



Welfare *Press Release*

Immediate Press Release - January 7, 2016

The 2016-2017 State Budget, again, throws California's children living in deep poverty under the bus.

FACT

The only program addressing the basic survival needs of the CalWORKs children living in deep poverty is the CalWORKs program. California shamelessly leads the Nation in *child poverty* according to the U.S. Census report.

The CalWORKs program gets \$3.6 billion from the federal government and the State match is \$3 billion. That adds up to \$6.7 billion a year for the CalWORKs program. The Governor's proposed budget only spends \$4.7 billion for families eligible for CalWORKs. What happens to the remaining \$2 that should morally be used to bring California's children out of deep poverty? It is used as "contribution to the State General Fund". 30% of the money is not used for CalWORKs. **See Chart #1.**

The average grant for a family of three (3) on CalWORKs is about \$506 a month. That is what CalWORKs families received in 1982. California's CalWORKs children living in deep poverty and leading the Nation in child poverty have not had a COLA for several years. **A COLA for 2016-107 would cost less than \$100, less than 8% of what is taken away from CalWORKs. See Chart #2.**

QUESTIONS FOR THE GOVERNOR FROM CALWORKS CHILDREN OF CALIFORNIA

Governor. What does the 2016-2017 proposed budget do to reverse California the having teh Nation in Child Poverty?

Governor. Why does the budget take \$2 billion or 30% away for the aid to California's children living in deep poverty and leading the Nation in Child Poverty?

Governor. Why can't you use less than 10% of the \$1.5 billion that is being taken away from CalWORKs children living in deep poverty and leading the Nation in poverty for a CalWORKs COLA this year?

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CalWORKs Involuntarily Contribute Billions to the State General Fund – CalWORKs payments are the same **TODAY** as in 1986

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CalWORKs ANNUAL Involuntary Contributions to the California State General Fund	
State Fiscal Year	CalWORKs Recipient Involuntary Contribution to the General Fund
FY 98-99	\$708,502,000
FY 99-00	\$745,249,000
FY 00-01	\$1,021,913,000
FY 01-02	\$1,126,647,000
FY 02-03	\$1,088,940,000
FY 03-04	\$1,163,238,000
FY 04-05	\$1,087,321,000
FY 05-06	\$1,299,448,000
FY 06-07	\$1,184,134,000
FY 07-08	\$1,745,291,000
FY 08-09	\$1,268,997,000
FY 09-10	\$1,262,291,000
FY 10-11	\$1,262,046,000
FY 11-12	\$1,234,159,000
FY 12-13	\$1,896,060,000
FY 13-14	\$1,586,755,000
FY 14-15	\$1,528,424,000
FY 15-16	\$1,489,480,000
TOTAL TO DATE	\$21.2 billion
Source	http://www.ca.gov/cdssweb/entres/localassistanceest/jan14/DetailTables.pdf Pages 10-11

Today, CalWORKs families with children receive a monthly fixed income equal to what CalWORKs (AFDC) families received in 1986. The automatic cost-of-living increase enacted by Ronald Reagan in 1971 was repealed in 2010. Since the change from AFDC to CalWORKs in 1998, CalWORKs families have contributed over \$21.2 billion to the State of California' General Fund.

What is the outcome of the shameless and immoral snatching billions of dollars out of the mouths of CalWORKs children living in deep poverty? California leads the National in Child Poverty today and committing economic child abuse!

CHART # 2

2015-2016 CALWORKS Average Grant Payments & Various Poverty Levels

This represents 30% of the CalWORKs total caseload CalWORKs Average Monthly Benefits Compared to the 100% FPL & SPL for CalWORKs Families.						This represents 70% of the CalWORKs total caseload CalWORKs Average Monthly Benefits Compared to the 100% FPL & SPL for CalWORKs Families with one (1) Excluded Person Due to a Variety of CalWORKs Penalties and Sanctions.					
Assistance Unit (AU) Size	2014-2015 Average Cal-WORKs Grant	2015 Federal Poverty Level	2015 Supplemental Poverty Level	% of Federal Poverty Level	Percentage of Supplemental Poverty Level	Assistance Unit Size Actual AU Size Aided	2014-2015 Average Cal-WORKs Grant	2014 Federal Poverty Level	2014 Supplemental Poverty Level	% of Federal Poverty Level	Percentage of Supplemental Poverty Level
1	\$276	\$981	\$1235	28%	22%	1	\$00	\$981	\$1235	0%	0%
2	\$452	\$1328	\$1725	34%	26%	2	\$276	\$1328	\$1725	21%	16%
3	\$600	\$1675	\$2455	36%	24%	3	\$452	\$1675	\$2455	27%	19%
4	\$668	\$2022	\$2860	33%	23%	4	\$600	\$2022	\$2860	30%	21%
5	\$760	\$2369	\$3225	32%	24%	5	\$668	\$2369	\$3225	28%	21%
6	\$853	\$2716	\$3622	31%	24%	6	\$760	\$2716	\$3622	28%	21%

Over 500,000 children endure sanctions/penalties annually resulting in sentencing them to very deep poverty that is “state/county government economic child abuse”.

Many end up homeless in California and there is no proposed legislation to address the child homelessness in California in 2016.

California Poverty Rate

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This State Has The Highest Rate Of Poor People In The Nation

Los Angeles Daily News | Brenda Gazzar | Posted 01.23.2014 | [Los Angeles](#)

Read More: [California Poor](#), [California Rich](#), [California Poverty](#), [California Poverty u.s. Census Bureau](#), [California Poverty Rate](#), [California Rate of Impoverished People](#), [u.s. Census Bureau Poverty Measure](#), [Los Angeles News](#)



An alternative method of looking at poverty has found that California has the highest rate of impoverished people in the nation, according to figures ...



Children's Defense Fund–California

A strong, effective, independent voice for *all* children

California has the highest child poverty rate in the nation. More than 1 in 4 California children are poor — 2.2 million children. The burden of poverty falls disproportionately on children of color, with 1 in 3 Black and Latino children in California living in poverty. - See more at: <http://www.cdfca.org/policy/poverty/?referrer=https://www.google.com/#sthash.92X3PU1v.dpuf>

