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# Employment Support Initiative Update

The Santa Clara County CalWORKs population has been undergoing a slow, but steady transformation over the past several years. As illustrated on pages 2 and 3, the overall trend reveals a declining caseload that is becoming older, with over three-quarters of all families headed by a single parent. In 2016, over half of all Employment Services participants are employed, compared to just 37% a mere five years ago. One-fifth of clients are also participating in educational programs aimed at increasing their long-term earning potential to secure a future.

These changes to the CalWORKs and Employment Services caseloads paint an eye-opening picture of the changing face of poverty in the region. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Official Poverty Rate, nearly 23% of California children lived in poverty in 2014, yet only half of those children were receiving CalWORKs assistance.

The sobering reality for low-income families in the state is further detailed in a recent report from the California Budget & Policy Center (see Appendix A). With no new investments for CalWORKs on the horizon, the maximum grant for a family of three falls below 40% of the federal poverty line. This leaves them far short of affording the fair market rental rate of \$1,582 for a one-bedroom apartment in San Jose.

In Santa Clara County, we are concentrating our efforts on strengthening and expanding existing programs, improving service delivery and creating new initiatives to move our clients closer to self-sufficiency.

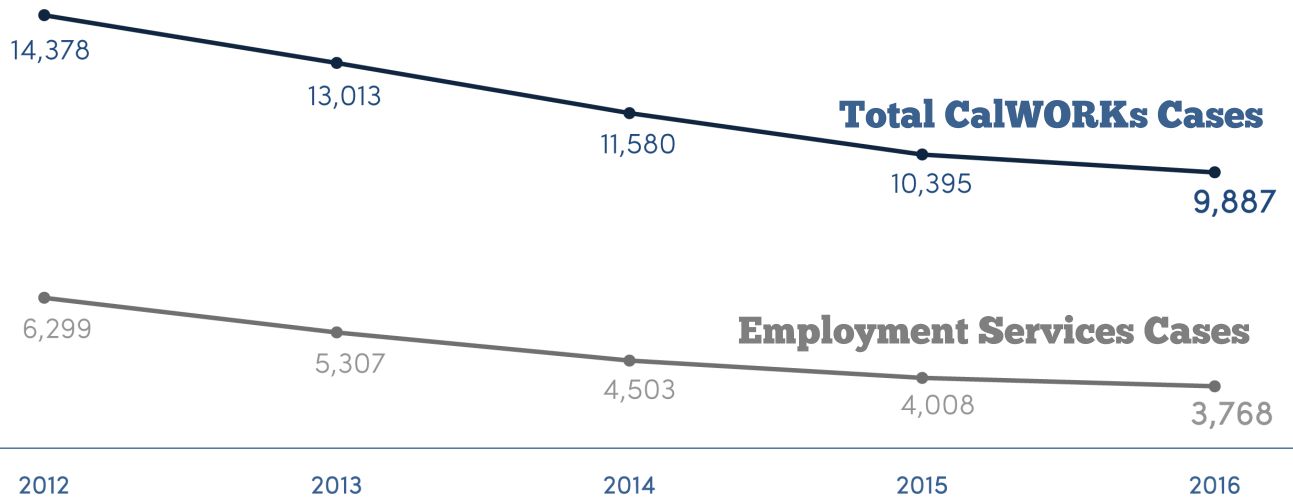
This update offers a glimpse into these efforts and recent accomplishments, as we continue our strong tradition of providing innovative programs and services to the at-risk families we serve. The year is off to a strong start; we have sustained high Work Participation Rates, added a new Rapid Re-Housing Program, launched exciting CalFresh outreach efforts and hosted an incredible celebration of the 25th anniversary of the CalWORKs Client Achievement Awards.

As shown in the pages that follow, Employment Services remains committed to building upon our strong programs in the fight against the debilitating effects of poverty and the pursuit of self-sufficiency for all CalWORKs families.

*Rafaela Perez*

Administrator  
Employment Services

# A Closer Look at CalWORKs



## Time on Aid

**48%**

Less than 1 year

**23%**

1 to 2 years

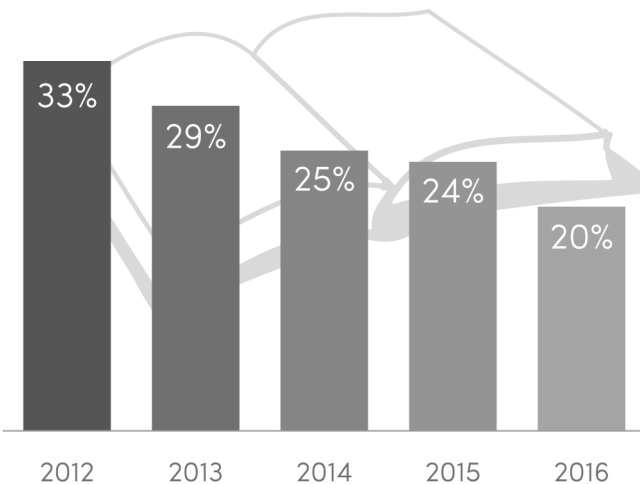
**16%**

2 to 3 years

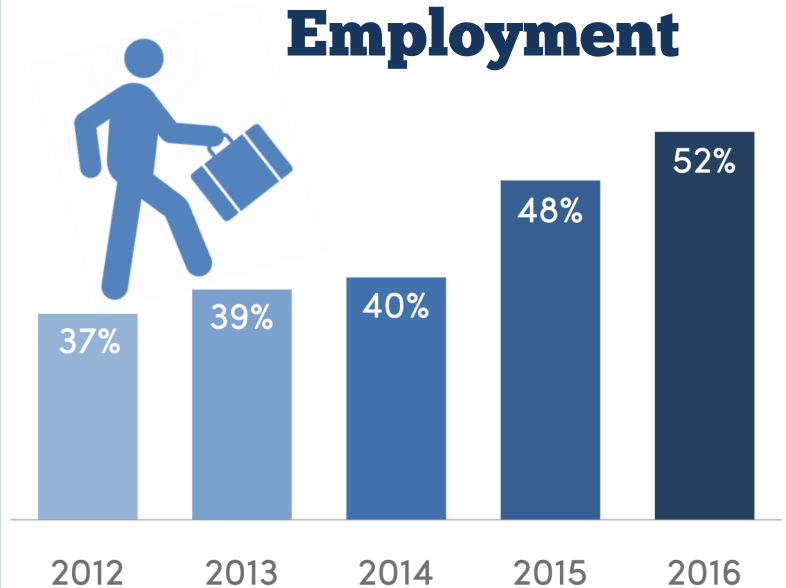
**13%**

Over 3 years

## Attending School



## Employment



## Ethnicity

African American

8%

White

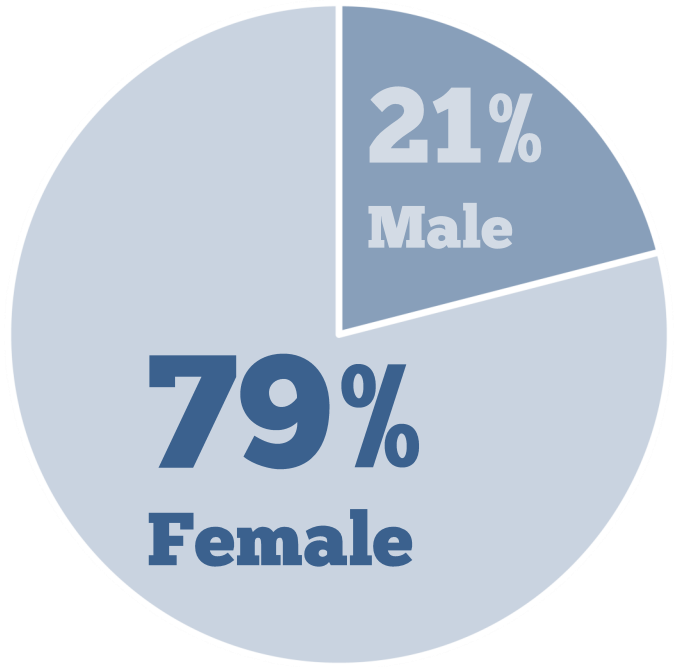
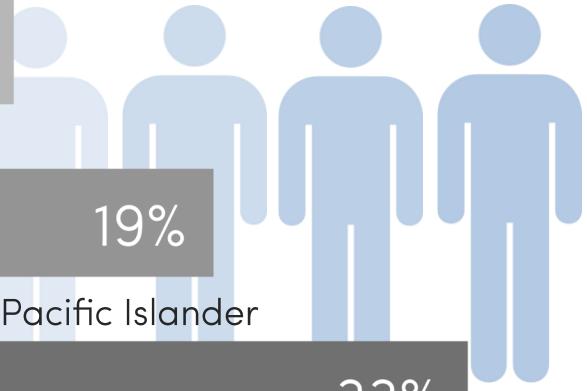
19%

Asian/Pacific Islander

33%

Hispanic

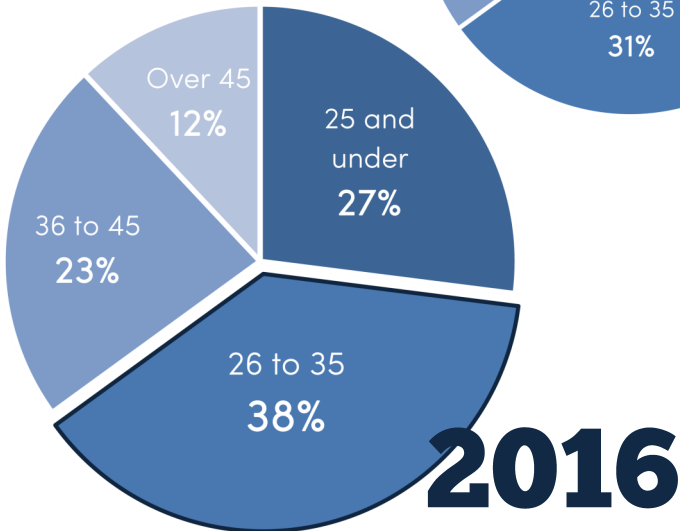
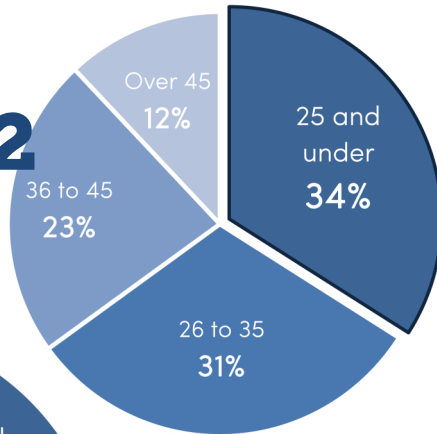
40%



## Gender

## Age

2012



2016



76%

## Single Parents



## A Growing Housing Crisis

Low income families in Santa Clara County are engaged in an uphill battle with the area's increasingly competitive housing market. In a recent analysis, the California Budget and Policy Center found that at present minimum wage rates, a single mother of two in California would have to work 116 hours per week in order to afford a two bedroom apartment at the statewide fair market rate. This issue is compounded in high cost areas like Santa Clara County, where rental rates have risen faster than wages. This leaves families devoting more of their income to keeping a roof over their heads with little left over for other basic needs.

Locally, the CalWORKs program has been working intensely to develop viable solutions to keep clients ahead of the alarming housing crisis.

## Family Services

Now in its second year, the Family Services Program continues to provide the critical link for at-risk families facing a housing crisis. At the heart of the program lies a specialized, multi-disciplinary unit of Employment Counselors, Social Workers, Housing Support Specialists, Mental Health Specialists and a Domestic Violence Advocate.

Working side by side with clients, the Family

Services Unit provides intensive case management and referrals to help families overcome the barriers that are preventing them from participating in their Welfare-to-Work activities. Through their efforts, they've served 217 families throughout the first half of the fiscal year.

Upon entering the program, each client attends a Focus Team Meeting to uncover issues that have impacted their housing circumstances. Working together, the team co-develops a Family Services plan that is tailored to address the client's specific needs and barriers. These plans include direct services or referrals to services designed to address the issues that undermine family stability, including housing assistance, emergency food and clothing, domestic violence services, mental health services, at-risk youth and children's services, substance abuse counseling, financial literacy and expedited placement into employment.

## CalWORKs Housing Support

For those who have lost their housing and are homeless, the CalWORKs Housing Support Program provides extensive assistance needed to secure new housing. Families may be eligible for temporary motel stays, moving costs, utility deposits, security deposits and rental subsidies.

Throughout the first half of the fiscal year, the CalWORKs Housing Support Program has received 122 referrals. Sixty-eight of these families were eligible and enrolled in the program, receiving case management services and emergency hotel assistance for temporary shelter. The program has already assisted 39 of those families in finding and securing affordable housing, for which they are eligible to receive four months of subsidy. Families also received follow-up employment counseling to aid them in job search or enrollment into employment, the first step toward self-sufficiency and maintaining housing costs following the subsidy period.

## Homelessness Prevention

Families in danger of losing their housing are referred to the Homelessness Prevention Program to receive services. A Homelessness Prevention plan may include assistance with unpaid rent or utilities, eviction assistance, moving costs or security deposits for a new home.

The Homelessness Prevention Program has received 73 referrals and helped 66 eligible families maintain a stable home. The program helped to resolve housing crises, allowing families to refocus on attaining self-sufficiency.



## SSA Rapid Re-Housing

CalWORKs Employment Services and the Office of Supportive Housing have recently partnered on a new initiative to develop the Rapid Re-Housing Program (RRP). In collaboration with Abode Services, the RRP provides housing related services and employment assistance to eligible non-CalWORKs families.

The goal of the new program is to extend stabilizing services to families that fall outside of the traditional scope of CalWORKs, but are equally at risk of experiencing homelessness. Eligible populations may include: CalFresh families, CalWORKs Post-Aid Services families and families with parents who are not eligible for Welfare-to-Work. Through the RRP, families may receive case management, housing search and

placement assistance, move-in costs and deposits, short-term housing subsidies, job search and job placement.

Abode Services began accepting referrals to the new program in March. If you are working with a family that falls into one of the above categories and needs help in resolving a housing issue, contact their assigned Eligibility Worker or Employment Counselor.



*Because everyone should have a home.*

## Utility Plus

This winter, eligible CalWORKs Employment Services families received a one-time Utility Plus payment of \$350. The payment provided relief for seasonal utility rates, which are generally higher during winter months. In fact, in December, utility bills for San Jose residents were 8.4% higher than the national average. The Utility Plus payment assisted families with increased utility costs, winter clothing or any unforeseen winter related expenses.

Employment Counselors issued over 3,500 Utility Plus payments in January and February and used this one-time payment as a strategic opportunity to re-engage families that were previously sanctioned. Utility Plus payments were also extended to those who cured their sanctions and met the work participation requirements by re-enrolling into employment programs. For many, it turned out to be the boost they needed to return to the path toward self-sufficiency.



## Lifeline to a Secure Future

A survivor of domestic violence, single mother Marquita spent her nights fearfully sleeping in her vehicle, the last safe haven she and her daughter could find. When she reached out to the CalWORKs program for help, she was immediately referred to the Family Services Unit for specialized support in her time of need. Acting quickly, her Employment Counselor, Sandra Loreda, linked her to counseling services and helped her find temporary housing at a motel until she could be placed into a more permanent home.

Through the CalWORKs Housing Support Program, our partners at Abode Services were able to locate an affordable two bedroom home for Marquita and her daughter. Abode Housing Specialists, Meghan McPhail and Crystal Pretel, went the extra mile to provide them with basic home items, including beds, a couch and a dining table.

During her housing search, Marquita worked closely with Helenea Huffman, her Employment Counselor at the Employment Connection Center, to find a job through the EC Works Subsidized Employment Program. She is now employed full-time as a Staffing Coordinator, earning enough to



*Marquita and her daughter, with Employment Counselor Sandra Loredo (left) and Abode Housing Specialist Crystal Pretel (right)*

maintain her new home.

Marquita is thankful for the support from CalWORKs staff and the supportive services that have helped her to turn her life in a safe and positive direction. A critical link between succumbing to crisis and overcoming extreme life circumstances, the Family Stabilization Unit and the CalWORKs Housing Support Program are providing families with a lifeline to secure their futures.

## Employment Connection

The Employment Connection Center connects CalWORKs job seekers with an array of services to help them prepare for and attain employment. On an average day, clients may engage in a variety of activities that are designed to increase their



employability. These activities include a number of job readiness workshops, online job search and application assistance, Job Club, resume preparation, mock interviews and direct placement into jobs.

Navigating the path to employment is a unique process for each client and all participants work closely with assigned Employment Counselors to achieve their employment goals. Through this tailored approach and one-on-one attention, the Employment Connection Center has assisted **394** CalWORKs job seekers in finding employment!

## Expanded Subsidized Employment

Last year, the Employment Connection Works program (EC Works) was revamped into a multi-tier service model, designed to serve a diverse set of clients with varied employment skills and work experience.

**Tier I:** EC Works provides subsidized employment positions to job-ready clients with marketable skills and recent employment history. The subsidies last for three months, after which the client is expected to transition into permanent, unsubsidized employment with the company.

So far this year, the Employment Connection has placed 55 clients into subsidized jobs. Equally impressive, 75% of clients have reported that they have retained their jobs 90 days after the subsidized period has ended.

**Tier II:** Paid Work Experience offers paid opportunities to clients with limited work history and developing skills. Positions last for six months,

during which clients work for 20-hours per week and earn \$11.00 per hour. Santa Clara County is the employer of record for these positions and clients may be placed within County departments or partnering non-profit agencies.

Through the first half of the fiscal year, 60 clients were able to develop valuable work skills and experience that will pay off when they join the workforce.

**Tier III:** The CalWORKs College Work Study program is a collaboration between the County and local Community Colleges to provide work study positions for CalWORKs students. Students work part-time (20-hours per week) while attending scheduled courses.

The program has provided an opportunity for clients to develop an employment plan based on the work-school model, allowing them to pursue educational goals while maintaining employment. Fifty CalWORKs students have already participated in the program this year.



### OCAT

The Online CalWORKs Appraisal Tool (OCAT) is a new, state-wide web-based client appraisal program.

Incoming CalWORKs clients are now guided through a series of computerized questions by Employment Counselors to identify the services needed for each unique individual.

Designed to further enhance our already robust intake appraisal, OCAT's comprehensive screening questionnaire identifies both strengths and barriers to employment for each client, building a foundation for an Action Plan with

recommendations for referrals. A wide range of topics are covered, including employment history, education and learning needs, housing, transportation, mental health, substance abuse, domestic abuse and parenting. Using the information provided by OCAT, Employment Counselors refer clients to appropriate Welfare-to-Work activities and services to deal with any identified barriers to employment.

Reviews show positive results at this early stage of implementation, with clients reporting a 90% satisfaction rate in regards to their assigned Welfare-to-Work activities and 88% overall satisfaction with the OCAT appraisal. To stay up to date on OCAT and related programs, stop by our monthly CalWORKs Advisory meetings (see Appendix B).

## 25 Years of Client Achievements

This past winter, Employment Services gathered to commemorate 25 years of success, inviting family, friends and community partners to celebrate the silver anniversary of the CalWORKs Client Achievement Awards. Breaking with tradition, Employment Services hosted two events to ensure that every nominee was able to bask in the spotlight and share their successes with those who supported them on their paths to self-sufficiency.

Our landmark anniversary was anchored by the formal ceremony hosted by the Board of Supervisors in the Board Chambers on November 17, 2015. Each Supervisor was invited to present awards to our ten honorees and share their success stories to a passionately supportive audience. Overcoming significant barriers, each of our award recipients represent the unwavering spirit and triumph that embody all of our clients. We also honored two very instrumental supporters of both the CalWORKs program and our clients: Community Partner of the Year, Abode Services, and Employer of the Year, Legacy Transportation Services.



Staff rallied together to host a second celebration at the Employment Connection Center, transforming the office into a whimsical winter wonderland. This event highlighted the hard work and dedication of every client who was nominated for an award. The atmosphere was lively, giving families and community partners a great opportunity to celebrate together. Showing support and encouragement, over 200 attendees gathered to honor the event's 45 honorees.

The CalWORKs Client Achievement Awards leave lasting impressions on our families, staff and support network. Throughout the year, visitors to the Employment Connection Center can learn more about these inspiring individuals in the "Hall of Fame," where all nominee stories are prominently displayed.

If you are working with a client who is deserving of recognition, we encourage you to submit a nomination on their behalf. Please contact Nhu-Hanh Tonnu ([nhu-hanh.tonnu@ssa.sccgov.org](mailto:nhu-hanh.tonnu@ssa.sccgov.org)) for more information on submission guidelines.



## Refugee Services

The Refugee Employment Services Program offers resettlement support to help refugee arrivals acclimate to their new surroundings. This support is often a key element in helping families successfully establish themselves in America. The support services available to them include: temporary financial assistance, medical benefits and employment support. Working side by side with Jewish Family Services and the International Rescue Committee, Employment Services is able to deliver services that meet the diverse linguistic and cultural needs of our refugee population.

Refugee Employment Services has provided support to 110 new arrivals, earning an average wage of \$10.52 per hour. With the help of our partner network, refugee job seekers have eight months to learn about American culture and locate a suitable job. The process begins by developing a plan that outlines a strategy to develop vocational skills, attend English language training, attend job readiness workshops, receive legal information to clarify right-to-work issues and obtain required documentation. Once prepared for the workforce, refugee participants take part in a job search activity until they become employed, working with our partners for on-going support. Follow-up surveys show that 91% of employed refugee clients reported that they were still employed three months after hire.

### Opportunity to Serve

The Refugee Employment Services Program is presently engaged in a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to identify qualified agencies that can provide refugee employment services and senior refugee services to the refugee population. Actively seeking input from the community, Employment Services hosted a community planning meeting with service agencies to gather in-depth feedback regarding the needs of the refugee population.



*Refugee Employment Services clients participate in an English as a Second Language class.*

Community input will be used to sculpt the program in coming years.

If your agency is interested in working with the Refugee Employment Services Program, there are a number of important dates coming up in May. See the chart below for the list of important dates.

### **Request for Proposal**

#### **Dates to Remember**

- **May 2, 2016**  
Bid Sync RFP Release Date
- **May 13, 2016**  
RFP Workshop
- **May 31, 2016**  
Application Deadline
- **October 1, 2016**  
Contract Start Date



## CalFresh Outreach

Employment and Benefit Services continues to seek out new and innovative methods for reaching the hungry in Santa Clara County. This past year, we expanded our efforts, collaborating with new and existing partners, developing strategies to increase CalFresh enrollment and improving service delivery.

## Out in the Community

Eligibility Workers are now stationed at several Emergency Assistance Network (EAN) locations, offering on-site application assistance for CalFresh and Medi-Cal. This growing partnership allows county staff to work hand-in-hand with community agencies to bring benefit services directly to clients in their own neighborhoods.

Recently, CalFresh outreach efforts have been extended to homeless populations in Santa Clara County. Eligibility Workers have stepped out of district offices and into the field, offering direct application assistance in emergency shelters, such as the Sunnyvale Cold Weather Shelter.

In November, Intake Eligibility staff from the Application Assistance Center began working with Breakthrough Outreach, joining their team each week to reach homeless individuals in San Jose with the Hi-Tech Rover. Recognizing the immediate needs of these clients, Breakthrough Outreach prioritizes shelter and employment needs. Eligibility

Workers, Monica Barrera-Ruelas and Eloisa Baldovinos, provide CalFresh and Medi-Cal application assistance, working to issue benefits as quickly as possible.

## Safety Net

Social Services Agency and Second Harvest Food Bank (SHFB) continue to co-chair the Safety Net committee, bringing together community-based organizations from throughout the county to discuss and implement strategies to alleviate hunger through resources, distribution, education and advocacy. Through the strength of these partnerships, SHFB distributed over 23 million pounds of food to hungry residents of the county and provided over 18,000 food resource referrals through the Food Connection hotline during the first six months of the fiscal year.

In the coming months, the Safety Net committee will discuss the implementation of “Medi-Cal for All,” a program for undocumented children, as well as summer feeding efforts. Interested in joining the discussion? Check out Appendix C and D for more details.



*Eloisa Baldovinos and Monica Barrera-Ruelas, with Breakthrough Outreach Founder, Karen Addato, and Hi-Tech Rover Staff.*

## Enhancing Client Services

In an on-going pursuit to provide excellent client services, Employment and Benefit Services staff have worked tirelessly to streamline client services. These changes have resulted in a decline in wait times in all district office locations, with a growing number of new clients receiving same day services!

The return to individual caseloads is a key component in our efforts to improve client services across benefit programs. After months of planning



*A Paid Work Experience worker demonstrates the My Benefits CalWIN app in the Continuing Benefits lobby.*

and creating the framework for the new system, CalWORKs, CalFresh and General Assistance clients were notified of their newly assigned Eligibility Workers. Clients are now able to contact their workers directly, receive individualized attention and timely service. Eligibility Workers are also able to better track client information and updates, providing a more personalized approach.

In addition, CalWORKs Work Experience workers are now stationed in district office lobbies to provide on-the-spot My Benefits CalWIN tutorials to waiting clients. Using tablets and smartphones, they show clients the many easy-to-use features of the mobile app and explain how to check case status, upload documents, complete reports and more.

Clients receiving application assistance through our many community partners are also familiarized with the My Benefits CalWIN website, through which they are able to apply for services, access case information and submit required reports. See more by visiting [www.mybenefitscalwin.org](http://www.mybenefitscalwin.org).

## Too Hungry to Learn

In March, Second Harvest Food Bank (SHFB) and Santa Clara University presented the Hunger Action Summit, an annual forum designed to spark conversation and inspire action to end local hunger. This year's theme of "Too Hungry to Learn" shed light on the connection between adequate nutrition and academic performance.

***"Too many local kids aren't getting enough to eat, and it's hurting them academically and threatening the future viability of our workforce."***

*-Kathy Jackson, CEO of SHFB*

Research has shown that one in three children in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties

struggles with hunger and that students who don't get enough nutritious food have a harder time concentrating and doing well in school.

Summit speakers presented many strategies and initiatives aimed at fighting hunger in schools and in the region as a whole. While progress is being made, there is still much more to be done. To learn more about the Hunger Action Summit, SHFB and local efforts to eliminate hunger, visit [www.shfb.org](http://www.shfb.org).



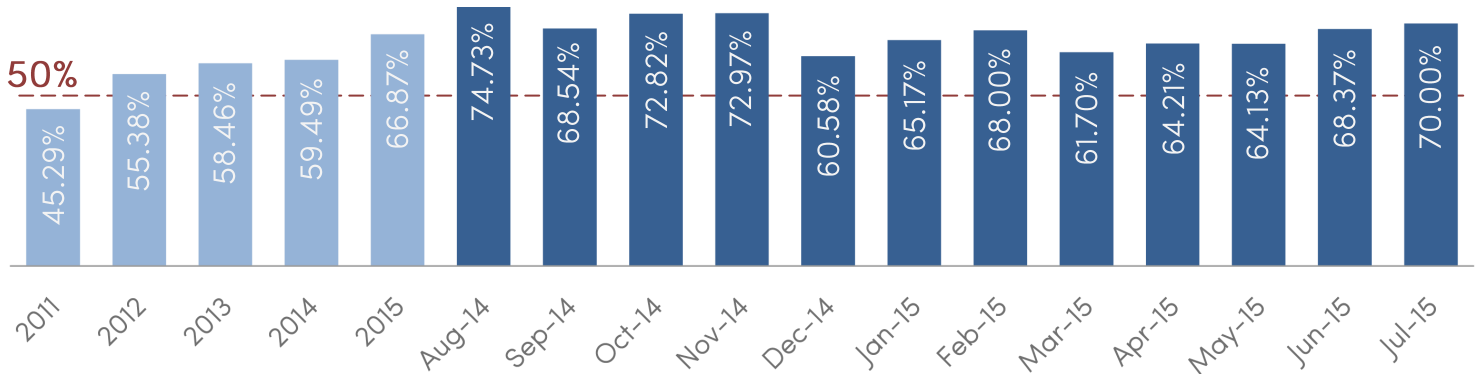
## Work Participation Rate

Employment Services continues to achieve record high performance levels, garnering Santa Clara County recognition and distinction as one of the best performing counties in the state. For the first ten months of the 2014-2015 Federal Fiscal Year, Employment Services maintained an average Work Participation Rate (WPR) of 66.87% and, in several of those months, WPR reached over 70%! This stellar rate was vital in helping California achieve a state-wide rate of over 50%, allowing the state to avoid a federal sanction.

Performing at peak levels has been a monumental effort of the WPR Steering Committee. The team is comprised of staff from Employment Services, Eligibility, Decision Support and Research, Program and Staff Development, brought together to guide WPR efforts. Meeting on a monthly basis, the group has been able to keep abreast of pressing

policy issues, bridge communication gaps, maintain client engagement and discuss strategies to manage specific WPR case issues. This working partnership has created a collective ownership of this performance rate and the cooperative case management that contributes greatly to the County's exemplary performance levels.

Employment Services hosted a series of symposiums for other counties to expand the shared knowledge base and present best practices that have led to Santa Clara County's consistently high WPR rates. Through various presentations, we've been able to illustrate the collaborative efforts of our staff, clients and community partners. To date, over a dozen counties have attended these symposiums to gain better understanding of our system and to look for ways to incorporate our strategies into their programs. Leading the charge, Employment Services is pleased to be able to contribute to increased Statewide WPR success.



On March 25, 2016, the WPR Steering Committee welcomed a group of Supervisors and Managers from Benefits and Employment Services for a meet and greet. During this informal session, participants followed the path of a typical CalWORKs client, from initial benefit intake, through the transition to Employment Services, all the way to Post-Aid Services, touching on the many services offered along the way. It is through conversations such as this that we have cultivated the strong partnerships needed to work toward the common goal of serving our clients and achieving success in our WPR efforts.

# Appendix

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- A. California Budget & Policy Center Fact Sheet: CalWORKs Grants Fall Short of Covering Housing Costs
- B. CalWORKs Advisory Meeting Schedule
- C. Safety Net Meeting Schedule
- D. The ABC's of Health Coverage for ALL Kids



BY ALISSA ANDERSON

## CalWORKs Grants Fall Short of Covering Housing Costs

The California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Program provides modest cash assistance for nearly 1 million low-income children while helping parents overcome barriers to work and to find jobs. Despite modest increases in recent years, CalWORKs grants fall far short of allowing families to achieve a decent standard of living. The Governor's proposed 2016-17 budget does not make any new investments in CalWORKs, leaving the maximum grant for a family of three in all counties at around 40% of the federal poverty line. At this level, the grant is not high enough to cover the "Fair Market Rent" for a one-bedroom apartment in most of the state's 58 counties. The grant is particularly inadequate in the San Francisco Bay Area and along the southern coast from Santa Barbara to San Diego. Insufficient CalWORKs assistance is a concern because families are at greater risk of becoming homeless when housing costs account for more than half of household income.

### The Maximum CalWORKs Grant Is Not Enough to Cover Rent for a One-Bedroom Apartment in Most Counties

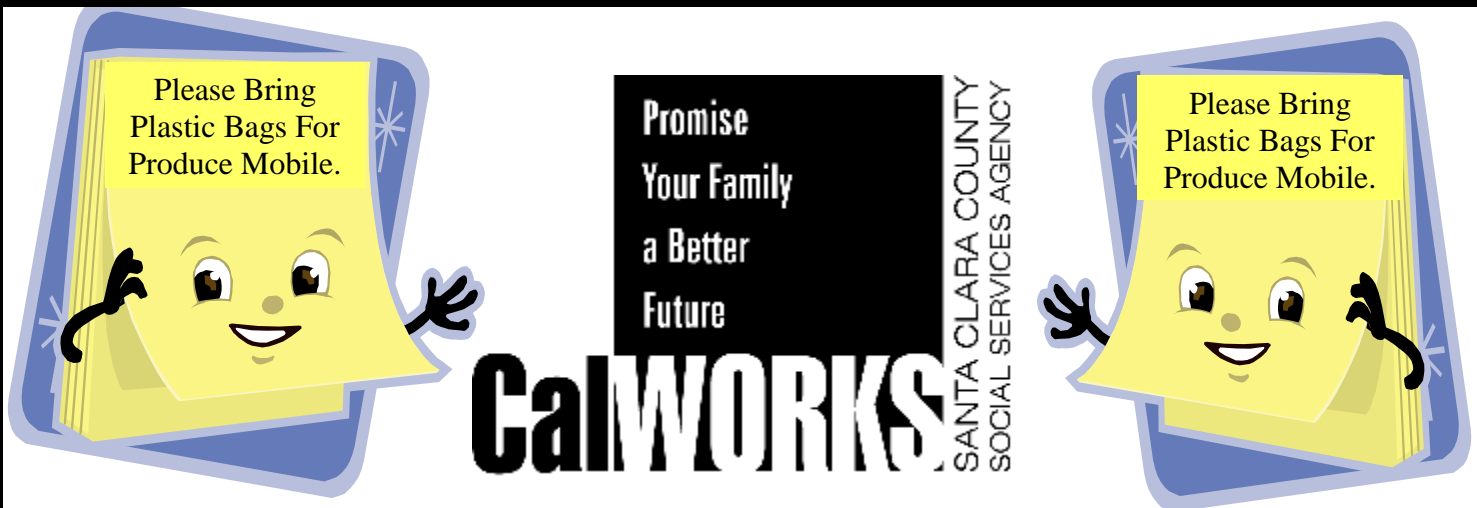
County	Maximum CalWORKs Grant for a Family of Three, 2016-17*	Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a One-Bedroom Apartment**	Amount of Grant Remaining After Paying Rent	One-Bedroom Apartment FMR as a Percentage of Grant	Rank by FMR (Highest to Lowest)
Alameda	\$704	\$1,663	-\$959	236.2%	4
Alpine	\$670	\$663	\$7	99.0%	46
Amador	\$670	\$787	-\$117	117.5%	29
Butte	\$670	\$713	-\$43	106.4%	38
Calaveras	\$670	\$713	-\$43	106.4%	38
Colusa	\$670	\$701	-\$31	104.6%	43
Contra Costa	\$704	\$1,663	-\$959	236.2%	4
Del Norte	\$670	\$731	-\$61	109.1%	34
El Dorado	\$670	\$815	-\$145	121.6%	25
Fresno	\$670	\$690	-\$20	103.0%	44
Glenn	\$670	\$615	\$55	91.8%	54
Humboldt	\$670	\$748	-\$78	111.6%	30
Imperial	\$670	\$643	\$27	96.0%	50
Inyo	\$670	\$739	-\$69	110.3%	32
Kern	\$670	\$639	\$31	95.4%	51
Kings	\$670	\$611	\$59	91.2%	55
Lake	\$670	\$726	-\$56	108.4%	35
Lassen	\$670	\$723	-\$53	107.9%	36
Los Angeles	\$704	\$1,154	-\$450	163.9%	11

County	Maximum CalWORKs Grant for a Family of Three, 2016-17*	Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a One-Bedroom Apartment**	Amount of Grant Remaining After Paying Rent	One-Bedroom Apartment FMR as a Percentage of Grant	Rank by FMR (Highest to Lowest)
Madera	\$670	\$704	-\$34	105.1%	42
Marin	\$704	\$1,814	-\$1,110	257.7%	1
Mariposa	\$670	\$705	-\$35	105.2%	41
Mendocino	\$670	\$789	-\$119	117.8%	28
Merced	\$670	\$601	\$69	89.7%	56
Modoc	\$670	\$569	\$101	84.9%	58
Mono	\$670	\$1,090	-\$420	162.7%	15
Monterey	\$704	\$1,114	-\$410	158.2%	14
Napa	\$704	\$1,145	-\$441	162.6%	13
Nevada	\$670	\$908	-\$238	135.5%	22
Orange	\$704	\$1,324	-\$620	188.1%	7
Placer	\$670	\$815	-\$145	121.6%	25
Plumas	\$670	\$711	-\$41	106.1%	40
Riverside	\$670	\$945	-\$275	141.0%	20
Sacramento	\$670	\$815	-\$145	121.6%	25
San Benito	\$670	\$1,025	-\$355	153.0%	17
San Bernardino	\$670	\$945	-\$275	141.0%	20
San Diego	\$704	\$1,153	-\$449	163.8%	12
San Francisco	\$704	\$1,814	-\$1,110	257.7%	1
San Joaquin	\$670	\$735	-\$65	109.7%	33
San Luis Obispo	\$704	\$1,009	-\$305	143.3%	19
San Mateo	\$704	\$1,814	-\$1,110	257.7%	1
Santa Barbara	\$704	\$1,226	-\$522	174.1%	8
Santa Clara	\$704	\$1,582	-\$878	224.7%	6
Santa Cruz	\$704	\$1,198	-\$494	170.2%	9
Shasta	\$670	\$663	\$7	99.0%	46
Sierra	\$670	\$901	-\$231	134.5%	23
Siskiyou	\$670	\$666	\$4	99.4%	45
Solano	\$704	\$1,024	-\$320	145.5%	18
Sonoma	\$704	\$1,090	-\$386	154.8%	15
Stanislaus	\$670	\$717	-\$47	107.0%	37
Sutter	\$670	\$661	\$9	98.7%	48
Tehama	\$670	\$626	\$44	93.4%	53
Trinity	\$670	\$633	\$37	94.5%	52
Tulare	\$670	\$584	\$86	87.2%	57
Tuolumne	\$670	\$747	-\$77	111.5%	31
Ventura	\$704	\$1,197	-\$493	170.0%	10
Yolo	\$670	\$870	-\$200	129.9%	24
Yuba	\$670	\$661	\$9	98.7%	48

\* The Governor's proposed budget assumes that there will be no increase to CalWORKs grants in the 2016-17 fiscal year, which begins on July 1. Maximum grants are set higher in counties that the state defines as having a higher cost of living.

\*\* The FMR is for federal fiscal year 2016, which ends on September 30, 2016. FMRs are determined by the federal government and generally estimate the dollar amount below which 40% of standard-quality rental housing units are rented.

Source: Department of Social Services and US Department of Housing and Urban Development



## CalWORKS Advisory 2016 Meeting Calendar

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
January 6	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
February 3	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
March 2	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
April 6	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
May 4	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
June 1	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
July	<b>* NO MEETING THIS MONTH *</b>	
August 3	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
September 7	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
October 5	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
November 2	11:30 – 1:30	Social Services Agency 1879 Senter Road–Orientation Room
December	<b>➔ NO MEETING THIS MONTH – CLIENT ACHIEVMENT AWARDS</b>	

*For future meeting location contact Anita A. Casillas @ 408-755-7732  
or email: [Anita.Casillas@ssa.sccgov.org](mailto:Anita.Casillas@ssa.sccgov.org)*





# Safety Net Meeting 2016 Calendar



## SAFETY NET MEETING INFORMATION

The Safety Net Committee is co-chaired by Santa Clara County Social Services Agency and Second Harvest Food Bank. It is comprised of Community Based Organizations (CBO's) that come together in partnership to educate, access, strategize, develop and implement service recommendations to strengthen food and other services provided to those in need throughout Santa Clara County.

Safety Net meetings are held at the Second Harvest Food bank on the **4<sup>th</sup> Thursday** of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is a brown bag lunch meeting.

For more information about Safety Net Meetings and/or to request that discussion items be placed on the agenda, please contact Norma at: (408) 755-7736 or [Norma.Bejarano@ssa.sccgov.org](mailto:Norma.Bejarano@ssa.sccgov.org).

### Location

Second Harvest Food Bank  
750 Curtner Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95125  
(Upstairs, Going Room)

### Time

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Meeting Dates

January 28

February 25

March 24

April 28

May 26

June 23

July 28

August 25

September 22

October 27

November  
(No Meeting)

December  
(TBD)

# The **ABCs** of Health Coverage for **ALL** Kids

## HEALTHY KIDS MAKE BETTER LEARNERS.

Now there is a new opportunity for children, regardless of immigration status, to enroll in health coverage and access the care they need.

### **A** ALL children, regardless of immigration status, will soon qualify for Medi-Cal coverage

Medi-Cal is free or low-cost health coverage for children and families with limited incomes. Thanks to recent actions, all children and youth younger than 19 whose families meet the income guidelines will soon qualify for the full scope of benefits under Medi-Cal. For example, all children in a family of four that has a monthly income of \$5,375 will qualify for coverage.

Coverage for undocumented children will begin in May 2016.



### **B** Begin enrolling your kids now

Medi-Cal enrollment is available year round. Even though enrollment in full-scope Medi-Cal for undocumented children will start May of this year, families can take action now by enrolling into restricted Medi-Cal (also known as emergency Medi-Cal) TODAY! If your child is enrolled in restricted Medi-Cal, he or she will be automatically enrolled in full-scope Medi-Cal when the expanded program begins. You can apply in person at your local county human services office, over the phone, with a mail-in application, or at your local clinic. You can get help finding a clinic at [www.localclinic.net](http://www.localclinic.net) or by calling (855) 899-7587.



### **C** Coverage is free or low cost

Medi-Cal is free for families who meet income requirements. Other families, depending on their income, may have a small monthly premium. Coverage opens the door to free preventive care and free or low-cost treatment, including medical, vision, dental, and mental health services.



### **D** Don't forget to bring what you need

When you apply for Medi-Cal, bring as many of the following items as you can:

- ▶ **Proof of Identity** (driver's license or photo ID)
- ▶ **Proof of Income** (current pay stub or bank statement)
- ▶ **Child's Birth Certificate** (regardless of the country of origin)
- ▶ **Proof of Residency** (telephone or electric bill)
- ▶ **Medi-Cal cards of other family members**, if applicable

Not all items are required for enrollment.

### IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

may fear sharing information related to their immigration status. It is important to remember that your immigration status information is kept private, protected, and secure. Medi-Cal application information will not be shared with any immigration agency to enforce immigration laws and will only be used to determine eligibility for health programs.



HEALTH CARE FOR ALL FAMILIES

A PROJECT OF THE CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:

[www.allinforhealth.org/healthforallkids](http://www.allinforhealth.org/healthforallkids)

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# PUNTOS PRINCIPALES

## relacionados con la cobertura médica de **TODOS** los niños

### LOS NIÑOS SANOS APRENDEN MEJOR.

Ahora hay una nueva oportunidad para que todos los niños, sin importar su estatus migratorio, se inscriban en cobertura médica y tengan acceso al cuidado que necesitan.

### **A** TODOS los niños, sin importar su estatus migratorio, pronto calificarán para cobertura a través de Medi-Cal

Medi-Cal es una cobertura médica gratuita o de bajo costo para los niños y familias con ingresos limitados. Gracias a las medidas recientes, todos los niños y jóvenes menores de 19 años cuyas familias cumplan con los requisitos de ingreso pronto podrán calificar para la cobertura completa de beneficios bajo Medi-Cal. Por ejemplo, todos los niños en una familia de 4 miembros que tiene un ingreso mensual de \$5,375, calificarán para cobertura.

La cobertura para niños indocumentados empezará en mayo de 2016.



### Empieza a inscribir a sus niños(as) ahora

La inscripción en Medi-Cal está disponible todo el año. Los niños indocumentados calificarán para cobertura completa de Medi-Cal hasta mayo de este año, pero ¡las familias pueden actuar ahora inscribiéndose HOY en Medi-Cal restringido (también conocido como Medi-Cal de emergencia)! Si su hijo(a) está inscrito(a) en Medi-Cal restringido, él o ella será registrado(a) automáticamente en el programa de cobertura completa de Medi-Cal cuando dicho programa comience. Puede presentar su solicitud personalmente en su oficina del condado local de servicios sociales, por teléfono, a través de una solicitud enviada por correo, o en su clínica local. Para encontrar una clínica, visite [www.clinicalocal.net](http://www.clinicalocal.net), o llame al (855) 899-7587.



### La cobertura es gratuita o de bajo costo

Medi-Cal es un servicio gratuito para familias que cumplan los requisitos de ingresos. Otras familias, dependiendo de su ingreso, puede que tengan que pagar una pequeña prima mensual. La cobertura abre la puerta para cuidado preventivo gratuito y tratamiento gratuito o de bajo costo, incluyendo servicios médicos, dentales, de la visión y de salud mental.



### No se olvide de traer contigo los documentos que necesita

Cuando haga una solicitud para Medi-Cal, trae la mayoría de los siguientes documentos como sea posible:

- ▶ **Prueba de identidad** (licencia de manejo o identificación con fotografía)
- ▶ **Prueba de ingresos** (talón de cheque de pago o estado de cuenta bancario)
- ▶ **Acta de nacimiento del niño(a)** (sin importar el país de origen)
- ▶ **Prueba de residencia** (recibo de luz o teléfono)
- ▶ **Tarjeta de Medi-Cal de otros miembros familiares**, si aplica

No todos los documentos son requeridos para la inscripción.

### LAS FAMILIAS DE INMIGRANTES

pueden temer compartir información relacionada con su estatus migratorio. Es importante que recuerde la información relacionada con su estatus migratorio se mantiene privada, protegida y segura. La información contenida en una solicitud para servicios de Medi-Cal no será compartida con ninguna agencia de inmigración para imponer leyes migratorias y únicamente será utilizada para determinar elegibilidad para los programas de salud.



Asegúrate, para el bienestar de tu familia

UN PROYECTO DE "THE CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP"



PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN VISITE:

[www.allinforhealth.org/healthforallkids](http://www.allinforhealth.org/healthforallkids)

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SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY