

CCWRO Welfare News 2017-09 11/11/17

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Fiscal Year 2016-2017 County Allocated Funds from the State and Expenditures

During the 2017-2018 budget battle, counties came out the big winners getting an additional \$108.9 million dollars for the county single allocation while the CalWORKs and CalFresh budgets have been taking a nose dive. CalWORKs families could not even get a simple COLA while they live on about 40% of the federal poverty level. The COLA would have cost much less than the \$108.9 gifted to the counties. This month we received the report on what happened to the County Single Allocation last year:

Program - Displayed in Thousands	Fund Allocated	Funds NOT Used & Given back to the government
CalWORKs Child Care	\$412 million	\$93 million
CalWORKs WtW Employment Services	\$972 million	\$145 million
CalWORKs WtW Mental Health Services	\$76 million	\$10 million
CalWORKs WtW Substance Abuse Services	\$50 million	\$16 million
County Homeless Housing Support Program	\$48 million	\$5 million
CalFresh Administration	\$632 million	\$47 million
Traffickig & Crime Victim Assistance Program (TCVAP)	\$7 million	\$2 million
Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)	\$30 million	\$19 million

TABLE #1 reveals counties that have failed to spend millions of Stage I child care funds. **TABLE #2** reveals some of the large counties not using more than 50% of their child care allocations.

TABLE #1- Total Stage I child care unspent funds by certain counties

COUNTIES	Federal & General Fund CalWORKs Child Care Allocation	Federal & General Fund CalWORKs Child Care Expenditures	Federal & General Fund CalWORKs Child Care Not Spent
STANISLAUS	\$ 6,492,305	\$ 2,281,558	\$ 4,210,747
CONTRA COSTA	\$11,238,454	\$ 5,731,199	\$ 5,507,255
MERCED	\$ 4,967,576	\$ 2,569,186	\$ 2,398,390
SAN MATEO	\$ 3,364,125	\$ 1,743,656	\$ 1,620,469
SACRAMENTO	\$24,566,420	\$13,948,986	\$10,617,434
MONTEREY	\$ 4,936,581	\$ 2,959,918	\$ 1,976,663
SAN JOAQUIN	\$ 7,753,035	\$ 4,841,584	\$ 2,911,451
SANTA CLARA	\$16,237,366	\$10,262,317	\$ 5,975,049
LOS ANGELES	\$118,619,966	\$78,062,115	\$40,557,851
SOLANO	\$ 4,533,540	\$ 3,006,591	\$ 1,526,949
ORANGE	\$ 21,516,324	\$16,583,759	\$ 4,932,565
SAN LUIS OBISPO	\$ 2,451,051	\$ 1,923,764	\$ 527,287
SONOMA	\$ 4,234,366	\$ 3,338,409	\$ 895,957
KERN	\$ 11,706,952	\$ 9,268,408	\$ 2,438,544

TABLE #2 - Stage I child care unspent funds by certain counties

County	\$\$	County	\$\$
Los Angeles	\$40,557,8511	Orange	\$4,932,565
Sacramento	\$10,617,434	Stanislaus	\$4,210,747
Santa Clara	\$5,975,049	San Joaquin	\$2,911,451
Contra Costa	\$5,507,255	Fresno	\$2,554,303

2017 Chaptered Bill Summary & Effective Dates - Part I

Bill	Sponsor	Effective Date	What does the bill do?
AB 214 Weber	WCL&P & CCWRO	10-1-18	<p>If a county is participating in a CalFresh (CF) restaurant meals program (RMP) then any college in that county should also participate in the RMP if the college has food facilities on campus.</p> <p>Redefines what constitutes half time from less than 6 units to “attending at least half-time any semester or term in which he or she enrolls in at least half of the number of credits needed each semester or term to graduate within four years of enrollment as a first-time freshman, or within two years of enrollment as a transfer student...”</p> <p>Students who receive any Cal Grant award shall be told by the Student Commission that they qualify for an exemption from the CF student rule and can get food stamps, if they are otherwise eligible.</p> <p>A student is also eligible for CF if they have been approved for work study, even if they do not have a work study slot at the time of asking for CF and have not turned down a work study slot.</p>
AB-236 Maienchein	WCL&P & CCWRO	10-1-18	Parents, who can reunify with a child(ren) in foster care for lack of housing will be eligible for CalWORKs homeless assistance.
AB 323 Berman	WCL&P	1-1-18	AB 323 would amend current law which requires a county to provide a written list of emergency food providers to CalFresh applicants who request it by allowing a county to, instead, provide a 211 referral
AB-480 - Fletcher-Gonzalez		4-20-18	A CalWORKs recipient who is participating in a welfare-to-work plan shall be eligible for \$30 per month to assist with diaper costs for each child who is under 36 months of age.
AB-557 -Rubio	WCL&P & CCWRO	7-1-18	<p>Victims of domestic abuse would have a right to a waiver for vaccination and CalLearn.</p> <p>A CalWORKs applicant who provides a sworn statement of past or present domestic abuse and who is fleeing his or her abuser is deemed to be homeless and is eligible for temporary homeless assistance, for a 16 day in one lump sum payment of temporary homeless assistance, notwithstanding any income and assets attributable to the alleged abuser. It would also require all CalWORKs applicants and recipients to be informed verbally and in writing, and to the extent required by law, in the language understood by the applicant or recipient, of the availability of services designed to assist individuals to identify, escape, or stop future domestic abuse as well as to deal with the effects of domestic abuse.</p>
AB 563 Arambula	WCL&P & CCWRO	7-1-18	<p>AB 563 will support CalFresh recipients in securing employment and earnings that are enough for them to exit poverty. It will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing the double penalty of unemployment for beneficiaries' subject to the Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) time limit; • Establishing a CalFresh E&T Center for Excellence; and, • Clarifying that the Department of Social Services may directly contract with CalFresh E&T Providers.
AB 818– Burke	CWDA	1-1-18	This bill provides that a WtW participant who completes the activity of obtaining a high school diploma or its equivalency shall have those months subtracted from their 24-month clock.
AB 910 – Ridley-Thomas	WCL&P & CCWRO	1-1-18	This bill would codify existing DSS policy for participation hours of pregnant women to 20 hours a week and 20/30 for a two-parent family where one of the parents is exempt.

2017 Chaptered Bill Summary & Effective Dates - Part II

Bill	Sponsor	Effective Date	What does the bill do?
AB-1021 - Baker	CCWRO	1-1-18	This bill would require each county to accept applications for benefits under the program by telephone, through facsimile, or in person, or, if the county is capable of accepting online applications or applications via email for benefits under the program, by email or other electronic means.
AB-1604 - Nazarian	CCWRO	1-1-18	The bill would require a recipient who has not received his or her high school diploma or its equivalent to be offered a welfare-to-work plan to participate in a high school education program or high school equivalency program, as specified. If the recipient declines to participate in the specified educational activities, and chooses instead to participate in job club or job search activities, or other activities, the bill would require the recipient to make that election, in writing, on the welfare-to-work plan.
SB 278 Wiener	WCL&P & CCWRO	1-1-19	This bill would require the department, by January 1, 2019, to finalize an analysis and determine whether it has adequate information to set a minimum statewide cost-effective threshold for collecting overissuances that are greater than \$125, and, if it has adequate information, to include that greater threshold in the state's claims management plan that is submitted for approval to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). The bill would require the department to establish a minimum statewide cost-effective threshold if the claims management plan includes that threshold and the USDA FNS approves the plan. The bill would require the department to submit a report to the Legislature detailing the results of the analysis, as specified, if the department determines that it does not have adequate information to set the minimum statewide cost-effective threshold described above.
SB 282 Wiener	WCL&P & CCWRO	1-1-18	This bill would require a county human services agency to notify the department when a mass overissuance, as defined, has been identified, and to include in the notification information about whether the mass overissuance was caused by specified events. The bill would require the department to report mass overissuances to the USDA FNS, in accordance with federal law and guidance.
SB 360 Skinner	CCWRO	1-1-18	This bill would prohibit a person from being subject to criminal prosecution, as specified, for an overpayment or overissuance of benefits, obtained under the CalWORKs program or the CalFresh program, for any month in which the county human services agency was in receipt of any Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) data match information indicating any potential for an overpayment or an overissuance and for which the county human services agency has not provided to the person a timely and adequate notice of action for the collection of the overpayment or the overissuance. The bill would provide that the county human services agency be deemed to be in receipt of the information following 45 days, or the combined total of 45 days and an authorized delay, as specified, from the date of the county human services agency's possession of that information.
SB-380 -Bradford	WCL&P & CCWRO	1-1-18	SB 380 allows step or half siblings who receive child support to opt out of the assistance unit. It is the family's option that must be exercised in writing.
SB-570 -Newman	WCL&P & CCWRO	1-1-18	This bill would exempt benefits and related allowances received through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for education, training, vocation, or rehabilitation from consideration as income for purposes of determining eligibility for CalWORKs program benefits and calculating grant amounts for veterans and their spouses and dependents, under specified circumstances.



County	Percentage of total stage 1 child care returned	County	Percentage of total stage 1 child care returned
FRESNO	84%	ORANGE	77%
KERN	79%	SOLANO	66%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	79%	SAN JOAQUIN	63%

