

for increasing the debt limit. It is estimated that about 136,000 CalFresh recipients in California will be affected by this policy change. The Agency has yet to conduct a local estimate. The policy is not likely to go into effect immediately so there is some time to prep.

STATE

The governor released his May budget revision and the deficit statewide increased from about \$22.5 billion in January to \$31.5 billion in May. The governor proposes bridging the gap with a combination of delaying implementation of some costly programs, doing some shifts and other accounting moves, and tapping into the state reserve. Importantly, there are no proposed reductions that would affect SFHSA programs. In fact, there are proposed increases that are currently being reviewed in the legislature: (1) 3.6% grant increase for CalWORKs recipients, which locally would also impact CAAP because the cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for those grants are tied to CalWORKs. So, the CAAP program would also see an increase of 3.6% in the cash grant; (2) additional funding for Medi-Cal administration (~\$93 million total statewide); (3) a CalFresh budgeting methodology change that CWDA has been championing for several years. In the existing methodology, CalFresh applications that were denied were not considered part of a county's human services workload. The new methodology accounts for applications and will result in an increase of about \$160 million state general fund, which is about \$400 million total funds. This will be a significant increase for the Agency. The way the Agency's budget is constructed, county dollars are used on top of the required amount and in addition to state and federal dollars to be able to hire enough staff to do the work. With the new methodology, state money would wash out the general fund, making it possible for the Agency to use general fund for other purposes. There appears to be support in the legislature to move this CalFresh methodology change forward.

In summary, the May budget revision provides more dollars in CalFresh and Medi-Cal, fewer dollars in CalWORKs and realignment, and so in combination the revenues are about a wash. Therefore, the Agency is not adjusting the local budget submission to the Mayor to account for the state changes.

LOCAL

Mayor Breed proposes her budget for Board of Supervisors review on June 1. The location of her budget announcement has yet to be announced.

Title 42 was lifted a couple of weeks ago. As Executive Director Rhorer has noted during his report at each commission meeting, the City has been planning for this policy change. However, there has not been the anticipated uptick in asylum and refugee border crossings. In fact, the numbers have decreased. Nevertheless, the City continues to prepare for a mass arrival event. A mass shelter location has been identified and the City is in the process of recruiting volunteers, securing food, and taking care of other logistics necessary to operate a shelter that can stand up in real time. SFHSA continues to work with the Office of Civic Engagement &

Immigrant Affairs and the Department of Emergency Management to ensure that the City's network of community-based organizations who are already working with new arrivals have enough resources should they experience larger increases. Their resources are stretched but they are able to handle the influx at its current rate.

Staff and clients continue to be concerned about safety in and around SFHSA buildings. Executive Director Rhorer provided an update on the various efforts to address these concerns: (1) Mayor Breed and Supervisor Ronen announced the deployment of 16 additional community ambassadors in the Mission district from 15th Street to 24th Street, which is part of a broader strategy to increase community safety. This is a peer-based model not a law enforcement approach. This impacts staff who travel to and from many of the Agency's offices (e.g., for BART commuters from 2 Gough and 170 Otis who walk to the 16th Street BART station). (2) Last month, the Commission approved a grant for Urban Alchemy to conduct street safety monitoring in and around the SFHSA building at 1235 Mission Street (located in between 8th Street & 9th Street). The Urban Alchemy practitioners are trained in conflict resolution and often have lived experience with the people who they encounter on the street. There are usually 3-4 practitioners on the block during the day. They are very visible, wearing pink vests. Staff have already noticed an improvement between the hours of 7am to 6pm. (3) Additional guards have been stationed at the 1235 Mission client entrance in the bag check station. (4) Additional training has been provided to security guards. (5) The Agency now conducts client wellness checks every 20 minutes in the waiting room and enforces the no loitering policy for visitors who are not conducting benefits-related business by providing referrals to drop-in centers where clients can rest and get respite from the street.

AGENCY

HR

Update on a new approach to hiring that seems to be successful so far: recently, HR hired a cohort of 46 eligibility workers to address the high vacancy rate and workload pressures that will be increasing particularly in Medi-Cal. This cohort is 2-3 times larger than the usual group of 15-20 eligibility workers hired at a time. The new, large cohort receives a combination of on-the-job and virtual classroom training, and the hope is the onboarding process will be quicker, enabling new staff to work with clients in a shorter amount of time and increase retention. In the past, HR would hire, for example, 20 workers and only 10 would ultimately pass the proficiency exam to be an eligibility worker after the months of training. The new approach is modeled after San Diego's onboarding process, which has proven to be quite successful in addressing eligibility worker vacancies.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY (ESSS)

SFBN

Medi-Cal

Recommencement of Medi-Cal renewals: As of May 15, the Medi-Cal team has successfully renewed benefits for 4,420 San Franciscans. In an effort to prevent Medi-Cal recipients from losing coverage due to renewal requirements that have recommenced with the ending of pandemic policy, SFSHA and the state are conducting outreach in many forms including texting and phone calls to ensure San Franciscans come in and provide the appropriate paperwork or conduct the renewal process over the phone to keep their medical coverage. Thanks to the advocacy of the SFHSA Medi-Cal policy team, the State Department of Healthcare Services updated guidance around the zero income waiver for the homeless population. There is the option for an ex parte renewal of Medi-Cal benefits for homeless recipients, meaning they don't have to come into the office and Agency staff can renew for them online.

The Department of Healthcare Services is sending reminders to Medi-Cal members who opted in to receive emails and text about their upcoming eligibility renewal. Additionally, locally we are texting reminders and calling clients. The state public service announcement messages are in 19 threshold languages to ensure that benefits recipients understand the instructions. The end goal is 100% Medi-Cal coverage retention—providing access to healthcare that the Affordable Care Act afforded 160,000 San Franciscans through the Agency.

CalFresh

The pandemic EBT food benefit that offered summer food benefits for families with kids in school is continuing beyond the pandemic and will roll out next month. Families receive about \$120/month in benefits to cover the summer months for kids to supplement the meals they receive during the rest of the year at school.

Starting June 12, pandemic-era exemptions for Pell grant and work study recipients are going away meaning students who would have been eligible under the pandemic for CalFresh will no longer be automatically eligible. There are now additional requirements, particularly in work study, in order to receive CalFresh.

There has been a large increase in EBT theft in CalFresh and CalWORKs. There are circuits of international organized crime doing skimming and scamming of EBT cards, stealing tens of millions of dollars across the country and millions of dollars in California, particularly in Los Angeles, but here in San Francisco as well. The FBI along with local law enforcement are trying to tackle this issue and have made a lot of arrests in LA and San Francisco. Local law enforcement continues to remove EBT skimmers, which are devices placed in ATM or point of sale machines to steal the EBT information. EBT cards will contain chip technology starting in 2025.

County Adult Assistance Programs (CAAP)

Starting next week, the CAAP program will be offering same-day appointments and prioritizing them for homeless applicants. Previously, a CAAP applicant would make an appointment to apply for benefits, then

would have to wait and be scheduled many days or weeks out. While the benefits would often be retroactive, clients would nonetheless have to wait. CAAP has restructured to allow for same-day appointments and processing, which is particularly important for homeless clients who often make an appointment and then don't return. This restructuring will make it possible for CAAP to provide Homeward Bound offerings to homeless clients on the same day as their appointment.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES (FCS)

The comprehensive child abuse and neglect prevention plan that is required under the federal Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) was approved by CDSS as is, with no follow-up meeting or discussion requested. SF is one of two counties in the state to have its plan approved. San Diego is the other county. CDSS wants to use SF's plan as a model for other counties. Congratulations and kudos to the FCS team and community partners for the great work on the plan.

The state approved SFHSA's budget and plan for the guaranteed income (GI) program for foster youth last week. The plan is to launch the GI program in August; we will do a press announcement with the Mayor's Office. This GI program will provide \$1200/month for 1.5 years to about 180 former foster youth ages 21-23 through a state grant opportunity. San Francisco is coupling the program with an evaluation to see what kind of impact guaranteed income has on young adults who have exited foster care.

The San Francisco Unified School District sponsors an annual event honoring foster youth for their academic achievement. Representatives from foster youth services at the school district also honor adults who provide motivation and support to foster youth, which helps them graduate high school and move on to college. This year, 3 FCS protective services workers were honored along with other adults who were not affiliated with the Agency. Executive Director Rhorer wanted to recognize Blair Copperwaite, Andrea Canziani and Rassan Queen in front of the Commission for their great work with San Francisco foster youth and thanked them for their service.

Executive Director Rhorer thanked Commissioners McCray and Coghlan McDonald for attending the resource family annual appreciation event a few weeks ago. FCS staff really appreciated the Commissioners' attendance.

The annual independent living skills program graduation for foster youth will be held Thursday, June 8 at 5:30pm at the Firehouse restaurant in the Marina. No RSVP needed.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD

The Commission Secretary announced MARIA ALVARADO, SFBN ELIGIBILITY WORKER, CAPI, as the May 2023 employee of the month. President Kahn presented Maria with an engraved desk clock, which she

graciously accepted with thanks to all. In addition to an auditorium filled with colleagues showing their support, Maria's husband was in attendance.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved and ratified actions taken by the Executive Director since the April 27, 2023 Regular Meeting in accordance with Commission authorization of May 25, 2023:

1. Submission of request to encumber funds in the total amount of \$1,734,724 for purchase of services or supplies and contingency amounts.
2. Submission of 10 temporary positions for possible use in order to fill positions on a temporary basis made during the period 4/22/23 to 5/19/23.
3. Submission of 51 temporary appointments for possible use in order to fill positions on a temporary basis made during the period 4/22/23 to 5/19/23.

Vice President McCray asked Executive Director Rhorer what is the term/length of time of the 9910 temporary position, to which Executive Director Rhorer responded that the 9910 is a public service trainee position in the JobsNOW! program and the term is generally 1 year.

PRESENTATION

Joe Molica, Senior Manager, Communications, furnished an update on recruiting efforts for resource families, summarizing the Family and Children's Services Resource Family Recruitment Campaign. The overall message of the update was that there is a need for new resource homes in San Francisco. Currently, SF sends over half of the City's foster youth out of county. This is partially due to a lack of homes in the city. To resolve this, the SFHSA communications and FCS teams are developing a marketing campaign to raise awareness of the need for homes, dispel myths about being a resource family, portray the many rewards of fostering, and raising the call to action for San Franciscans to get involved and increase the percent of resource homes and placement options by 15% each year.

SFHSA embarked on a resource family recruitment campaign in 2021, the theme of which was "We lose a piece of our City": our city loses out when foster kids are taken out of the community. Joe provided data on the 2021 campaign results. Next steps are: (1) conduct research to identify populations most likely to step up, (2) identify people willing to foster teens, and (3) continue to work with the faith-based community in SF. SFHSA is launching a new multi-cultural advertising and PR campaign that builds awareness and motivates target audiences to act, strategically places media in most frequently seen locations by identified target populations, utilizes message testing to identify the most appropriate campaign messaging, optimizes performance metrics for better campaign results, and enhances the recruiting website for easier navigation and a more pronounced call-to-action.

DIVISION OF LABOR

Joe Molica, Senior Manager, Communications, requested authorization to enter into a new contract agreement with DIVISION OF LABOR.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new contract agreement with DIVISION OF LABOR for the provision of Resource Family Recruitment Campaign Services; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025; in the amount of \$280,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$308,000.

BAY AREA LEGAL AID

Christina Iwasaki, Community Services Manager with the Welfare to Work Services team, introduced the newest member of the team, Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, who presented the request to enter into a new grant agreement with BAY AREA LEGAL AID.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with BAY AREA LEGAL AID for the provision of Individualized Legal Support Services; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027; in the amount of \$1,378,980, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$1,516,878.

HUCKLEBERRY YOUTH PROGRAMS

Karina Zhang, Program Support Analyst, requested authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with HUCKLEBERRY YOUTH PROGRAMS.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with HUCKLEBERRY YOUTH PROGRAMS for the provision of Crisis Intervention and Case Management Services for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children/Young Adults; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028; in the amount of \$2,831,160, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$3,114,276.

APA FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES, CHINATOWN YMCA, MISSION YMCA, RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY

Cathy Huang, Senior Administrative Analyst, requested authorization to enter into new grant agreements with MULTIPLE PROVIDERS (APA Family Support Services, Chinatown YMCA, Mission YMCA, Richmond Neighborhood Center, Self-Help for the Elderly).

Grantee	FY 22/23	FY 23/24	Total	10% Contingency	Total Not to Exceed
APA Family Support Services	\$15,729	\$334,271	\$350,000	\$35,000	\$385,000
Chinatown YMCA	\$19,930	\$205,070	\$225,000	\$22,500	\$247,500
Mission YMCA	\$0	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$275,000
Richmond Neighborhood Center	\$19,230	\$230,770	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$275,000
Self-Help for the Elderly	\$11,765	\$238,235	\$250,000	\$25,000	\$275,000
Total	\$66,654	\$1,258,346	\$1,325,000	\$132,500	\$1,457,500

On motion of President Kahn, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with APA FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES for the provision of Food Support to Targeted Neighborhoods; for the period of June 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$350,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$385,000.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with CHINATOWN YMCA for the provision of Food Support to Targeted Neighborhoods; for the period of June 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$225,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$247,500.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with MISSION YMCA for the provision of Food Support to Targeted Neighborhoods; for the period of June 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$250,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$275,000.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER for the provision of Food Support to Targeted Neighborhoods; for the period of June 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$250,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$275,000.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY for the provision of Food Support to Targeted Neighborhoods; for the period of June 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$250,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$275,000.

ARRIBA JUNTOS

Marlén Sánchez, Community Services Program Specialist, requested authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS for the provision of Transitional Employment for Welfare to Work Re-Engagement Services; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027; in the amount of \$8,304,248, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$9,134,673.

ARRIBA JUNTOS

Marlén Sánchez, Community Services Program Specialist, requested authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS for the provision of Vocational Immersion Program and Vocational English as a Second Language Program; for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; in the additional amount of \$265,830, plus a 10% contingency, for a revised total grant amount not to exceed \$4,710,094.

ARRIBA JUNTOS

Marlén Sánchez, Community Services Program Specialist, requested authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS.

On motion of President Kahn, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS for the provision of Vocational Immersion Program and Vocational English as a Second Language Program; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$8,283,590, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$9,111,948.

ARRIBA JUNTOS

Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, requested authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with ARIBA JUNTOS for the provision of Employment Services to Formerly and Currently At-Risk Homeless Individuals; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027; in the amount of \$1,617,703, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$1,779,473.

EPISCOPAL
COMMUNITY
SERVICES.

Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, requested authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES for the provision of Employment Services to Formerly and Currently At-Risk Homeless Individuals; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027; in the amount of \$1,764,096, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$1,940,506.

GOODWILL SAN
FRANCISCO BAY
AREA

Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, requested authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with GOODWILL SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with GOODWILL SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA for the provision of Employment Services to Formerly and Currently At-Risk Homeless Individuals; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027; in the amount of \$1,141,911, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$1,256,102.

RICHMOND AREA
MULTI-SERVICES

Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, presented the request to enter into a new grant agreement with RICHMOND AREA MULTI-SERVICES.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with RICHMOND AREA MULTI-SERVICES for the provision of Pre-Vocational and Behavioral Health Services; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$7,209,375, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$7,930,313.

ABODE SERVICES

Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, presented the request to modify the existing grant agreement with ABODE SERVICES.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to modify the existing grant agreement with ABODE SERVICES for the provision of CalWORKs Housing Locator, Housing Connector, and Case Management Services; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025; in the additional amount of \$5,388,466, plus a 10% contingency, for a revised total grant amount not to exceed \$9,171,138.

CATHOLIC
CHARITIES

Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, presented the request to modify the existing grant agreement with CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to modify the existing grant agreement with CATHOLIC CHARITIES for the provision of CalWORKs Housing Locator, Housing Connector, and Case Management Services; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025; in the additional amount of \$5,628,704, plus a 10% contingency, for a revised total grant amount not to exceed \$8,815,442.

HAMILTON
FAMILIES

Rosalyn Tillery, Program Specialist, presented the request to modify the existing grant agreement with HAMILTON FAMILIES.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to modify the existing grant agreement with HAMILTON FAMILIES for the provision of CalWORKs Housing Locator, Housing Connector, and Case Management Services; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025; in the additional amount of \$5,248,739, plus a 10% contingency, for a revised total grant amount not to exceed \$9,259,782.

BAY AREA LEGAL
AID

Denard Ingram, Program Support Analyst, presented the request for a sole source waiver and new grant agreement with BAY AREA LEGAL AID.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request for a sole source waiver and new grant agreement with BAY AREA LEGAL AID for the provision of Optional Benefits Counseling for a Guaranteed Income

Pilot; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$235,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$258,500.

FIRST PLACE FOR YOUTH (FPFY)

Denard Ingram, Program Support Analyst, presented the request for a sole source waiver and new grant agreement with FIRST PLACE FOR YOUTH (FPFY).

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request for a sole source waiver and new grant agreement with FIRST PLACE FOR YOUTH (FPFY) for the provision of Voluntary Counseling Services for a Guaranteed Income Pilot; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$908,250, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$999,075.

AIDKIT

Denard Ingram, Program Support Analyst, presented the request for a sole source waiver and new contract agreement with AIDKIT.

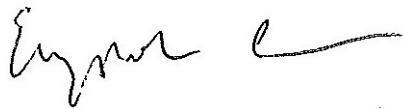
On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to for a sole source waiver and new contract agreement with AIDKIT for the provision of a Funding Platform for a Guaranteed Income Pilot; for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$3,379,090, plus a 10% contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$3,716,999.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

The Commission Secretary's call for public comment yielded no responses.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kahn adjourned the meeting at 11 am.



Elizabeth LaBarre, Commission Secretary
Human Services Commission

Posted: 6/16/23