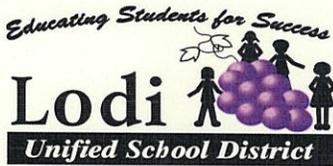




Commission Communications

- A. Lodi USD - KBI Declining Funds Letter 2.6.2020
- B. Record Article - Family Leave Laws 12.21.19
- C. San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Letter December 10, 2019 – FamilyWORKs
- D. San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Letter January 7, 2020 – SJ TEETH – Community Medical Centers
- E. March 2020 Calendar



School Readiness & Preschool Programs

February 6, 2020

Ms. Lani Schiff Ross
P.O. Box 201056
Stockton, CA 95201

Re: Declination of First 5 San Joaquin Funding for Kindergarten Bridge

Dear Ms. Schiff-Ross,

On behalf of Lodi Unified School District School Readiness and Preschool Department, I would like to extend our gratitude for your continued support of the Kindergarten Bridge Program. The Kindergarten Bridge Program has been successful in the past with assisting students that have not had previous Preschool experience.

Through those efforts, we have now been successful in offering more students Preschool experience as well as through our existing State Preschool and Head Start Preschool Programs. Since the expansion of our Preschool Program with Head Start, we currently have been able to offer preschool experience to the majority of Lodi Unified School District Preschool Children.

I have recently been informed by my Supervisor, Scott McGregor that this was taken to Cabinet and it has been agreed that moving forward we respectfully rescind our First 5 San Joaquin Funding for Kindergarten Bridge. In the event that you may need access to any records from the past five years or any database information, you can contact Rachelle Jennings or Lisa Lopez.

We thank you and your team for the long-standing support and the practices that have been implemented for children and families.

Sincerely,

M. Lisa Lopez
LUSD Director of Child Development

701 Calaveras Street
Lodi, CA 95240

209-331-7252 · 209-953-8252

When family leave laws fall short: Reduced wages, threat of job loss keep many from filing claims

By **Cassie Dickman**

@byCassieDickman

Posted Dec 21, 2019 at 4:39 PM

Updated Dec 21, 2019 at 4:39 PM

Everything seemed to be going well when San Joaquin County resident Sara, who asked to only be identified by her first name, became pregnant. But after about seven months, her pregnancy was deemed high risk and her baby was born with several severe complications.

Her newborn daughter had to stay in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for more than two weeks.

“She was eventually released, but she was on constant monitors and oxygen, which made day care, obviously, logistically and financially impossible for me,” said Sara, who told her story to The Record over the phone and via email through Legal Aid at Work. Her employer wanted her to return to work just six weeks after giving birth.

Sara said her body was not yet healed enough for her to return, nor was her child ready for day care. Sara was suffering from an infection and postpartum depression, and feeling the pressure of returning to work while learning to care for a special-needs child.

She could have applied for California’s Paid Family Leave program, but Sara didn’t want to lose her job.

The California Budget and Policy Center, an organization that does independent fiscal and policy analysis focusing on low- and middle-income Californians, released a report last month that found many workers who pay into and qualify for state paid family leave don’t file claims.

Eligible employees in the state can receive up to six weeks of paid leave to take care of an ill family member — such as a child, parent, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse or registered domestic partner — or to bond with a new child that has come under their care through birth, adoption or foster care. Starting in July 2020, the program will allow eligible workers to take an extra two weeks of paid leave.

Workers need to have earned at least \$300 in wages that were subject to State Disability Insurance deductions during the program's 12-month base period to qualify for paid leave. That period ranges from 5 to 18 months prior to a claim being filed.

There are a number of reasons why workers don't take advantage of California's paid family leave, the report says, including that the program doesn't protect someone from losing a job if they go out on leave.

Sara's doctor had agreed that she was not physically ready to go back to work. But after about four months on disability she was fired. Sara said she was told by her employer that they could not hold her job because they were a small business.

Leave that was both paid and protected would have let Sara maintain her job and her sanity, she said. Instead, the constant stress of possibly becoming unemployed just compounded on the normal stresses that come with being a new mother and its sleepless nights.

"I would have been able to continue to care for my obviously sick child and meaningfully be able to help support my family instead of suffering this severe financial downfall that we had incurred," said Sara, who was the main wage earner in her family at the time.

Sara said her husband did take family leave, but much of that time was used while their daughter was in the NICU.

There are both state and federal laws that do provide some leave protections for employees that can work in tandem with California's paid family leave. But these laws usually only provide about four months of protections. They also have stipulations that can leave many employers exempt from having to comply.

Sharon Terman is a senior staff attorney and director of the work and family program with Legal Aid at Work. She said that, while the laws have improved to extend protected leave to more employees, they don't help people like Sara.

“Sara was eligible for Paid Family Leave benefits because she paid into the program, but her employer could legally deny her job-protected leave to bond with her baby because they had fewer than 50 employees,” Terman said of the laws at the time Sara was fired. “However, even under the new law, Sara would not have qualified for job protection because her employer had just under 20 employees.”

More than 40 percent of workers in California have limited access to job-protected leave, with just over 16 percent not having access to protected leave for bonding with a new child and more than 8 percent possibly not having access to protected leave protections of any kind, the Budget and Policy Center’s report said.

Lani Schiff-Ross, executive director of First 5 San Joaquin, says that they hear case after case of women who qualify for paid family leave not taking it. She said they just go back to work because they don’t want to lose their job, or can’t afford to live on a reduced wage.

Workers receive 60 to 70 percent of their earnings through the state program, depending on their income. But the Budget and Policy Center says research shows that lower-wage workers need to receive at least 80 percent of their income to pay their bills, and even then that might not be enough.

“You’re talking about another stress factor. And again, we’re living in a community where every family is not making high wages,” Schiff-Ross said. “So that instability, if they lose their job, they can lose housing.”

California’s Paid Family Leave program was the first of its kind in the U.S. It was signed into law by Gov. Gray Davis in 2002 and implemented in July of 2004. Seven other states and the District of Columbia have since approved their own family leave benefit programs.

Research shows that the number of parents who choose to take time off to bond with a child has increased under the program since it started, the Budget and Policy center says. This is particularly true when it comes to mothers who don’t have a college degree, single mothers and black and Latino mothers.

Other benefits of the program include: reduced infant mortality rate, support for parents to initiate and continue breastfeeding, improvements in overall child health, promoting birthing parent’s mental health, and allowing parents to prepare for childbirth and to recover from pregnancy, labor and delivery.

The center says that paid family leave boosts economic growth, improves financial security over time for workers, reduces employee turnover and strengthens employee moral for employers.

But many agree that the program is still lacking.

Erin Gabel, deputy director of First 5 California, said that the state had tried to address a national crisis. The U.S. was the only industrialized country in the world that didn't have basic paid family leave rights, she said.

"It was all an experiment, to lead the way in the country," Gabel said. "And here we are now, 15 years later, and we can see from the data and from the research that California's program doesn't go far enough to equitably support all families."

Lower-wage workers need their wages fully replaced, and the number of workers who are eligible to receive 100 percent of their wages should be increased by raising the minimum wage from a third of the state's weekly average at about \$21,000 to 65 percent at about \$42,000, the report says.

The program also has an awareness problem, particularly among low-wage workers, immigrants, Latino workers and workers with less education, the report says.

"It would be really helpful if jobs gave this information out freely," Sara said. "That's not something that's available to a lot of people. They have to Google and find this information."

The center's report says California's paid family leave should be expanded by offering 12 weeks of leave to all workers, while single parents should also be allowed to take the same amount of leave a two-parent household would.

It also recommends an increase in employees' payroll deductions — which is currently at 1 percent — while also requiring employers to start contributing to the SDI fund as well to help pay for program expansion.

"Sara's experience really shows how important it is for all families to have job-protected, paid family leave," Terman said, "so that people don't have to choose between caring for their family and keeping their job."

Gov. Gavin Newsom has made family and early childhood issues a focus during his first year in office. He launched a Parents Agenda in partnership with his wife and convened a task force to help reach its goal of expanding paid family leave so babies are cared for by a parent or close relative for up to six months. The task force will also evaluate policy considerations for things like worker protections and increasing wage replacement to up to 90 percent for low-wage workers.

“There’s so many reasons that the research has made so clear that we need to address paid family leave,” Gabel said. “But do it in a way that you have a program that works for everyone and for every child, opposed to just those who are affluent enough and have a big enough village at home to make it work.”

Sara’s daughter will always require monitoring and special care. But after being unemployed for a few months, Sara eventually found a job with a company that allows her to work around her husband’s schedule.

She wants other people to know their rights, and turn to help when they need it.

“Don’t give up hope, there are people working to rectify this matter,” Sara said.

“From a mother’s perspective, speaking from my perspective, mothers are the givers of life. We are the ones that are nurturing our next generation. This is something that should be given respect, not treated as disposable.”

Contact reporter Cassie Dickman at (209) 546-8299 or cdickman@recordnet.com. Follow her on Twitter [@byCassieDickman](https://twitter.com/byCassieDickman).



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

CHRIS WOODS, Director

*CalWORKs
CalFresh
Medi-Cal
Children's Services
Mary Graham Children's Shelter
First 5 San Joaquin
Aging and Community Services*

P.O. Box 201056

102 South San Joaquin Street

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November 22, 2019

Board of Supervisors
County of San Joaquin
44 N. San Joaquin Street, Suite 627
Stockton, CA 95202

Dear Board Members:

Approval of Three Amendments to First 5 San Joaquin Children and Families Commission Agreements With Three Organizations to Provide Home Visitation Services to Increase Total Funding From \$1,920,000 to \$2,277,272 for the Period of February 1, 2019 Through June 30, 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the Amendment to the First 5 San Joaquin Children and Families Commission (Commission) Agreement A-19-18 with The Catholic Council for the Spanish Speaking of the Diocese of Stockton (El Concilio) to increase funding from \$740,000 to \$873,636 for the period from February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020;
2. Approve the Amendment to the Commission Agreement A-19-19 with Mary Magdalene Community Services, Inc. (MMCS) to increase funding from \$410,000 to \$500,000 for the period from February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020;
3. Approve the Amendment to the Commission Agreement A-19-20 with Family Resource & Referral Center (FRRC) to increase funding from \$770,000 to \$903,636 for the period from February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020; and
4. Authorize and direct the Chair of the Board to sign the Amendments.

Our Mission is to lead in the creation and delivery of services that improve the quality of life for our community.



REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

On June 27, 2018, Governor Brown signed a budget that included statewide funding from the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Program and the General Fund for home visitation services to be provided to CalWORKs participants. The purpose of this funding is threefold: 1) to support positive health, development, and well-being outcomes for pregnant and parenting women, families, and infants born into poverty; 2) to expand future educational, economic and financial capability opportunities; and 3) to improve the likelihood that home visitation participants will exit poverty. On July 31, 2018, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) released a Request for County Plan (RFCP) for this funding. The Commission responded to the RFCP on behalf of the Human Services Agency (HSA).

On December 3, 2018, Commission staff was informed that CDSS awarded the Commission on behalf of HSA, \$2,427,657 to implement the CalWORKs Home Visitation Program (known locally as FamilyWORKs). The initial award was for two cycles of funding. The first cycle of funding in the amount of \$809,219, was for the period of February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 and the second cycle of funding in the amount of \$1,618,438, is for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

On January 29, 2019, your Board approved Agreements for home visitation services, for 238 CalWORKs families with children ages 0 to 5, with El Concilio, MMCS, and FRRC for the period of February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 (B-19-73).

On July 21, 2019, Commission staff was informed that CDSS had increased the second cycle of funding by \$834,219 from \$1,618,438 to \$2,452,657.

On August 22, 2019, the Commission approved the recommendation to increase all currently funded FamilyWORKs agencies, including El Concilio, MMCS, and FRRC, and to add an additional agency, the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE). The Agreement for SJCOE, to provide CalWORKs home visitation services to an additional 42 families with children ages 0 to 5 for the period of November 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, was approved by your Board on November 19, 2019. The proposed three Agreements with El Concilio, MMCS, and FRRC will increase the total number of CalWORKs families receiving home visitation services, under the current Agreements, from 238 to 306 for the period of February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

The following proposed Amendments are:

FamilyWORKs Agreements	Original Funding	Proposed Amendment	New Total Funding
El Concilio	\$740,000	\$133,636	\$873,636
Mary Magdalene Community Services	\$410,000	\$90,000	\$500,000
Family Resource & Referral Center	\$770,000	\$133,636	\$903,636
Total Funding Amounts for Agreements	\$1,920,000	\$357,272	\$2,277,272

FISCAL IMPACT:

Total Cost

The total cost of the three Amendments will not exceed \$357,272 and is included in the Commission's 2019-2020 budget.

Net County Cost

There is no Net County Cost associated with the three Amendments.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING APPROVAL:

Commission staff will provide copies of fully executed Amendments to each of the respective organizations to continue their programs.

Sincerely,



Chris Woods, Director
Human Services Agency

cc: Monica Nino, County Administrator
Kim Johnson, Deputy County Counsel
Jay Wilverding, Auditor-Controller
Anthony Rocha, HSA Deputy Director
Lani Schiff-Ross, Children and Families Program Coordinator
Children and Families Commission Members

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creation and delivery of services that improve
the quality of life for our community.



Board of Supervisors Meeting – December 10, 2019

Reviewed by County Administrator's Office:

Reviewed by County Counsel's Office:



Jolena Voorhis 11/25/2019



Kimberly D. Johnson 11/25/2019

#5852
1-7-20

#20



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

CHRIS WOODS, Director

CalWORKs
CalFresh
Medi-Cal
Children's Services
Mary Graham Children's Shelter
First 5 San Joaquin
Aging and Community Services

P.O. Box 201056

102 South San Joaquin Street

Stockton, CA 95201-3006

Tel (209) 468-1000
Fax (209) 468-1985

December 20, 2019

Board of Supervisors
County of San Joaquin
44 N. San Joaquin Street, Suite 627
Stockton, CA 95202

Dear Board Members:

Retroactive Approval of Agreement With Community Medical Centers, Inc. for San Joaquin Treatment & Education for Everyone on Teeth & Health Program for \$667,618 From January 1, 2020 Through December 31, 2020

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Retroactively approve the Agreement with Community Medical Centers, Inc. (CMC) for San Joaquin Treatment & Education for Everyone on Teeth & Health (SJ TEETH) program for \$667,618 from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020; and
2. Authorize and direct the Chair of the Board to sign the Agreement.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

On December 30, 2015, the Federal Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services approved Medi-Cal 2020, a five-year renewal of California's Section 1115 Medicaid Waiver. Medi-Cal 2020 provided the State with \$6.2 billion in ongoing Federal funding over a five-year period ending December 31, 2020 to improve the health care experience for beneficiaries. The Dental Transformation Initiative (DTI), designed to promote access to preventive dental care and treatment for children enrolled in Medi-Cal, is one of the four key elements for Medi-Cal 2020.

Under the Local Dental Pilot Program (LDPP) component of the DTI, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) awarded First 5 San Joaquin Children and Families Commission (Commission) \$3,524,429 from June 1, 2017 through December 31, 2020 to

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implement strategies designed to improve dental health for children enrolled in Medi-Cal by focusing on preventive high-value care, improved access, and continuity of care to drive delivery system reform.

On August 3, 2018, First 5 San Joaquin (First 5) submitted a request for additional funding to DHCS in the amount of \$2,000,000 for calendar year 2019 and 2020. As a result of this approved request from DHCS in late October of 2018, CMC provided oral health care coordination to their medical clinic populations and added one Virtual Dental Home (VDH) team to their oral health strategies in the SJ TEETH program. CMC also provided oral health services to children at over 100 sites throughout San Joaquin County.

On January 8, 2019, your Board retroactively approved the current Agreement with Community Medical Centers, Inc. for \$537,310 from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (B-19-17). On August 27, 2019, your Board approved an Amendment with CMC to increase the Agreement (A-19-293) by \$37,261 to \$574,571 from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (B-19-513).

Since the inception of the program, dental services have been provided to 4,928 children in San Joaquin County. Care Coordination services have been provided to 3,352 children to assist families in finding a dentist, scheduling appointments, and addressing barriers to care. As a result of Care Coordination, 95% of Medi-Cal Dental families went to their scheduled dental appointment as compared with only 50% of Non-Care Coordination program participants.

On December 5, 2019, the Commission approved the continuation of funding for CMC in the amount of \$667,618 from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 to provide up to 5,220 dental screenings for children and Care Coordination services for an additional 2,400 children at numerous community sites throughout San Joaquin County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Total Cost

The total funding amount of \$667,618 is Medi-Cal funding from DHCS and has been included in the Commission's Budget for Fiscal Years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Net County Cost

There is no Net County Cost associated with this Agreement.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING APPROVAL:

Commission staff will provide a copy of the fully executed Agreement to CMC to continue their program.

Sincerely,



Chris Woods, Director
Human Services Agency

Attachment(s)

cc: Monica Nino, County Administrator
Kim Johnson, Deputy County Counsel
Jay Wilverding, Auditor-Controller
Anthony Rocha, HSA Deputy Director
Lani Schiff-Ross, Children and Families Program Coordinator
Children and Families Commission Members

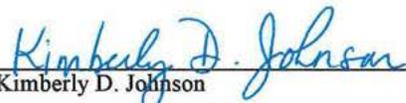
Board of Supervisors Meeting – January 7, 2020

Reviewed by County Administrator's Office:

Reviewed by County Counsel's Office:



Jolena Voorhis 12/23/2019



Kimberly D. Johnson 12/24/2019

Before the Board of Supervisors

County of San Joaquin, State of California

B-20-21

Retroactive Approval of Agreement With Community Medical Centers, Inc. for San Joaquin Treatment & Education for Everyone on Teeth & Health Program for \$667,618 From January 1, 2020 Through December 31, 2020

THIS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DOES HEREBY:

1. Retroactively approve the Agreement with Community Medical Centers, Inc. (CMC) for San Joaquin Treatment & Education for Everyone on Teeth & Health (SJ TEETH) program for \$667,618 from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020; and
2. Authorize and direct the Chair of the Board to sign the Agreement.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above order was passed and adopted on January 7, 2020 by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors, to wit:

MOTION: Villapudua/Winn/5

AYES: Villapudua, Patti, Winn, Elliott, Miller

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST: RACHÉL DeBORD
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of San Joaquin
State of California



Rachél DeBord



March 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6 Community Links PHS 8A-10A	7
8	9	10 SJ TEETH Care Coordination Family Resource Network 3:00P	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					