

CALFRESH FORUM 2020

FOOD for ALL

Protecting & Expanding
Access for Immigrants

Anissa Basoco-Villarreal
Alameda Social Services

Sarah Dar
California Immigrant Policy Center

Amanda Schultz Brochu
San Diego Hunger Coalition

Moderated by Gabby Tilley
CA Food Policy Advocates

How can we build a nutrition safety net that works for ALL Californians?



AGENDA

Introductions

Food for All Workgroup Report Overview

Promising Practices in Key Priority Areas

Visioning Food4All Policy Goal:

How do we get there?

Public Charge Changes Effective February 24, 2020

Add non-monetary benefits:

- Medicaid (Medi-Cal) and Medicare Part D
- SNAP (CalFresh)
- Federal Public Housing, Section 8 housing vouchers and Project Based rental assistance.



Stricter standards for personal factors:

Negative weight to income <200% FPL, children or seniors, persons w/limited English proficiency, poor credit history, limited education, or large family.

NOT Retroactive

Benefits received before the implementation date will NOT be considered.

Public Charge Resources



Resource Page
bit.ly/CPCAIImmigration

Join the Coalition!
bit.ly/joinCAPIF

Food for All Stakeholder Workgroup

The Supplemental Report of the 2018-19 State Budget: *DSS shall convene relevant stakeholders, including, but not limited to, immigrant advocates and food security advocates, to identify how the State and local entities can improve current programs and coordinate linkages to community services to strengthen California's food assistance safety net for all low-income Californians, and work to remove barriers that exclude immigrant Californians from the State's food assistance safety net.*

Member Organizations:

Asian Americans Advancing Justice CA	The Children's Partnership
California Association of Food Banks	California Rural Legal Assistance
California Immigrant Policy Center	California Welfare Directors Association
California WIC Association	Jewish Family Services San Diego
California Department of Education	Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
California Department of Public Health	National Immigrant Law Center
California Department of Social Services	Office of Governor Newsom
California Food Policy Advocates	Senate and Assembly Staff
California Health and Human Services	Western Center on Law and Poverty

4 Key Consideration Areas

- **Chilling Effect of Anti-Immigrant Policy**
- **Language Access and Barriers to Enrollment & Retention**
- **Privacy Protections and Data Sharing**
- **Immigrant Exclusions in CalFresh**

Mitigate the Chilling Effect of Anti-Immigrant Policy

Encourage Continued Participation

Train client-facing staff on immigration issues. Increase outreach and education efforts to prevent disenrollment.

Address Misinformation

Identify sources of misinformation, including ethnic media and legal providers, and create channels for sharing accurate information.

Culturally Relevant Messaging

Invest in multicultural message testing to inform ways of marketing CalFresh that resonate California's diverse population.



Reduce Barriers to Enrollment & Retention

- Waive applicant requirements to the furthest extent permitted under federal law.
- Adopt user-centered design and promote a culture of eligibility.
- Increase cultural relevance of meals & services provided.
- Improve language access
 - Review translated materials for understandability.
 - Increase bilingual/multilingual staffing & ensure fair compensation.



Privacy Protections and Data Sharing

Be explicit about how client data is used

Develop messaging to clients that details privacy rights and protections.



Assess opportunities for data sharing between benefit-issuing agencies

Take inventory of data linkages and data sharing paths for each program.

Address Legal Exclusion of Immigrants From CalFresh/CFAP



An individual does not qualify for CalFresh if:

- ✗ They are here on a student, work, or tourist visa
- ✗ They are here under DACA or DAPA
- ✗ They are here under TPS, unless you meet the other qualifying factors
- ✗ They are undocumented

Key Policy Opportunity:

explore options to extend eligibility for state-funded food assistance to all immigrants, regardless of status.

Key Recommendations

Multilevel resistance against harmful federal policy changes.

Promote comprehensive actions to expand program access for immigrants by **improving language access; cultural responsiveness; and ease of access into nutrition programs.**

Coordinated **strategic communications to dispel myths and fears** related to nutrition assistance programs.

Policy Opportunity: explore options to extend eligibility for state-funded food assistance to all immigrants, regardless of status.

REACTIONS?

- **Share an experience you've had in one of the issue areas.**
- **Share a reflection on an issue area or recommendation. Is there one recommendation you feel should be prioritized?**
- **Did we miss something? Share a challenge or opportunity you feel should be added.**



— All are welcome in the County of Alameda —
Immigration: Understanding “Public Charge”



Immigration & Public Benefits



CalFresh - Nutritional Assistance

Residency: 5 Years Qualified
Work: 40 Qualifying Quarters

Unless You Are:

Exempt from Residency
& Work Requirements

- LPR CE <18 >65 B D R A D
- P U VET HLT CMAI AMA T SIV HC

California Food Assistance Program (CFAP)

Residency: Less Than 5 Years Qualified

- LPR CE P U



Medi-Cal - Healthcare Access: Full Scope

- LPR R A D DACA DED P PIP
- T TEF U UEF EA SIV
- PREC <18 HC VET



Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA)

- R A HC SIV
- T TEF U VAMA



CalWORKs - Work & Economic Assistance

Residency: 5 Years Qualified

Exempt from Residency Requirement

- LPR CE R A D T U
- Residency: 1 Year Qualified P LPR40 VET SIV HC AMA



General Assistance

- LPR CE P D R
- T U DV HN SIV

Immigration & Public Benefits

- A** **A** Asylee Admitted Under INA Section 208
- AMA** Amerasian
- B D** Blind or Disabled
- CE** Conditional Entrant Under INA Section 203(a)(7)
- CMAI** Cross-Border American Indian from Canada or Mexico
- D** **D** Deportation Withheld Under INA Section 243(h), 241(b)(3)
- DACA** Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals
- DED** Granted Deferred Enforcement Departure (DED)
- DV** Domestic Violence Under Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- EA** Registry Applicant or Order of Supervision with Employment Authorization
- GDA** Granted Deferred Action
- HC** **HC** Haitian or Cuban Entrant Under INA Section 501(e)
- HN** Haitian National with USCIS Form 1-945
- HLT** Hmong/Laotian Tribe Who Aided During Vietnam Era
- LPR** Lawful Permanent Resident
- LPR40** Lawful Permanent Resident with 40 quarters Qualifying Work History
- P** Parolee Under INA Section 212(d)(5)
- PIP** Public Interest Parolee
- PREC** Pregnant
- R** **R** Refugee Under INA Section 207
- SIV** **SIV** Iraqi & Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Under INA Section 101(a)(27)
- T** **T** Trafficking Victim - T Visa
- TEF** T Visa Eligible Family Members
- U** **U** Battered Noncitizens - U Visa
- UEF** U Visa Eligible Family Members
- VAMA** Vietnamese Amerasians Under INA Section 584
- VET** **VET** Military Connection / Veteran
- <18** Children Under the Age of 18
- >65** Over the Age of 65 Lawfully Residing in the U.S. on 8/22/1996

Green Circle Visa or Entrant Type **Blue Circle** May be Exempt from Some Eligibility Restrictions

All are Welcome in the County of Alameda

Immigration: Understanding "Public Charge"



Know Your Rights!

- Community Resources:**
- Bay Area Legal Aid (510) 663-4744
 - Catholic Charities of the East Bay (510) 768-3100
 - East Bay Community Law Center (510) 548-4040
 - International Institute of the East Bay (510) 451-2846

Does "Public Charge" in the Immigration Process Apply to Me? Not If You Are:

- A Citizen
- A Legal Permanent Resident
- A Refugee
- An Asylee
- A T-Visa Applicant
- Applying for or holding a U-Visa
- A self petitioner under VAWA
- Applying or re-registering for TPS
- An Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrant
- A Special Immigrant Juvenile
- An Individual Granted Relief Under:
 - CAA, NACARA, HRIFA

Additional categories of immigrants are exempt. The final rule maintains these exemptions. This is a partial list for informational purposes only.

What Does This Mean for My Family?

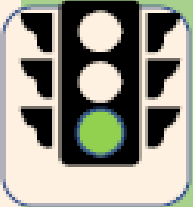
- The federal government does not access public benefits systems for immigration enforcement.
- Information you've shared for public benefits is ONLY used for eligibility determination.
- It is important that you continue to receive the support that helps your family be healthy, fed, and secure in your housing.


What is the New Public Charge Rule?

Updated: January 2020

The White House Administration published a final rule that expands the definition of "public charge" used during the immigration process. A "public charge" is someone that is likely to become primarily dependent on the government for support. The list in yellow below details which programs the federal administration now considers when making a determination. On January 27, 2020, the Supreme Court lifted a nationwide injunction that had paused the implementation of the final rule. It will become effective on or after February 24, 2020.

Public Charge and Public Benefits: What Does This Mean?

 The programs in the green box are NOT considered in the public charge test. Please continue to use the programs that support your family.

 We encourage you to speak with a trusted lawyer to better understand the impact of accessing the listed public benefits below in yellow:

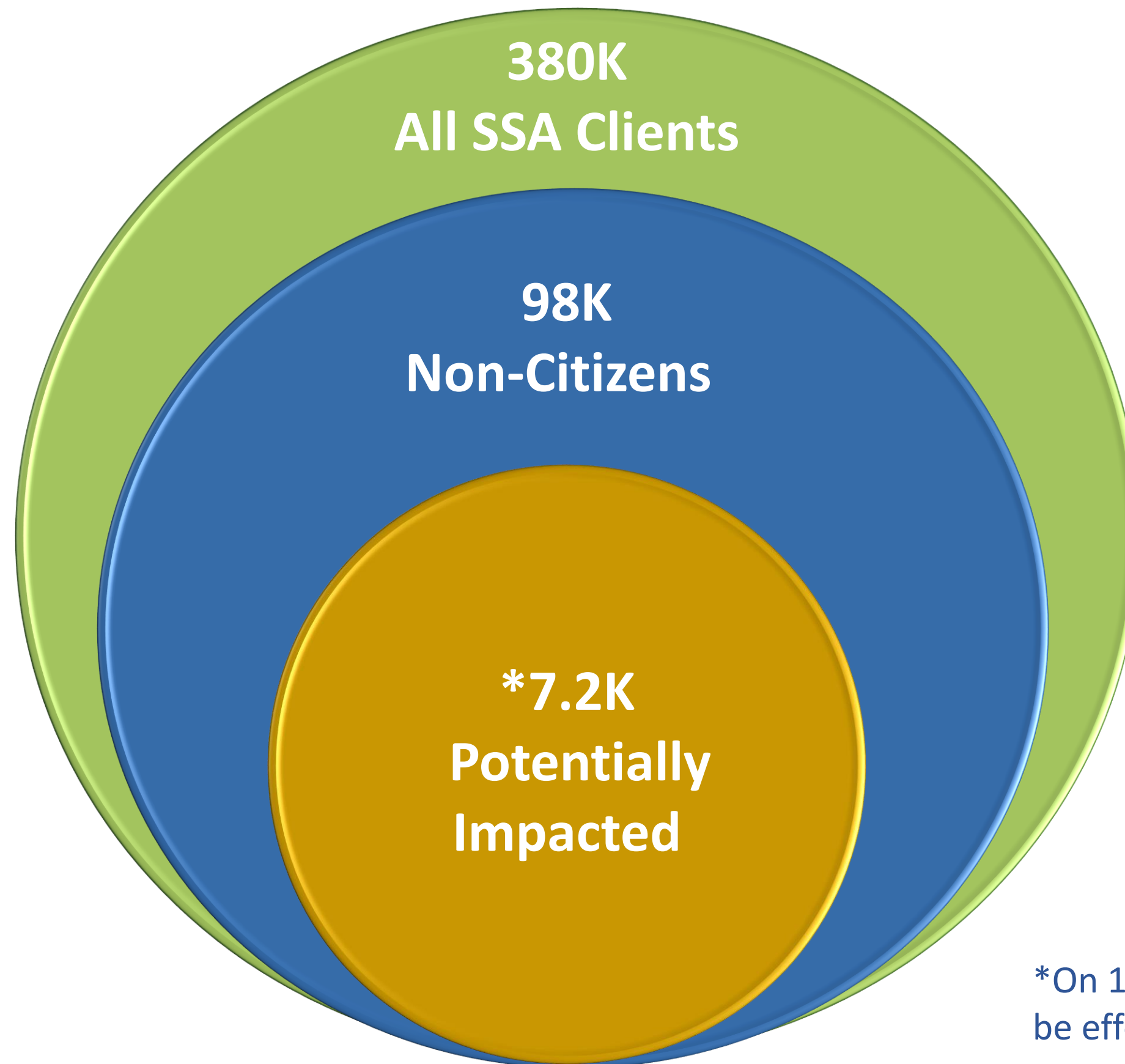
- Health:**
 - Medi-Cal (for Children & Pregnant Women)
 - Medicare
 - Disability
- Nutritional Support:**
 - WIC
 - School Breakfast & Lunch
- Children's Services:**
 - Head Start
 - Child Care
 - Public Education
- Employment Services:**
 - Unemployment
 - Worker's Compensation
 - Federal & State Retirement

- Income Support:**
 - General Assistance
 - CalWORKS
 - SSI
- Health:**
 - Medi-Cal (for Adults)
- Nutritional Support:**
 - CalFresh
- Housing Assistance:**
 - Section 8 Voucher Rental Assistance
 - Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance
 - Public Housing

NOTE: The Department of Justice is considering a separate new rule related to "public charge" and deportation. This proposal has not been released, and does not apply to the information here. We are closely monitoring this issue with advocates across the nation, and will provide updated information as soon as more is known.

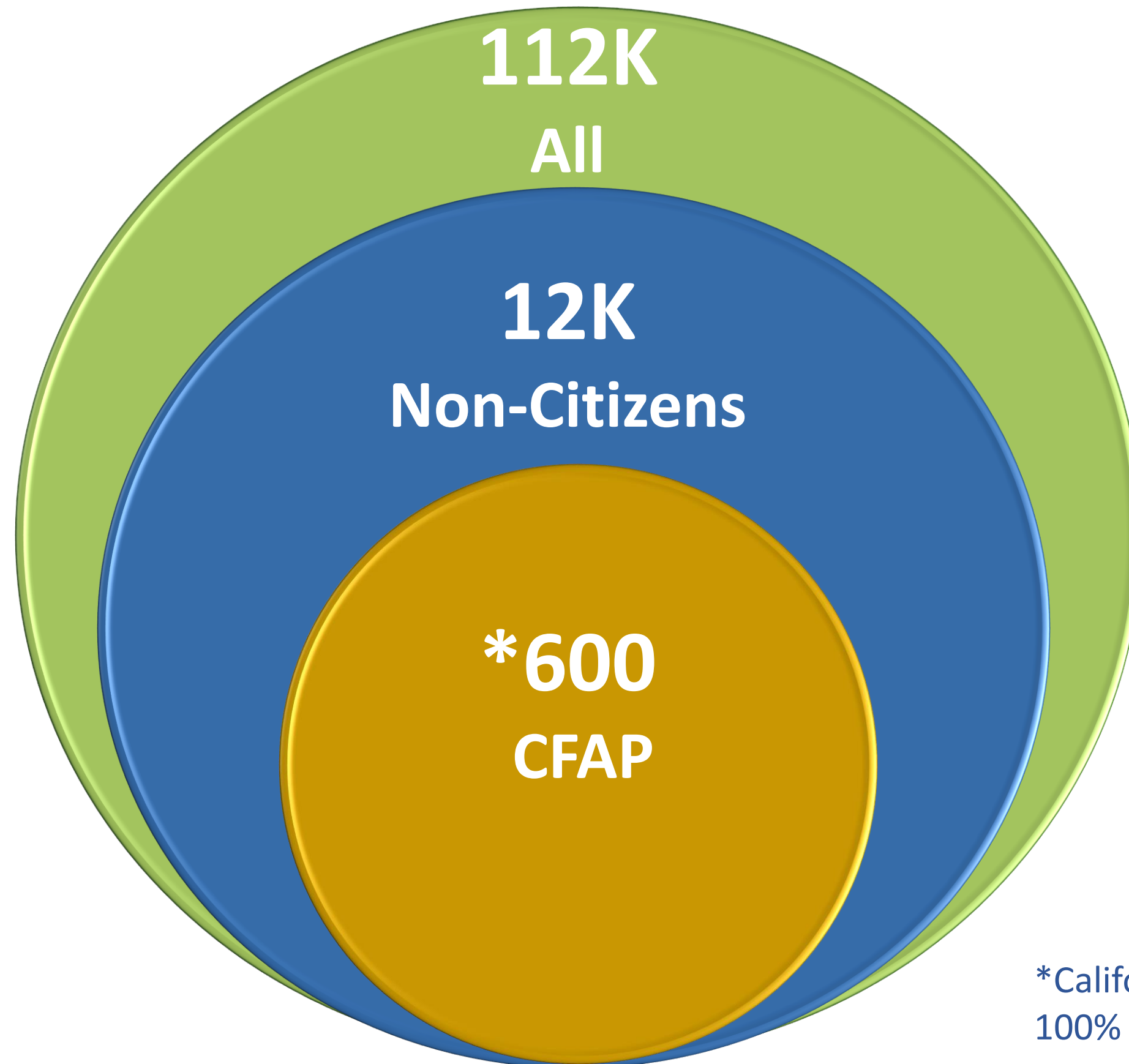


Estimated Chilling Effect of the Final Public Charge Rule in the County of Alameda (December 2019)



*On 1/30/20 DHS announced the final rule will be effective on or after February 24, 2020.

Alameda County Social Services Agency CalFresh Program Participants (December 2019)



*California Food Assistance Program (CFAP):
100% State Funded

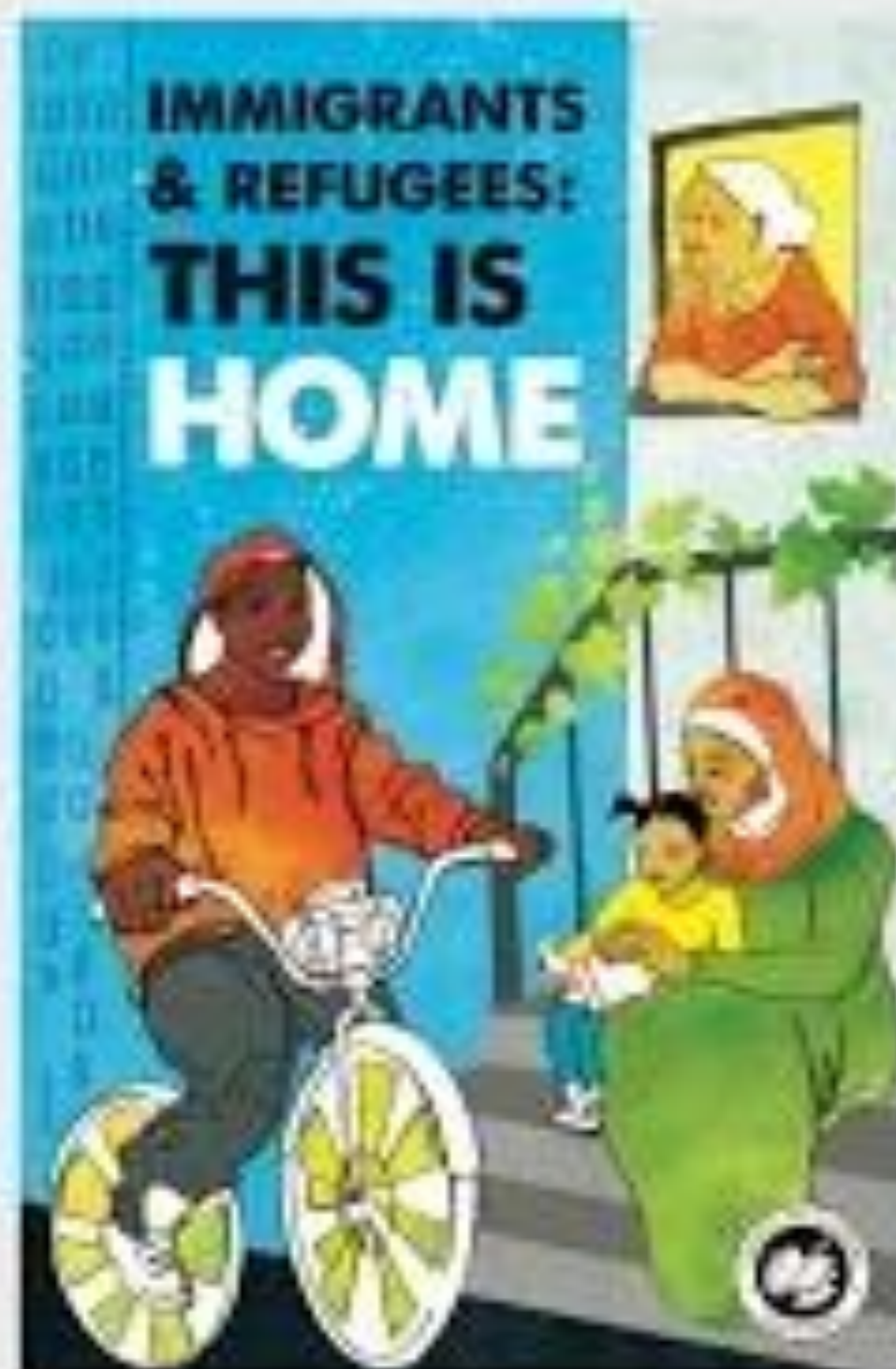
County of Alameda Actions & Community Partnerships



- Lead Agency & 1st County in CA to oppose in Oct. 2017
- Active participants in weekly statewide and national advocacy calls
- Call with the Office of Management & Budget (OMB)
- Partner in several town halls led by BOS
- Released Media Advisories, issued All Staff Memos, FAQ's, infographic
- Developed a public Immigrant Resources web page
- Presented at over two dozen community events
- Alameda County signed an amicus brief to the injunction filed by the CA Attorney General
- Provided funding for Immigration Attorneys
- 2019-20 Alameda County Legislative Platform & Priorities: Immigrant Protections and Food for All

★ KNOW ★
— YOUR —
RIGHTS

Public Charge Rule



immigration.alamedasocialservices.org



Trump's Invisible Wall

PUBLIC CHARGE:
Visas and green card processing *outside* the U.S.

(DOS - Foreign Affairs Manual (FAM))

PUBLIC CHARGE:
Visa extensions & Status changes

(DHS Proposed Rule)

PUBLIC CHARGE:
Green card processing *inside* the U.S.

(DHS Proposed Rule)

SPONSOR DEEMING & LIABILITY: Potential application to more programs

(White House memo)

PUBLIC CHARGE:
Grounds for deportation

(Anticipated DOJ NPRM)

PUBLIC CHARGE:
Low-income immigrants lose access to green cards & cut off from citizenship / voting rights.

CITIZENSHIP QUESTION IN CENSUS 2020: Chills civic participation and will limit funding for basic needs programs that depend on accurate count

(SCOTUS decision)

PUBLIC HOUSING ACCESS: Closes door to mixed status families

(HUD Proposed Rule)



FEE WAIVER: Removing receipt of means-tested benefits from eligibility list

(DHS Proposed Rule)

FEE WAIVER: Low-income immigrants lose access to citizenship/ voting rights.

(DHS Proposed Rule)

County of Alameda – SSA Recommended Actions

FEDERAL (Support Pro-Immigrant Policies/Oppose Anti-Immigrant Policies)

Opposed:

HUD Verification of Eligible Status NPRM
USCIS Fee Schedule NPRM
Immigrant Health Insurance Presidential Proclamation

Supported:

H.R. 7052/H.R. 3222 (Chu) No Federal Funds for Public Charge

STATE (Protect and Expand Services to Immigrants)

Sponsored:

AB 2111/AB 944 (Quirk) CalWORKs: sponsored noncitizen: indigence exception
Reintroduced AB 944 as a Budget Request

DRAFT Proposal in 2018:

Expansion of CFAP to DACA recipients

Supported:

ACR 1 (Bonta): Relative to the Immigration and Nationality Act
AB 1593 (Reyes): Personal income taxes: earned income tax credit

How Do We Get There?

Recommended Actions

- **Share accurate and timely information with staff and community partners.**
- **Closely Monitor the pending litigation, as it may further delay the rules implementation.**
- **Work closely with your Agency, Board of Supervisors and other elected officials including Congressional representatives to support actions that protect immigrant communities.**

Thank you & Stay Connected



Anissa Basoco-Villarreal
Policy Director
(510) 271-9181 | (510) 908-1951
abvillarreal@acgov.org



alamedasocialservices.org



@socialservices



@AlamedaCountySocialServicesAgency

Making the Case for Food for All

Experiences from San Diego County



Amanda Schultz Brochu, MPH

www.sdhunger.org

San Diego Hunger Coalition



CalFresh Outreach Program
CalFresh Task Force



Hunger Free Kids Program
Hunger Free Kids Task Force



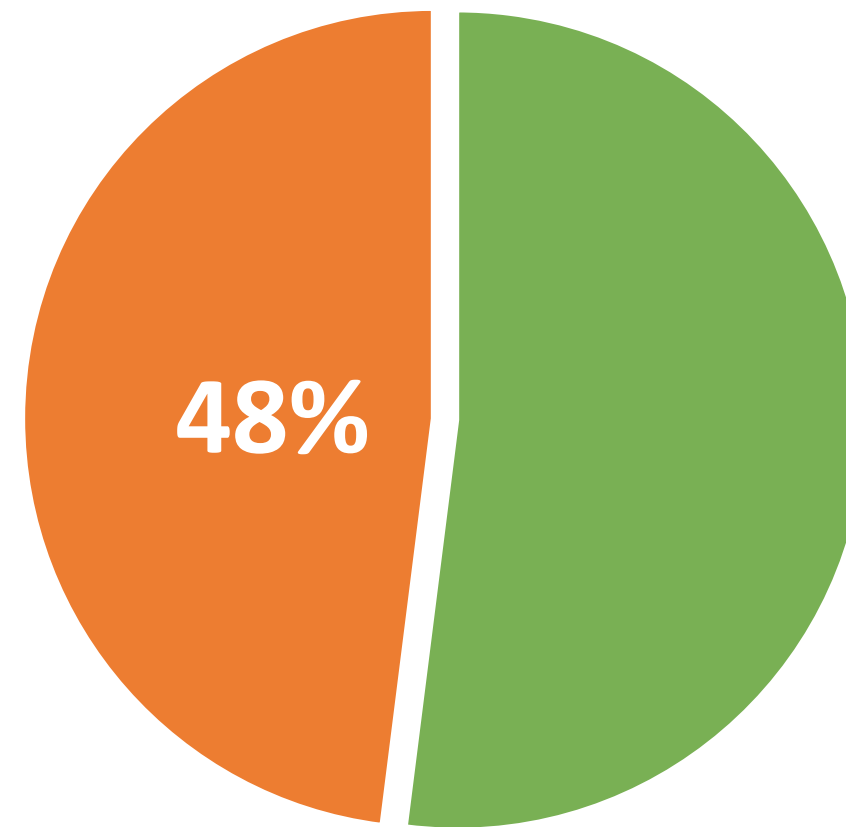
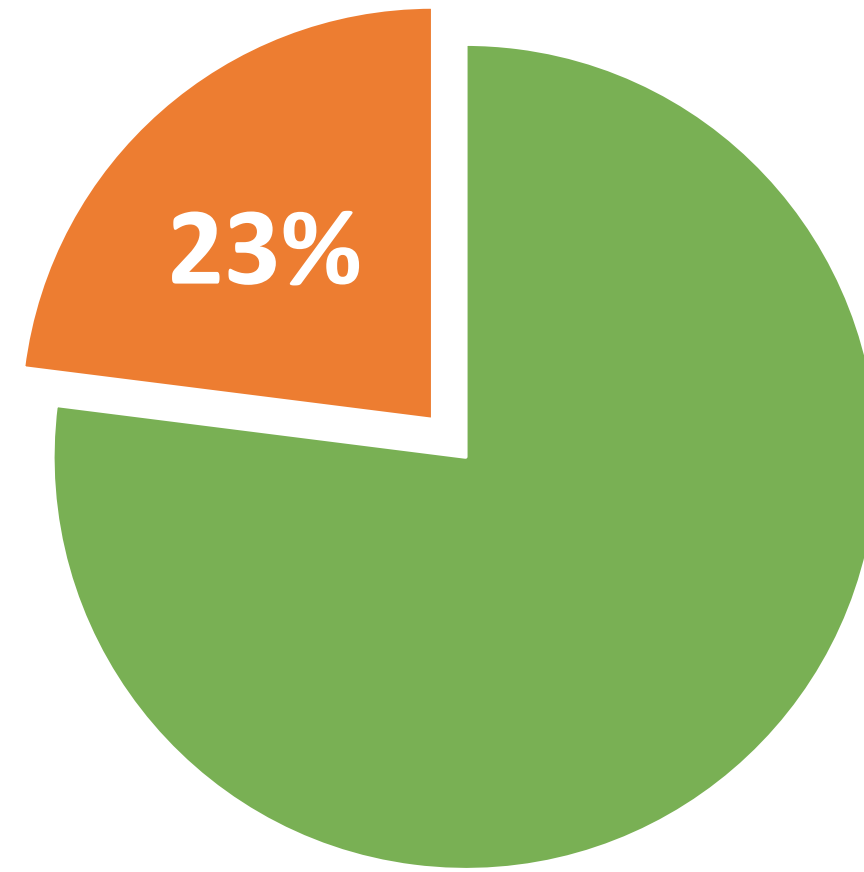
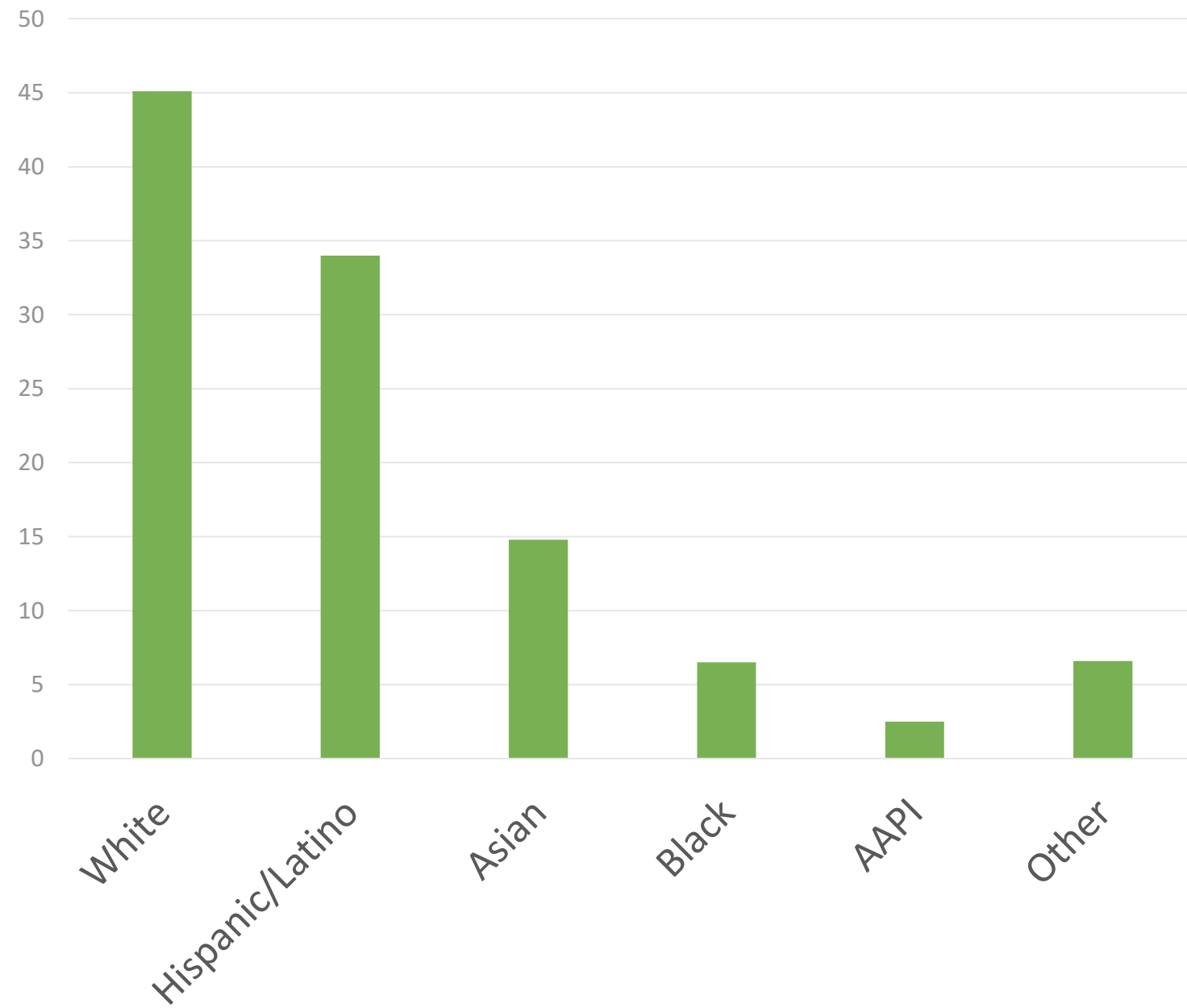
Public Policy & Advocacy
Hunger Advocacy Network



Hunger Free San Diego
HFSD Advisory Board

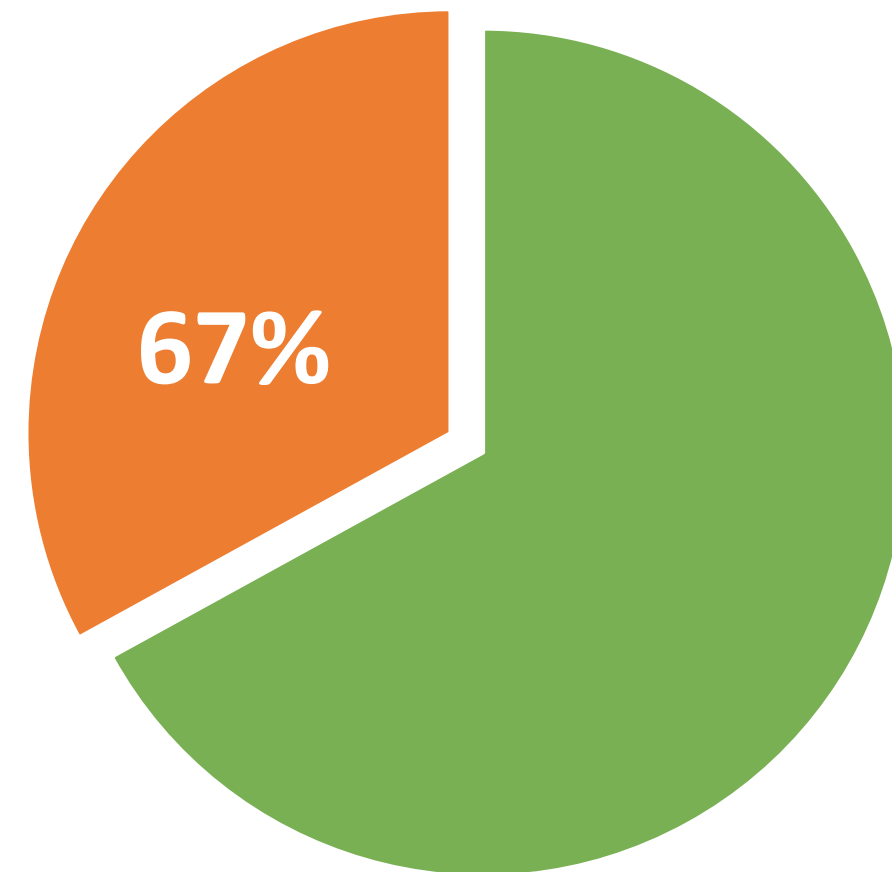
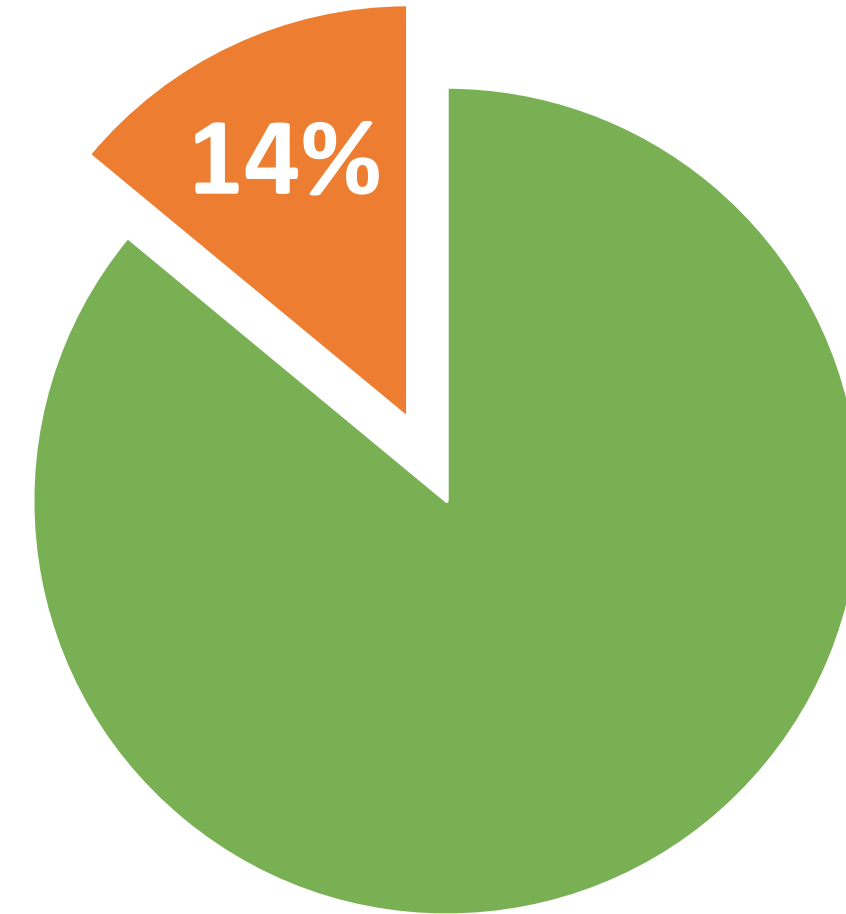
Background

Racial/Ethnic Make Up of San Diego County



Background

- 14% of our County speaks English less than “very well.”
- 67% of those who speak English less than “very well” speak Spanish
 - Tagalog
 - Vietnamese
 - Chinese
 - Korean
 - Arabic
 - Japanese
 - Persian



Background



In this 100-mile zone, Border Patrol agents have additional authority and can operate immigration check points.



Accessibility

Safety

Language

Culture

Location

Convenience

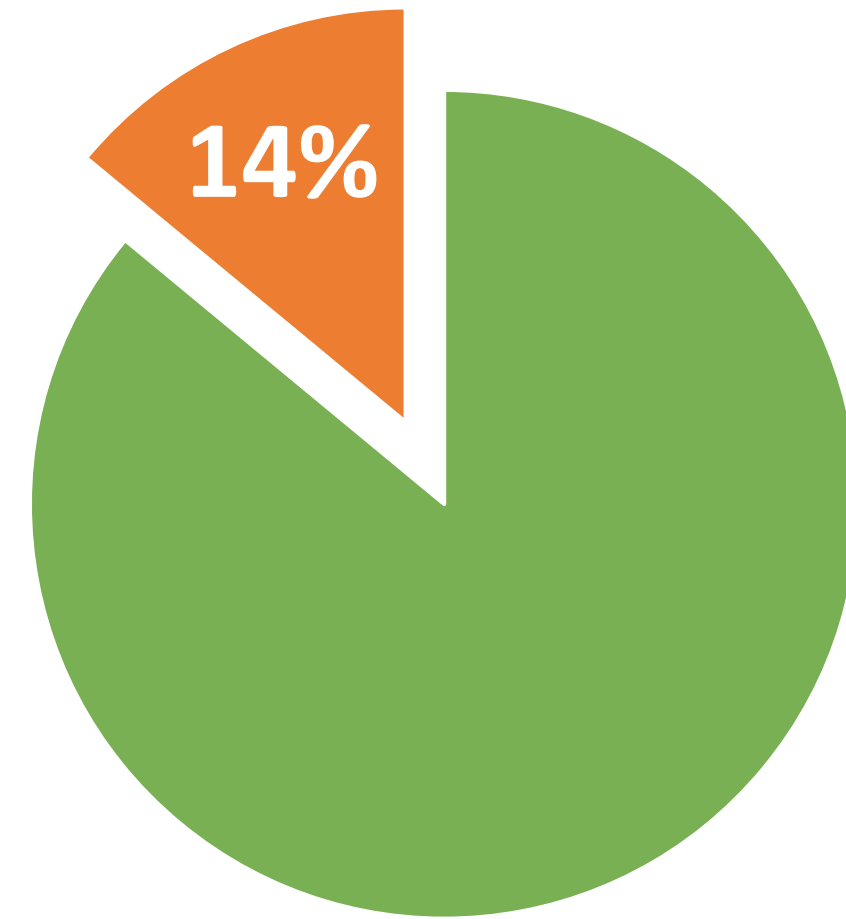
Interface

What does “safe” mean?

Being honest with food insecure communities
and with ourselves

Language Accessibility

- **Effective and standardized use of language services are critical**
 - Outreach materials
 - Applications/reporting (online)
 - Phone based interactions
 - In person interactions
 - NOA translation
- **Continued challenges in producing strong client facing documents, even in threshold languages**
 - Arabic



Opportunities

- Data
- Improving Current Services
 - Equity based training and hiring processes
 - User involvement and guidance
 - Strengthened mechanisms for accountability
- Expansion of Services
 - CalFresh for All
 - Universal Free Meals in all schools
 - Senior Meals

HEALTH4ALL: A BRIEF CAMPAIGN HISTORY



WHO IS A CALIFORNIAN?

INCLUSION OF OUR STATE'S UNDOCUMENTED RESIDENTS

- 2.9 million Californians
- Parents of more than 1 in 6 kids
- 1 in 11 workers
- Pay \$3.2 billion/year in state & local taxes
- A critical part of our economy and social fabric, yet locked out of the safety net



INJUSTICE IN THE SAFETY NET

- Medi-Cal: CA's Medicaid program since 1966
- State-funded coverage for some immigrant populations who are not covered through federal Medicaid dollars
- Many low-income immigrants are excluded except emergencies & pregnancies

Department of
Health Care Services



HEALTH4ALL: BEGINNINGS

- Coalition created in 2014; co-chaired by CIPC and Health Access CA
- Legislation first introduced by Sen. Ricardo Lara in 2014
 - Proposal included Medi-Cal expansion to all, regardless of status
 - Ultimately died in committee

HEALTH4ALL KIDS WIN

- 2015: Sen. Lara re-introduces the same proposal, which gets amended and passed:
 - Medi-Cal expansion only for children through age 18
- “Health4All Kids” goes into effect May 2016

HEALTH4ALL IN THE INDIVIDUAL MARKETPLACE

- 2015: Sen. Lara also introduces proposal directing the state to apply for a federal 1332 ACA State Innovation waiver allowing undocumented Californians and DACA recipients to purchase **unsubsidized** coverage through Covered California
- Sept. 2016: application submitted by Covered California
- Nov. 2016: Presidential election occurs
- Jan. 2017: state rescinds 1332 waiver due to unlikelihood of approval by Trump administration and concerns over undocumented consumer privacy protection

2017-2018: THE PUSH FOR HEALTH4ALL YOUNG ADULTS & SENIORS BEGINS

- Senate and Assembly bills began as identical bills proposing expansion to all adults
- Eventually amended to elders ages 65+ & young adults ages 19-25, driven by directly impacted community members saying “our elders first”
- Senate & Assembly supported the investments but ultimately unsuccessful in final budget negotiations with Governor Jerry Brown

2019: HEALTH4ALL YOUNG ADULTS

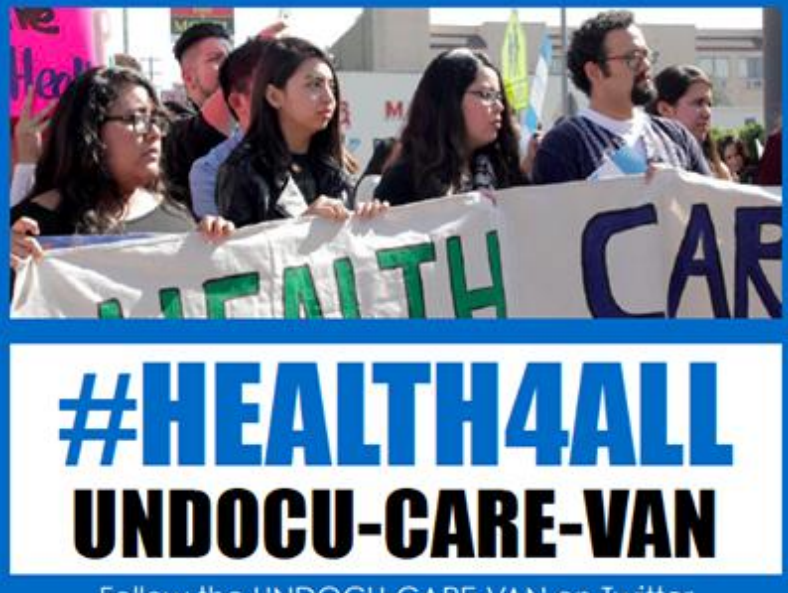
- Governor Gavin Newsom, who campaigned on single-payer, includes a proposed Medi-Cal expansion for young adults (19-25) regardless of status in his preliminary budget
- Legislature supports; it passes
- Advocates also advance proposal for both young adults & seniors (65+) but does not pass

2020: HEALTH4ALL ELDERS... HOPEFULLY!

- Jan. 10th, 2020: Governor Newsom includes a proposed Medi-Cal expansion for seniors, regardless of status, in his preliminary budget

HEALTH4ALL IN CALIFORNIA: HOW WE GOT HERE

- Co-chairs: immigrant rights and health advocates
- Large, diverse coalition prepared to mobilize
- Empowerment of directly impacted individuals
- Effective legislative champion(s)
- Data from researchers (e.g. [Towards Universal Health Coverage](#) by Laurel Lucia, UC Berkeley)
- Communications strategy to shape public narrative



CONTACT US



Sarah Dar, MPH

Senior Policy Manager, Health & Public Benefits

sdar@caimmigrant.org

(213) 250-0880 ext. 106

IMAGINE A CALIFORNIA

**Where immigration status is not a
barrier to getting food assistance.**

HOW DID WE GET
THERE?



Imagine California has a state-funded food assistance program open to ALL immigrants who don't qualify for SNAP. The program has high participation and minimal administrative burden.

Question A: What does it look like?

Is it invisible, like CFAP, or something totally separate?

How is it branded/marketed?

Same income guidelines as CalFresh?

Benefit amount calculation?

Question B: How did we achieve it?

Who did we need to convince?

Who was engaged in the process?

What kind of research (#'s) were most persuasive?

Other powerful advocacy tools?

FOOD for ALL

Want to get updates on
the campaign?

Subscribe to the list:
cfpa.net/subscribe

FOOD for ALL

Thank you!

Questions?

contact Gabby Tilley

gabby@cfpa.net