 19 years of age or younger and receive CalWORKs. The goal of Cal-Learn is to help teens graduate from high school, obtain their GED, or equivalent. There is no application process for Cal-Learn as eligibility for the program is determined at CalWORKs approval.

## Fiscal Year 2021-22 Highlights

**From July 2021 to May 2022, EHSD served 32 participants through the CalLearn program**





# WIOA Youth Program

The **WIOA Youth Program** administered by the Workforce Development Board (WDB) provides comprehensive career & educational planning, including paid work-experience/internships, GED or HS completion, dollars for training, work readiness, job search assistance, and post-secondary education prep.

## Youth Providers by area served:

- Central – Mt Diablo Unified School District (Youth Employment Services) [Youth Employment Services \(mdusd.org\)](http://mdusd.org)
- East & West County – Contra Costa County Office of Education Youth Services (Workforce Programs) [Youth Services \(YS\) - Contra Costa County Office of Education \(cccoe.k12.ca.us\)](http://cccoe.k12.ca.us)

## Program Year 2021-22 Highlights

**190 disadvantaged Youth/Young Adults ages 16-24**, including current & former foster youth, homeless, youth with disabilities, justice-involved, parenting, and dropouts, were served by the program





# Youth Center Request for Interest (RFI)

As part of Measure X Community Planning process, EHSD was selected as the host agency to contract for the development and operations of two **Youth Centers** to be established in East and Central County. EHSD will release a **Request for Interest (RFI)** seeking qualified contractor(s) to support the planning process.

## Youth Center RFI Details

- EHSD is seeking project management and public engagement services that may include steering committee formation, survey instruments, interviews, focus groups, and public engagement workshops to solicit input from local community based organizations to deliver a youth-centered process, program design, implementation plan and proposed budget for each Youth Center.
- EHSD is looking to release this RFI soon; interested parties may visit the following page for updates: [Contracting Opportunities | EHSD](#)





# Questions?

