



Department of Benefits  
and Family Support

**MEMORANDUM**

Department of Disability  
and Aging Services

<b>TO:</b>	HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
<b>THROUGH:</b>	TRENT RHORER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
<b>FROM:</b>	ANNA PINEDA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
<b>DATE:</b>	SEPTEMBER 15, 2023
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	COUNTY REFUGEE SERVICES PLAN FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEARS 2024-2026

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[www.SFHSA.org](http://www.SFHSA.org)

The Department of Benefits and Family Support requests approval of the County’s Refugee Services Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2024 -2026, from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.

**Background**

Refugees are eligible to apply for the same public benefits as U.S. citizens. Single refugee adults or couples who are not eligible for public benefits may be eligible to receive Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA). The RCA Program and related administrative costs are 100% federally-funded by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).

RCA beneficiaries participate in employment services during the 12 months of their grant. These services are typically funded by Refugee Social Services (RSS). The RSS funding is awarded to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) by ORR based on refugee arrivals during the most recent three federal fiscal years. CDSS then allocates RSS funding to eligible counties based on the number of refugees receiving cash assistance in the county. San Francisco is one of 8 “Refugee-impacted counties” that receive RSS funds. CDSS requires these counties to submit a 3-year plan with annual updates.

**Services to be Provided**

After RCA eligibility is determined by HSA staff, participants are referred to Employment Specialists for employment services. A vocational assessment is performed and an employment plan is created, and RSS funded services are offered to participants for a maximum of 12 months. Community-based providers help



**London Breed**  
Mayor

**Trent Rhorer**  
Executive Director

engage participants in employment services such as English Language Training and various vocational trainings. Services will also include work-related acculturation, job readiness, job placement and retention.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

San Francisco County Refugee Services Plan