

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM: 3.31
(ID # 21280)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, February 28, 2023

FROM : PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES (DPSS): Approval for the budget adjustment for the CalWORKs Assistance Program in the amount of \$58,995,000; All Districts. [Total Current FY Cost \$58,995,000; Ongoing cost \$70,794,000; Current FY Net County Cost (NCC) \$1,250,000 (2.1%), State 58.4%, Federal 39.5%] (4/5 Vote Required)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and direct the Auditor-Controller to make the budget adjustments shown on Schedule A for the CalWORKs Assistance Program.

ACTION: 4/5 Vote Required, Policy

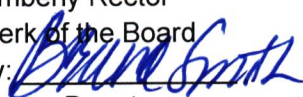

Charity Douglas, DPSS Director

2/16/2023

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Spiegel, seconded by Supervisor Gutierrez and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: Perez
Date: February 28, 2023
xc: DPSS, Auditor

Kimberly Rector
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$58,995,000	\$70,794,000	\$129,789,000	\$70,794,000
NET COUNTY COST	\$1,250,000	\$1,500,000	\$2,750,000	\$1,500,000
SOURCE OF FUNDS: Federal 39.5%, State 58.4%, NCC 2.1%			Budget Adjustment: Yes	
			For Fiscal Year: 22/23-23/24	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) provides services and assistance to protect, support and empower vulnerable people in our community. DPSS provides a multitude of programs throughout each of its divisions. California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) is a public assistance program that is administered locally by county welfare departments and overseen by the state Department of Social Services. CalWORKs provides temporary cash assistance to eligible families with low or no income, including education, employment and job training programs, childcare, transportation, work expenses and counseling. This program is essential to DPSS customers in times of hardship for families to enter or re-enter the workforce and become self-sufficient.

DPSS is requesting a budget adjustment to address changes for CalWORKs. The CalWORKs assistance expenditures are projecting to be over the adopted budget by approximately \$59.0 million. This is due to a 28 percent increase in caseload that resulted from recent changes to the Program's grant amount and income eligibility.

Pursuant to Senate Bill 187 (Chapter 50, Statutes of 2022) and an All-County Letter 22-60 release, effective October 1, 2022, the CalWORKs assistance payment amount increased by 21 percent. This increase is the cumulative effect of two separate increases. The first 11 percent increase will be a permanent increase to grant amounts. The additional ten percent (10%) is scheduled to expire in October 2024.

In addition, pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 135 (Chapter 85, Statutes of 2021), and an All-County Letter 21-130 release, effective July 1, 2022, the earned income disregard for applicants was increased (or the amount CalWORKs applicants can earn before further income effects their eligibility for the program) from \$90 per employed person to \$450 per employed person.

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As a result, the CalWORKs Assistance Program expenditures will be over the adopted budget by \$59.0 million with a need to increase NCC by \$1.25 million in the current fiscal year to comply with the county match requirements. DPSS is requesting a budget adjustment to address changes for CalWORKs as outlined on Attachment A - Schedule A.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The budget adjustment will assist in providing the needed services to Riverside County residents, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable youth and adults, and providing a pathway to health and safety, independence and self-sufficiency.

Additional Fiscal Information

A budget adjustment is needed to address recent program changes and increased caseloads for the CalWORKs Assistance Program.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment A: Schedule A – Budget Adjustment



Heydee Koury, Sr Accountant - Auditor

2/16/2023



Brianna Lontajo, Principal Management Analyst

2/22/2023

SCHEDULE A
ADJUSTING ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS

Increase Appropriations:

10000 – 5100300000 – 530480 Categorical Assistance	\$58,995,000
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Increase Estimated Revenue:

10000 – 5100300000 – 761000 Fed-Public Assistance Programs	\$23,300,000
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10000 – 5100300000 – 750700 CA-Public Asst Program	\$26,500,000
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10000 – 5100300000 – 750740 CA-DPSS Realignment	\$7,900,000
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10000 – 5100300000 – 755900 CA-AB118 Local Revenue	\$40,000
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10000 – 5100300000 – 781480 Program Revenue	\$5,000
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Anticipated Use of Unassigned Fund Balance:

10000 – 5100300000 – 370100 Unassigned Fund Balance	\$1,250,000
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Decrease Appropriation:

10000 – 1109000000 – 581000 Approp For Contingencies	\$1,250,000
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Increase Equity:

10000 – 1109000000 – 370100 Unassigned Fund Balance	\$1,250,000
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