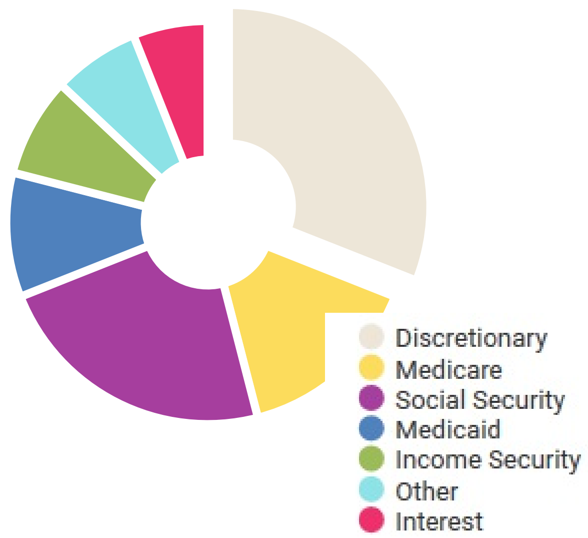
Alameda County
Social Services
Agency

Federal Annual Update: 2018
Social Services Programs & Highlights

FEDERAL BUDGET

Mandatory & Discretionary



Non-Defense Discretionary Spending

2010
$611B

2017
$530B

2028*
$307B

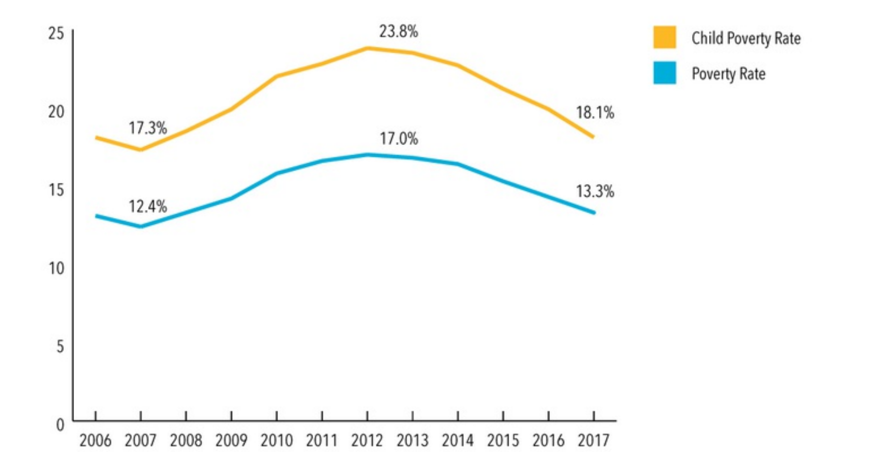
*The White House Administration proposes to cut NDD funding by 50% from 2010 levels over the next decade

Federal Shutdown 2018-19

- CalFresh - March 2019
- WIC - March 2019
- Child Nutrition - March 2019
- CalWORKs /TANF
- Medi-Cal/Medicaid & CHIP

FEDERAL POVERTY

Percentage of Californians With Incomes Below the Official Federal Poverty Line



Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey

California Budget & Policy Center
Independent Analysis. Shared Prosperity.

Highest Poverty in the Nation

Despite gains in lowering the official poverty rate, California has the highest poverty in the nation as measured by the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM). Nearly 1 in every 5 residents do not have enough resources to cover the cost of basic necessities.

Supplemental Poverty Measure

- Housing
- Child Care
- Medical Costs
- Taxes & Tax Benefits

IMMIGRANTS/REFUGEES

"Public Charge" means a person who is not self-sufficient, and may become primarily dependent on the government for daily needs.

Programs Currently Considered:

Cash Benefits (SSI, TANF, GA)
Long-Term Care at Govt Expense

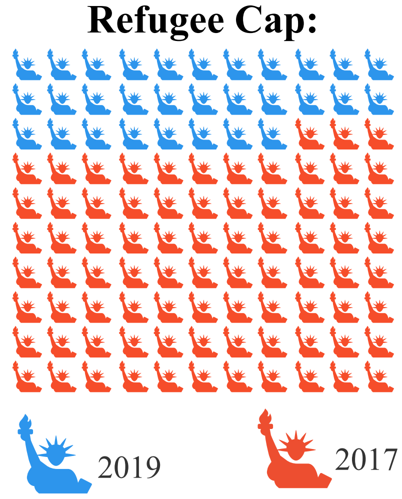
Programs Considered in Proposed Rule:

Medicaid/Medi-Cal
CHIP/Medi-Cal
Medicare Part D

SNAP/CalFresh

Section 8 Voucher Rental Assistance & Project Based Public Housing

Reduced Refugee Cap:



Child Detention:

2 0

Number of days a child may be detained in an ICE facility. The Administration has proposed removing this limit, along with new federal licensing standards for family detention.

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ECONOMIC MOBILITY

In April 2018, the President signed an Executive Order "Reducing Poverty by Promoting Opportunity and Economic Mobility." The EO encourages departments to align public benefit programs with the following principles:

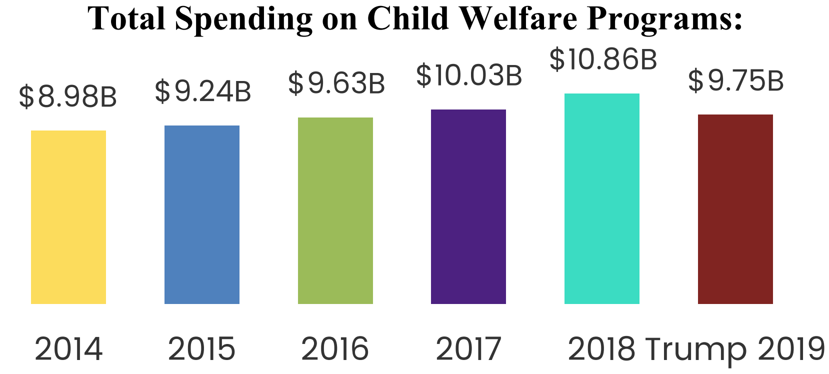
1. Improve economic outcomes & economic independence (strengthen work requirements, focus on employment)
2. Promote strong social networks (focus on work and marriage)
3. Address the challenges of specific populations (single parents, formerly incarcerated individuals, the homeless, individuals with disabilities, disconnected youth)
4. Balance flexibility and accountability to ensure accountability for achieving outcomes
5. Reduce the size of bureaucracy and streamline services
6. Reserve benefits for people with low incomes and limited assets
7. Consolidate or eliminate Federal programs that are duplicative or ineffective
8. Create a new data sharing system and agreements between the Federal, State, and local governments
9. Empower the private sector and local communities to develop and apply locally based solutions to poverty

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Families First Prevention Services Act:

- Ability to use Title IV-E for specified prevention services
- Enhanced support for children and families under Title IV-B
- Kinship navigator programs
- New licensing standards for placement in relative homes
- Concerns about diversion from services
- Concerns about alignment with California Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)

Total Spending on Child Welfare Programs:



OLDER ADULTS

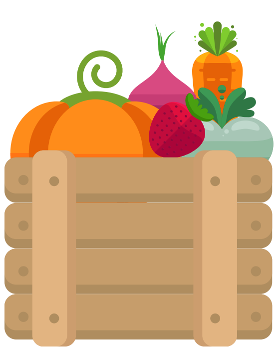
In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Proposed Rule Change:

The IHSS program is a federal, state, and locally funded program designed to provide assistance to those eligible aged, blind, and disabled individuals who, without this care, would be unable to remain safely in their own homes. Medicaid permits payments for IHSS workers' benefits, such as health insurance and training. The Administration has proposed halting these payments, which could harm the IHSS workforce.

Programs Supporting Older Adults in the FFY2019 HHS Budget:

- Increase of $10M for Senior Nutrition
- Increase of $50M for LIHEAP
- $12M for Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services
- $400M for Community Service Employment for Older Americans
- $17.5M for Aging Network Support

FARM BILL



The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, or CalFresh in California) provides nutritional support to 40 million Americans - 4.1 million in California - every month. The program is reauthorized every five years in the Farm Bill, where it accounts for more than 3/4 of the Farm Bill's spending. H.R.2, the original version of the bill as drafted by the House of Representatives, would have denied benefits to 2 million recipients. The final version of the bill rejected this proposal.

- CalFresh moves 800,000 Californians out of poverty, more than any other safety net program - including 363,000 children
- The average monthly benefit is $136
- 88% of CalFresh recipients have a working family member in the household

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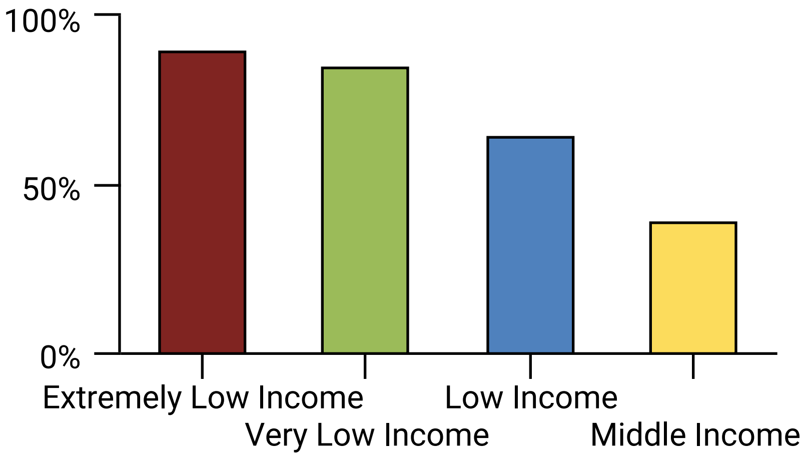
HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

CA Households with a Housing Cost Burden:



Rent Relief Act:

H.R.3670/S.3250 would create a refundable tax credit for those who pay more than 30% of their income a year in rent, limited to 150% fair market rent ($1,855 for a one bedroom apartment in Oakland in 2018). The credit ranges based on income, from 100% for those earning less than $25,000 to 25% for those earning up to $100,000.

Homeless Children and Youth Act:

H.R 1511/S. 611 creates alignment between programs if a child or youth is determined "homeless," expands the time for families with an eviction order so they can receive homeless services, and expands victim services in homeless programs to better assist victims of trafficking.
In Alameda County, 27% of people experiencing homelessness are children or transition-aged youth.

WORKFORCE

Spotlight on:

WIOA

Title I

Establishes a local board to oversee and administer employment and training services for Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth. Serves employers, sets priorities to serve individuals with barriers to employment.

Title II

The Adult Education and Family Literacy Act addresses the needs of adult learners, with an emphasis on Adult Basic Education, completion of secondary education, and bridging to post-secondary educations.

Title III

The Wagner-Peyser Act integrates employment services into the One-Stop Career Center system, offering employment and placement assistance, as well as labor exchange services.

Title IV

Vocational Rehabilitation Program: Employment-related vocational services to individuals with disabilities, integrated into One-Stop Career Center system

Program History:

1962
Manpower Development Training Act
Grants to local communities focused on on the job training for displaced workers and welfare recipients

1973
Comprehensive Employment and Training Act
Focus on leadership by local govt and private industry councils

1982
Job Training Partnership Act
New emphasis on targeted job training and re-employment

1998
Workforce Investment Act
Creation of One-Stop Career Centers and Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs), initiation of self-service approach

2014
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

ON THE HORIZON

- **Budget Rescissions**
- **Administrative Actions**
- **Work Requirements**
- **Foster Care Title IV E Waiver**
- **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Funding**
- **TANF Reauthorization**
- **Welfare Reform**
- **Higher Education Act**
- **Medicaid Funding**
- **Immigrant Rights**

FEDERAL BUDGET

The Federal Fiscal Year (FFY), which runs on an October 1 to September 30 calendar, begins in earnest in the late winter/early spring preceding. The President makes a Budget Proposal, generally in early February, which highlights the administration's goals and policy priorities. The White House Budget proposals for 2017 and 2018 both called for significant cuts in non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs. In the budget period of FFY17-27, NDD accounts for 31 percent of federal spending. Mandatory spending includes Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid, Income Security Programs, and Interest payments. Spending reductions in most NDD programs, and in all Mandatory programs, would require separate Congressional authorization, and cannot occur through executive actions alone.

NDD spending has decreased significantly since FFY10. The White House proposals would cut NDD spending even further, from a 14 percent cut since FFY10 to a 50 percent cut. NDD programs provide essential federal funding for programs that range from healthcare (excepting Medicaid and Medicare) and health research, to transportation and economic development, education, economic security, law enforcement and governance, science and the environment, and diplomacy and international affairs. Programs specifically targeted for low income individuals and families have accounted for about 1/5th of NDD funding in recent years; however, the actual share is larger, as a third of NDD programs are grants to states and localities, which are often incorporated into community programs. NDD programs for low income individuals include: housing and rental assistance, programs for people experiencing homelessness, programs for the elderly, veterans' healthcare, refugee assistance, the Child Care Development Block Grant and the nutritional program for Women, Infants, and children (WIC).

Though portions of the federal government were funded through an omnibus package in early December 2018, a partial federal government shutdown followed a late December budget impasse, leaving nine agencies unfunded. The longest federal government shutdown in history followed, leaving some programs that support SSA clients in uncertain territory. These include: CalFresh, WIC, and Child Nutrition Programs, which are funded by the Department of Agriculture, with approved funding through March 2019; CalWORKs, which is funded through a complex mixture of federal and state funds, with states awaiting guidance from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF); and Medi-Cal, which is funded through June 2019. Most of the other programs funded through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are funded through the end of the FFY, September 30, 2019.

FEDERAL POVERTY

The United States Census Bureau released 2017 household income information in September 2018. The Census data indicate that the median household income in the State of California increased 3.8 percent over the previous year to $71,805. Despite this high median income, 5.2 million Californians – including 1.6 million children – lived below the official Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Within the percentage of households living in poverty are 2.2 million individuals – including 600,000 children – living in deep poverty, or earning only half the FPL. The percent of Californians living below the FPL dropped slightly from 14.3 percent in 2016 to 13.3 percent, ranking California the 16th state in terms of high FPL percentage. Alameda County has a slightly lower percentage of households living under the FPL, at 12 percent for all households and 14.4 percent for children.

Despite these gains, when factoring in costs of housing, child care, medical expenses, and the combination of taxes and tax benefits, as done in the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), California ranks first in the nation as having the worst SPM. By this measure, nearly 1 in every 5 California residents falls below the SPM – accounting for nearly 7.5 million Californians.

IMMIGRATION/REFUGEE

In October 2018, the Department of Homeland Security published a long-awaited Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that proposes to dramatically redefine "public charge" for immigration purposes. Currently, an individual who is likely to become a "public charge" is inadmissible to the United States, and ineligible to become a legal permanent resident. A "public charge" is defined as an individual who is likely to become "primarily dependent on the government," a determination limited to receipt of cash assistance or long-term public institutionalization. The NPRM substantially expands this definition to include receipt of Medicaid/Medi-Cal, SNAP/CalFresh, Medicare Part D, Section 8 voucher and project based rental assistance, and Public Housing. Alameda County has estimated that if this rule were to pass as proposed, up to 70,000 households could be impacted, and the direct annual economic impact would range from a loss of $30 million to $60 million in the local economy. The NPRM was open for public comment for 60 days, and would still require publication as a final rule before implementation. Alameda County opposed the NPRM, and submitted comments outlining the harm that could come to the county's economy, public health, and anti-poverty efforts.

In 2016, former President Obama released a Presidential Determination permitting the admission of up to 110,000 refugees to the United States during FFY 2017, an increase justified by humanitarian concerns. The White House Administration reduced the admission ceiling to 45,000 in 2018, a decline of 55%, and further to 30,000 for the coming year. Additionally, the Attorney General has unveiled new strict limitations on asylum applicants, asserting that victims of domestic abuse and gang violence would no longer qualify for such protection.

Another concern in the area of Immigration is that of child and family detention. In September 2018 the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) titled, "Apprehension, Processing, Care, and Custody of Alien Minors and Unaccompanied Minor Children." The NPRM proposes to create new federal licensing standards for the detention of children apprehended at the border. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) could then appropriate facilities under the standards to detain family units together during their immigration proceedings, consistent with applicable law. A class action lawsuit, known as the Flores Settlement Agreement (FSA), ruled, in part, that unaccompanied minors cannot be detained longer than 20 days, and that they must be detained in state licensed facilities. Though the court case was specific to unaccompanied minors, the ruling applied to all detained children, accompanied or not. The proposed regulations aim to terminate the FSA. In regards to the 20 day maximum detention, the NPRM notes that ICE is unable to estimate how long detention would be extended for some categories of minors and their accompanying adults in FRCs due to this proposed rule. The NPRM does offer the following examples: applicants for asylum could be held throughout their asylum proceedings, and those who are awaiting removal are likely to be held until removal can be effectuated. Additionally, this rule would change ICE parole determination practices, which may result in fewer minors and/or their families being paroled. Alameda County opposed the NPRM, stating that state child welfare licensing guidelines should be followed, rather than imposing a new federal licensing scheme with limited oversight.

Alameda County also opposed an NPRM that proposes to alter how fee waivers for immigration processing documents are determined. Currently, a fee waiver may be granted if the applicant is 1) a recipient of a means-tested public benefit; 2) is in a low income household (defined as below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines); or 3) is experiencing financial hardship. The NPRM proposes to remove the first qualification for eligibility, a move that would burden low income households that receive public benefits, and are seeking a fee waiver for immigration document processing.

ECONOMIC MOBILITY

In April 2018, the President signed an Executive Order (EO) titled, "Reducing Poverty by Promoting Opportunity and Economic Mobility." The EO targets a vast array of social benefit programs, directing the Secretaries of the Treasury, Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Education to review all regulations and guidance within their agencies to determine their alignment with the "Principles of Economic Mobility." These principles include: 1) improve economic outcomes and economic independence (including by **strengthening existing work requirements for work-capable people** and introducing new work requirements when legally permissible); 2) promote **strong social networks** as a way of sustainably escaping poverty (including through work and marriage); 3) address the **challenges of populations** that may particularly struggle to find and maintain employment (including single parents, formerly incarcerated individuals, the homeless, substance abusers, individuals with disabilities, and disconnected youth); 4) balance **flexibility and accountability** both to ensure that State, local, and tribal governments, and other institutions, may tailor their public assistance programs to the unique needs of their communities and to ensure that welfare services and administering agencies can be held accountable for achieving outcomes (including by designing and tracking measures that assess whether programs help people escape poverty); 5) **reduce the size of bureaucracy and streamline services** to promote the effective use of resources; 6) **reserve benefits** for people with low incomes and limited assets; 7) reduce wasteful spending by **consolidating or eliminating Federal programs** that are duplicative or ineffective; 8) create a system by which the Federal Government remains updated on State, local, and tribal successes and failures, and **facilitates access to that information** so that other States and localities can benefit from it; and, 9) empower the **private sector**, as well as local communities, to develop and apply locally based solutions to poverty.

The Secretaries are to highlight public assistance programs that do not have work requirements, and to determine whether imposing requirements would be consistent with Federal law and the Principles of Economic Mobility. Additionally, the reports are directed to show that the agencies' programs comply with federal law regarding services to "qualified aliens." Many of the changes proposed or encouraged by the Administration would require separate Congressional legislative action. However, the following are indicators of some areas of concern: the Administration is pursuing State Waivers to permit "flexibility" in curtailing eligibility for programs, legislation of concern continues to gain support through a growing list of co-sponsors, and lowered federal revenues as a result of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act put pressure on strategies to cut spending.

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

The Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) is a new federal child welfare law passed in early 2018. The bill aims to prevent children from entering foster care by allowing federal reimbursement for mental health services, substance use treatment, and in-home parenting skill training. It also seeks to improve the well-being of children already in foster by incentivizing states to reduce placement of children in congregate care. FFPSA permits states to use Title IV-E funds for time-limited prevention activities using promising, supported, or well-supported practices. Children receiving services through FFPSA funded programs need not be Title IV-E income eligible. Despite these goals, there are concerns that the funding and implementation may not align with California's Contiuum of Care Reform (CCR), which has been underway since 2015.

While federal funding for Child Welfare Programs has been relatively stable and slightly increasing over the last five years, there are concerns that the flexible Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) could be eliminated or greatly reduced. SSBG has given states flexibility in providing for their most vulnerable residents since 1981. Block grant funds are given to states to achieve a wide range of social policy goals, which include promoting self-sufficiency, preventing child abuse, and supporting community-based care for the elderly and disabled. SSBG has been authorized for $1.7 billion per year, with California receiving approximately $191 million. California uses these SSBG funds to enhance the Child Welfare Services Allocation IV-E Waiver, Foster Care Assistance, and the CalWORKs Single Allocation distributed to counties. Alameda County SSA receives $9.1 million annually of these funds.

Alameda County distributed a letter to Congressional delegates requesting an extension of the Title IV-E Waiver, which is set to expire in 2019. While some of the goals of the Waiver project begin to be addressed by the FFPSA, the funding levels and ability to reach additional vulnerable populations such as was permitted by the Waiver are not in the new law.

OLDER ADULTS

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program is a federal, state, and locally funded program designed to provide assistance to those eligible aged, blind, and disabled individuals who, without this care, would be unable to remain safely in their own homes. IHSS provides services according to the client's ability to perform daily activities. To be eligible for IHSS, clients must be on Medicaid/Medi-Cal, be blind, disabled, or 65 years of age or older, and be unable to live at home safely without help. Currently in Alameda County, there are approximately 24,000 older adults, children and people with disabilities who receive IHSS and rely on over 21,000 IHSS providers to help them live in the community. In 2014, HHS published a rule that authorizes a state to make payments to third parties on behalf of the individual provider for benefits such as health insurance, skills training, and other benefits customary for employees. One of the goals stated in the 2014 rule was operational flexibilities for states to help ensure a strong provider workforce. In July 2018, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for a new rule that would eliminate the ability to make these payments. CMS states the concern that the provisions are overbroad, and insufficiently linked to the exemptions expressly permitted by the statute.

Alameda County has a benefit package for providers that includes health, dental, and vision. Approximately 6,000 of the 21,000 providers in the County receive benefits. Trainings offered to IHSS providers are available to all 21,000 providers. If the rule passes as written, the County may no longer receive federal funds to provide these benefits and training options to IHSS providers. Alameda County submitted a comment in opposition to the NPRM.

The Federal Fiscal Year 2019 Health and Human Services budget was passed in September 2018, funding the department through September 2019. Despite the many threats to human services programs, including those for older adults, the budget provided enhanced funding for many services. These include: an increase of $10 million for senior nutrition programs, including a $5 million increase to congregate meals and a $5 million increase to home delivered meals, an increase of $50 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), funding of $12 million for the Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services program, $400 million for Community Service Employment for Older Americans, and $17.5 million for the Aging Network Support.

FARM BILL

After months of negotiations, which extended beyond the reauthorization date of October 1st, 2018, the Congressional Conference Committee released their compromise Farm Bill on December 10, 2018. The Senate quickly approved the bill in just a day, and the House followed soon after. The compromise bill does not include the drastic changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, or CalFresh in California) that were proposed in the House version of the bill, H.R. 2. Alameda County opposed H.R. 2, as it would have removed more than 2 million individuals from the program, denying them access to the nutritional support they need. Currently, Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) are limited to three months of SNAP/CalFresh in any three-year period unless they are working at least half time, participating in qualifying job training activities for an average of 20 hours a week, or doing workfare. During the 2007-09 recession and its aftermath, states were able to waive this time limit for the entire state or regions due to high unemployment rates. H.R. 2 would have changed this so that ABAWDs must participate in an employment and training or a work program for at least 20 hours per week in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021-2025, and at least 25 hours per week in FFY 2026. The first failure to meet this requirement would result in a 12-month ineligibility period; subsequent violations would have held a penalty of 36-months ineligibility unless an individual obtains employment and meets the hourly requirement, or is no longer subject to work requirements. Proposed changes to Categorial Eligibility and the Standard Utility Allowance would have further limited eligibility for low-income and elderly households. Fortunately, the Compromise bill does not include these provisions, and instead maintains SNAP/CalFresh largely in its current form.

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

According to research conducted by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the State of California is facing a severe housing shortage, with only 22 affordable homes available for every 100 extremely low income households (those earning 0-30% of Area Median Income). This shortage is illustrated by the high percentage of households across the income spectrum who experience a housing cost burden, or who pay more than 30% of their household income on rent. Nearly all extremely low income households – 90% – are housing cost burdened, dropping only to 85% of very low income households (those who earn 31-50% Area Median Income), and 64% of low income households.

There are numerous strategies to address the housing crisis, one of which was presented this year by California Senator Kamala Harris with S. 3250, the Rent Relief Act. H.R. 3670/S. 3250 would create a refundable tax credit for rent paid on a tax filer's primary residence. The credit would be available for those who pay more than 30% of their gross income for the year in rent, and is limited to 150% of the fair market rent (including utility allowance) for the area in which the residence is located. Fair market rent for a one bedroom apartment in Oakland was $1,855 in 2018. Tax filers would be eligible for the credit up to the following amounts based on their income: not over $25,000, 100%; $25,000-$50,000, 75%; $50,000-$75,000, 50%; $75,000-$100,000; 25%; over $100,000, ineligible. While there is a variety of federal housing assistance programs, they are limited in reach, with fewer than one in four eligible low-income renters receive any kind of housing assistance. Low and moderate income individuals and families spend a considerable portion of their income on rent in high cost areas such as Alameda County. For families living on limited means, a federal rental credit such as the one proposed in this legislation would provide additional resources for their other needs.

According to the 2017 Point in Time Count in Alameda County, 27% of people experiencing homelessness were either children under the age of 18, or transition-aged youth (TAY) aged 18-24. Families were primarily sheltered, but unaccompanied children and TAY were primarily unsheltered, with only 14% and 26% sheltered, respectively. H.R. 1511/S. 611, the Homeless Children and Youth Act (HCYA) proposes to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to meet the needs of homeless children, youth, and families, and honor the assessments and priorities of local communities. HCYA does this through the following measures: expanding the time for families with an eviction order so that they can receive homeless services if the eviction order states they must leave in 30 days, which is currently set at 14 days, and clarifying alignment of homeless definitions if the child or youth is determined "homeless" in any of the following programs: the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, the Head Start Act, the Child Care and Development Block Grant, the Violence Against women Act, the Public Health Service Act, the Child Nutrition Act, the Higher Education Act, or the United States Housing Act. HCYA also expands the definition of "victim services" in homeless programs to include services that assist victims of trafficking.

WORKFORCE

WIOA – the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act – may have only recently been passed in its current form in 2014, but the program has its roots in more than four decades of federal commitment to workforce development. The Manpower Development Training Act, passed in 1962, offered grants to local communities focused on job training for displaced workers, and welfare recipients. The modern form of local private industry councils came next in 1973, with the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. The Job Training Partnership Act bolstered this effort, with a new emphasis on targeted job training and re-employment. In 1998, the Workforce Investment Act created the One-Stop Centers currently used for WIOA services, and created Workforce Investment Boards, now known as Workforce Development Boards. WIOA as passed in 2014 has four governing titles, which direct the services and programs. Title I authorizes job training services to unemployed and under-employed individuals. Title II provides education services to assist adults in improving basic skills, completing secondary education, and postsecondary education. Title III integrates the Employ Service system into the One-Stop Center system. Title IV provides employment-related vocational services to individuals with disabilities, which are integrated into the One-Stop Center system. WIOA receives approximately $10 billion annually to serve 20 million people across the country. Under the current administration, WIOA has been targeted for reduced funding. These reductions result in fewer employment, education, and training opportunities nationwide. Proposals include targets to Title I and III formula programs, leading to a 40% cut for Adult Employment, 47% cut for Dislocated Workers, and 40% cut for Youth Activities in California. While actual reductions have not reached these levels, there have been funding cuts. With recent deep budget cuts across all WIOA program areas, some of the legislation's goals are unlikely to be met and resources to help and up-skill people with employment barriers are at serious risk. Additional funding is needed to continue programs under WIOA. More funding is needed for enhanced supportive services for job seekers, increased stipends for youth participants in work-based learning programs, and for the coordination and alignment of Local Workforce Development Boards, California Community College Districts, Adult Schools/Adult Consortium, K-12 education, and Economic Development agencies.

ON THE HORIZON: 2019

Given the priorities expressed and actions taken by the White House Administration and Congressional leadership, there are many programmatic service areas and pertinent funding streams that call for a high level of concern and monitoring in 2019. Though HHS has been funded through FFY19, there has been a call from the administration for rescissions. As evidenced by this Annual Update, many changes to programs and services may happen through executive or administrative action, rather than through legislation. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) has been targeted for reduced funding. The Foster Care Title IV-E Waiver is set to expire in 2019, and policy conversations about a continuation or a new direction will occur through the coming year. Welfare Reform – which could target not only TANF and SNAP, but housing programs, services for veterans, Medicare and Social Security – could be attempted through an Executive Order, legislation, or the federal budget process in late 2019. The Higher Education Act is up for reauthorization, and the current draft proposes a major overhaul of the current education system that may limit access to low and moderate income students. Medicaid will likely continue to be targeted, either through a more limited "ACA repeal" effort focused on the expansion population, a funding reduction, or through the imposition of work requirements for certain eligible populations. Immigrant rights continue to be of concern, particularly for those entering through the Southern Border, including children, families, refugees, and asylees.