ALAMEDA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS'
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, May 22, 2023
2:30 p.m.

Supervisor Nate Miley, excused
Supervisor Lena Tam

Location: ***Board of Supervisors' Chambers – Room 512 – 5th fl***
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

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Summary/Action Minutes

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Department of Child Support Services Update
[Attachment](#)

Phyllis Nance, Director, Alameda County Department of Child Support Services, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Department of Child Support Services.

The Department of Child Support Services encourages responsible parenting, family self-sufficiency and child well-being by locating parents, establishing paternity, obtaining, modifying, and enforcing support obligations, and collecting support.

Operational Principles
• Family Focus: Partner with families to eliminate barriers to providing reliable support for their children.
• Dynamic Workforce: Attract, retain, and develop a highly skilled and engaged workforce dedicated to serving families.
• Operational Excellence: Focus on the highest level of performance and efficiency in service delivery.
• Innovation: Meet the needs of families through creative solutions; leverage technology to increase accessibility.
• Collaboration: Partner with agencies, service providers, and the community to create an ecosystem of support services.

Federal Performance Measures
Paternity Establishment: 99%
Support Order Establishment: 89%
Collection of Current Support: 64%
Collection of Arrears: 64%

Purpose:
☒ **Report progress**
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Department of Child Support Services Debt Reduction Program Overview
[Attachment](#)

Tammi Tilford, Deputy Director, Workforce & Benefits Administration, Social Services Agency presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Department of Child Support Servies Debt Reduction Program.

The Debt Reduction Program (DRP) is a debt reduction option for eligible parents who owe arrears to the county for child support not previously paid while the child was receiving cash aid. This program is similar to programs available for other debts owed to the government such as taxes to the Franchise Tax Board or IRS.

For parent's that are financially insecure as defined by program guidelines-it allows an opportunity to remove a financial barrier for the family.

Those parents who owe arrears to the county (DCSS cannot forgive arrears owed to the other parent), must meet income qualifiers and be able to pay ongoing current support amount plus the negotiated amount. Parents can contact the Department of Child Support Services agency managing their case to apply.

Purpose:
☐ Report progress
☒ **Advocacy or Education**
☐ Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: CalFresh Program Update: CalFresh Awareness Month
[Attachment](#)

Amada Robles, Provisional Assistant Agency Director, Department of Workforce & Benefits Administration, and Stephanie Toro, CalFresh Program Specialist, Department of Workforce & Benefits Administration, Social Services Agency on the CalFresh Program update.

CalFresh Caseload Data

As of May 10, 2023:
- Over 96,000 CalFresh cases
- Over 153,000 CalFresh individuals
- Average monthly issuance amount: $285

Since March 2020, Alameda County has seen double-digit increases in households receiving CalFresh. However, over the next 5 years, Alameda County's CalFresh caseloads are projected to decrease by 5% year-over-year. Factors contributing to the projected decrease include the ending of Emergency Allotments and temporary student eligibility rules, as well as the Social Security Administration (SSA) cost of living adjustment (COLA).

CalFresh Awareness

May is CalFresh Awareness Month, which strives to bring awareness, dispel myths, and assist with CalFresh applications. The 2023 theme is "Still here for you"! Since the ending of Emergency Allotments and expanded student eligibility rules, CalFresh continues to help individuals and families supplement their food budget.

The CalFresh webpage has been updated with a campaign overview and promotional video, to promote additional perks of receiving CalFresh, including discounts and savings with Market Match, Amazon Prime, Comcast, PG&E, and more.

Purpose:
☒ **Report progress**
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Castro Valley Food Hub Update
[Attachment](#)

Hilary Bass, Director, Alameda County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Sheriffs' Activity League, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Castro Valley Food Hub.

On February 27, 2023, the Deputy Sheriffs' Activities League (DSAL) updated the Social Services Committee (Committee) on progress made to date implementing the ALL IN EATs (AIE) circular food economy countywide.

The Committee requested additional financial information regarding the Castro Valley Pilot Food Hub that has been in operation since January 2020.

This presentation provided additional detail regarding the original AIE Business Plan assumptions for the Castro Valley Food Hub, financial performance of the Food Hub for the past three (3) calendar years and operational interventions to improve financial performance & bring the Food Hub to fiscal sustainability.

Next Steps
- DSAL to implement revenue improvement strategies
- DSAL to report back to the Committee on progress quarterly
- DSAL to report back to the Committee on progress for other AIE initiatives (Urban Farms, other Food Hubs, etc)

Purpose:
☒ **Report progress**
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

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PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

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