

FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (updated 8/23/2021)

The Department of Benefits and Family Support plans and administers a variety of federal, state and local programs that are designed to meet basic human needs and to ensure protection of our most vulnerable citizens as required by law, regulation and mandate. The department provides families, children and single adults with monetary or service support. The Human Services Commission provides oversight of the Department of Benefits and Family Support by approving the goals and objectives as reflected in the annual budget.

PROGRAM	AUTHORITY	PURPOSE
California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)	42 ISCA 601 et seq; Welf. & Inst. Code Sect. 11200 et seq. TANF 1996	To provide eligible families with cash assistance, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, employment services, subsidized child care, family stabilization, housing and other support services to assist them in finding and retaining employment and becoming self-sufficient.
Families Rising	Local initiative, enhancing CalWORKs; no associated code	Families Rising is collective impact initiative that seeks to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty for low-income families by weaving together several evidence-based or promising service interventions that promote positive life outcomes for both parents and children.
CalFresh (formerly known as Food Stamps and now known nationally as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP)	USCA 2011 et seq; Welf. & Inst. Code Sect. 18900 et seq.	To provide eligible families and individuals with increased resources for the purchase of food as well as employment and training and nutrition education.
Community Food Coordination	Local initiative; no associated code	To facilitate the implementation of local food support programming for low-income people and families experiencing food insecurity, as well as to support a coordinated, accessible, and culturally responsive food support network.
County Adult Assistance Programs (CAAP), Care Not Cash Program and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP)	For Personal Assisted Employment Services (PAES), Cash Assistance Linked to Medi-Cal (CALM), Supplemental Security Income Pending (SSIP), and Family General Relief Program: Sections 20.7 et seq; for General Assistance (GA): Sections 20.7 et seq, and Welf. & Inst. Code Sect. 17000 et seq. Homelessness and Supportive Housing Fund: Section 10.100-77. For Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP): Welf. & Inst. Code Sects 18999 et seq.	To provide eligible, employable individuals with cash assistance and employment and supportive services to assist them in finding and retaining employment and becoming self-sufficient. To provide financial assistance for eligible individuals who have either long-term or short-term disabilities, or who choose not to participate in a path leading to employment and to provide increased income for persons with disabilities by advocating for eligible clients to receive SSI. Care Not Cash provides housing and support services for unhoused CAAP clients. Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) provides housing and disability benefits application assistance to clients experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

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Medi-Cal	42 USCA 1396 et seq; Welf. & Inst. Code Sect. 14000 et seq. Title XIX of the Social Security Act PL 111-148 (Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act)	To provide application assistance and eligibility determinations for a range of health coverage options for families, single adults, children, aged, and disabled persons.
Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI)	Welf. & Inst. Code Sects. 18937 - 18944	To provide cash assistance for aged and disabled lawful permanent residents who are ineligible for SSI solely due to their immigration status.
Family & Children’s Services and Bringing Families Home Program (BFH)	42 USCA 670 et seq; Welf. & Inst. Code Sects 300, 16000, 11400 et seq. Title IV-E of the Social Security Act For Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program: Welf. & Inst. Code Sects 16523 et seq.	To work with the community and families to help families remain intact; to provide protection of children and non-minor dependents by in-home and out-of-home placement services; licensing of foster and adoptive homes; full adoption services; extended foster care and Independent Living Skills. Bringing Families Home (BFH) provides housing-related supports to families receiving child welfare services to increase family reunification and prevent foster care placement.
Working Families Credit Program	SF Administrative Code, Chapter 12S	To provide incentive payments to low-income families to encourage participation in the federal Earned Income Tax Credit Program.
Administration (Planning & Fiscal, Personnel/Payroll, MIS, Support Services) Program Support (FRED, SIU, Over Payments, Collections, Fair Hearings & Appeals, Staff Development, Contracts), Disaster Response	42 USCA 604 et seq; Welf. & Inst. Code Sect. 10800 et seq. Title IV A of the Social Security Act, Federal & State Regulations – 42 USCA 601 et seq; Welf. & Inst. Code Sects. 10800, 10950 et seq.	To provide essential operations which support the agency and its staff. To provide essential and mandated functions directly related to program.