



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/613973795>, Meeting ID: 613 973 795

DRAFT AGENDA

- 5:00 1. CLOSED SESSION**
- 5:45 2. Adjourn Closed Session**
- 5:45 3. Call to Order/Establish Quorum**
- 5:45 4. Agenda Review (5 min)**
- 5:50 5. Announcements/Program Updates (5 min)**
- 5:55 6. *CONSENT AGENDA – Action Items (5 min)**
**In approving the consent agenda, the Board is approving recommendations within each committee’s minutes listed below.*
- 6.1 Draft Minutes of the March 16, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting
- 6.2 Draft Minutes of the April 14, 2022 Governance Committee Meeting
- 6.3 Draft Minutes of the May 12, 2022 Governance Committee Meeting
- 6.4 Draft Minutes of the April 14, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting
- 6.5 Draft Minutes of the May 12, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting
- 6.6 Draft Minutes of the June 9, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting
- 6.6a **Motion: Approve the \$582.252.00 in prior year funds and to recommend the full board to the FY 22/23 budget as written be approved and amended with a mid-year budget to actual report. Motion moved by Jack/Michael, MSP.**
- 6:00 7. Receive comments from members of the public on “Items not on the Agenda” (5 min)**
- 6:05 8. BOD Chair Report – Jack Jacobson (10 min)**
- 6:15 9. CEO Report – Ray Cancino (15 min)**
- 9.1 EED – Lisa Hindman Holbert
- 9.2 CACFP – Erika Rodriguez
- 9.3 LL – Jesus Bojorquez
- 6:30 10. Action Items: Presentation and approval of FY 2022/2023 Development Plan and Agency Fiscal Year 2022-2023 budgets (25 min)**
- 6:55 11. Development Report–Jayme Ackemann/ Anna Vaage (15 min)**
- 7:10 11. Finance Committee Update – Doug Underhill (15 min)**
- 7:25 12. Newspaper Articles**
- 7:25 13. Items for Next Agenda (5 min)**
- 7:30 14. Adjourn Regular Meeting**

Next Meeting: *Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 5 pm - 7:30 pm Meeting Location TBD – Zoom will be offered.*



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, March 16, 2022, 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/613973795>, Meeting ID: 613 973 795

Present: Ray Cancino, Mary McMillan, Lisa Berkowitz, Jack Jacobson, Seth McGibben, Doug Underhill, Sara Siegel, Michael Babich, Erich Friedrich, Brenda Griffin, Silvia Morales, Tyler Smith, Stephanie Conner Kent, Lisa Hindman Holbert, Alma Molina, Dana Wagner, Anna Vaage, Mayra Melendrez, Erika Rodriguez, Jayme Ackemann, Jesus Bojorquez

Minutes: Mary Mackenzie

DRAFT MINUTES

5:00 1. CLOSED SESSION

5:34 2. Adjourn Closed Session

5:34 3. Call to Order/Establish Quorum

5:34 4. Agenda Review (5 min)

5:34 5. Announcements/Program Updates (5 min)

5.1 MOW AAA Funding

MOW AAA funding come through and there will be a vote tomorrow and a 30-day period to ratify. MOW will receive \$594k. CORE funding dollars have also been increased. There is an opportunity for BOD, MOW PD and CEO to meet with the County re: extra CORE funding. MOW will still need to move forward with Capital Project, which makes CB more competitive. It would be a good thing to have representation from the BOD at 10am tomorrow (3/17/22). MOW PD wants to thank the Board for their efforts and conducting an extensive process. (Details will be sent out after this meeting.)

5.2 CACFP Grievance Hearing Acceptance

Thank you to the Board for their direction. The provider accepted the recommendation by the Board and we are excited to do mediation with her.

EED PD: We've had a round of new children starting. EED has increased eligibility on their 3rd birthday, they are eligible for services. Thrive by 3 partnerships, moving toward thrive by 5. A lot of referrals being made are coming through. We are pushing for more teachers. EED staff have spent some time together in professional development.

MOW PD: MOW recognizes that they are celebrating three anniversaries: Alma Molina 20 years at CB, Rena Salas 35 years, Michael Rios 15 years.

5:46 6. *CONSENT AGENDA – Action Items (5 min)

In approving the consent agenda, the Board is approving recommendations within each committee's minutes listed below.

6.1 Draft Minutes of the February 16, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting

6.2 Draft Minutes of the March 10, 2022 Governance Committee Meeting

6.3 Draft Minutes of the March 10, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting

6.4 Draft Minutes of the March 9, 2022 Development Committee Meeting

6.4a MOTION: Michael/Brenda moved to approve Bridge Builder Award criteria as amended. MSP.

6.5 Board Resolution 2022-03-16: LCTOP Funding from Region Transportation Commission

This is to allow us to purchase an electric mini-van with matching Measure D funds. What is the plan for supporting charging/mileage etc.? What do we know about infrastructure? CB has level three chargers at two locations: 545 Ohlone Pkwy and at MCR. The wait list for a new vehicle is 6-7 months longer and have already been waiting 8-10 months. A level 3 charger is 60-90 minutes to charge. OR3 are taking the lead on the electrification project at Brommer St. Yard. CB provides free charging at CBHQ, there is a special code for employees. Anyone else can charge with a little bit of a surcharge. CB does have three level 3 charging stations ready to install, CB is just waiting for the power upgrades.

Motion to approve the consent agenda as written. Motion was moved by Mary/Erich, MSP.

6:00 7. Receive comments from members of the public on “Items not on the Agenda”
(5 min)

None

6:05 8. BOD Chair Report – Jack Jacobson (10 min)

None

6:06 9. CEO Report – Ray Cancino (30 min)

9.1 FRCs – Mayra Melendrez

See Presentation in agenda packet. Eviction protections funding will go through tomorrow. We have been working with partners to help undocumented through mediation with evictions. We would be looking to hire another FTE Spanish Speaking/Bicultural.

9.2 MOW – Lisa Berkowitz

See Presentation in agenda packet.

9.3 MOW Discussion

There are more participants joining MOW, and flat funding. MOW did see some 1-time funding in Federal dollars, a little increase in funds through state dollars and in donations.

As a result of the lack of funding and CORE proposals, CB has to scale back. We anticipate a bit of decrease in donations by participants. Meal costs have been hit by inflation across the board. We are also working on a potential Capital Project, finding a new location for a kitchen and funding for that location. In the projected budgets, CB is providing a preliminary MOW budget. The funding sources are fluid right now, and it is estimated that there will be a \$350k deficit, and \$120k-\$140k in the capital project. What is that going to do to the amount of meals provide and reducing services? CB doesn't want to get into a structural deficit.

9.3a Financial Impact Trends

Where do we stand on the Water Street move? CB has put a pause on it, however, it looks like CB is going to be AAA provider. MOW PD: Gary Marietti is waiting to hear about State, Federal

and County dollars. Dr. Marietti stated that he might be interested in investing in the Capital Project. He might be interested in extending from 10-year lease to 20-year lease. The potential of 20-year lease mitigates a lot of risk. MOW is expected to receive significant funds from a family trust, these funds should be coming soon.

9.3b Eligibility Requirements

What are the qualifications for services through MOW? What is the poverty rate? When the pandemic happened, an adult over the age of 60 who can no longer cook for themselves. When the pandemic happened, it is now eligible for anyone who is 60 or older who requests them. MOW went through over 1000 individuals, and all but 27 of the individuals would have been eligible. There are registration questions, including whether a potential client is on MediCal or receives SSI. Any changes to the program is not a decision that can be made by ourselves, CB must get buy in from our funders. There is a lot happening at both state and local level. On the state level there has been put in place the master plan on aging. There are five designated focus ages for communities to look at. How ready are each of the communities for the population growth that we know is happening?

7:03 10. Development Report–Jayme Ackemann/ Anna Vaage (20 min)

10.1 EITC Television Ad

Campaign: CB has an outreach campaign trying to get more people to apply for the EITC. CB has put a commercial together. The ad is in both English and Spanish. CB supports outreach around FRCs.

10.2 May 4th Estate Planning Workshop

Development is hosting an online financial planning webinar. The webinar helps engage people who have estate planning needs and professionals who have clients. This will help to brand CB as a place to give. Question: Do we have anyone to do it in Spanish? We could get a translator, simultaneous translation. Talk to presenter about setting up a trust.

10.3 Elderday Groundbreaking

See you at the Elderday groundbreaking next Friday. You will be reached out to with talking points, if you need them.

10.4 Community Champions

Community Champions Week kicks off next week, Monday March 21. This is an annual campaign. This happens within MOWs nationwide. Officials are invited to visit the sites. There is a doodle if you want to go on a ride-along or visit a site. We are looking to raise funds. This year is 50-year anniversary of the older Americans act; 50 years of senior nutrition. Those are going on social media.

Hosting Farm to Fork on July 16th. It will be on lawn of Cabrillo House.

7:14 11. Finance Committee Update – Doug Underhill (20 min)

Program budget summary 1/31/22:

Reduction in all programs for unemployment insurance. Claims have dropped significantly even compared to pre-Covid times.

EED: EED PD has spent \$230k on furniture, about \$100k to spend. EED PD has another purchase in process.

Elderday: Elderday has a gain in the previous month. CFO has separated 501 Main from Elderday. \$50k downward projected in CCAH...but projected to see a \$105k gain for the year
MOW: \$28k projected gain for the year. Reserve is \$1.5M.

LL: \$30k in the positive due to Mechanic position need to be filled and 2 drivers that need to be hired. STA revenues make the trifecta: RTA \$150k for next year, TDA and Measure D projections are up. Sales tax is up 19-20%. There is an increase of over 100K in TDA funding for this year and an increased contract size to \$905K for next year. Measure D projections for FY 2022-2023 have increased to \$1,045K.

FRC: Change from prior month, shifting funding that can be shifting into next FY. All are above their board approved budget in both revenues and expenses. Deferring roughly \$250k from FY 2021-2022 to FY 2022-2023.

CACFP: There is a little downturn in day care home Administration revenue, new homes are being added, so we expect this to change course over the next few months.

Admin: Prior year funds \$76k in Admin and \$10k in Dev, versus \$83K and \$86K in approved budget.

Endowments and the Live Oak Burroughs funds have experienced drops due to the volatile market.

Income statement for the year is showing large gains, most of which, \$621k, is related to the acquisition of the 501 Main property. The EED \$230K furniture purchase will add to the grant funded asset gain.

Net assets closing FY 2020-2021 were \$8.72M and are now at \$9.836M

Balance Sheet is showing a large amount of receivables, just over \$5M, grants receivable: approximately \$2M have been brought in since the report date.

CB is in a very strong position if we were to close the year as of 1/31/22.

CB has closed the line of Credit with Santa Cruz County Bank, and we opened a new line of credit with 1st Capital Bank and opened general account. CB is close to having our 517/519 Main, 18 W Lake property (CB Headquarters) refinancing complete.

7:26 12. Newspaper Articles

7:26 13. Items for Next Agenda (5 min)

7:27 14. Adjourn Regular Meeting

Next Meeting: *Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 5 pm - 7:30 pm Meeting Location TBD – Zoom will be offered.*



Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2022, 4-5 pm

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/326410777>

Meeting ID: 326 410 777

Present: Ray Cancino, Silvia Morales, Jack Jacobson, Tyler Smith, Seth McGibben

Minutes: Mary Mackenzie

DRAFT MINUTES

4:00 1. Meeting to order/Establish Quorum

4:05 2. Agenda Review (5 min)

4:20 3. Consent Agenda (5 min)

a. 3/10/22 GC Regular Session Minutes

No quorum

4:08 4. CLOSED SESSION (30 min)

4:20 5. Elderday – 501 Main St. Update (15 min)

a. Report on Groundbreaking Event and General Updates

CB is having to be a little more hands on with design.

b. Timeline Modifications

CB is 8-weeks behind on what we had on our timeline, there was a hold out in terms of the tenant, who has yet to returned the keys, but has moved most of their items. CB is having conversations on an unlawful detainer. CB has already started to do some minor temporary improvements. CB is now working with City of Watsonville to do a plan check review. There is some difficulty with a traffic study.

CB has hired attorney to work with CB and City of Watsonville

4:25 6. Items for next GC Agenda/BOD Agenda (5 min)

Personnel Policies – Closed Session (Jeff on call – updated memo)

Updates for EED

5:00 7. Adjourn

Next Meeting: May 12, 2022, 4-5 pm

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/326410777>, or call +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 326 410 777



Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 12, 2022, 4-5 pm

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/326410777>

Meeting ID: 326 410 777

Present: Ray Cancino, Tyler Smith, Doug Underhill, Jack Jacobson, Erich Friedrich, Michael Babich, Sara Seigel, Seth McGibben, Lisa B, Lois sones

Minutes: Mary Mackenzie

REGULAR SESSION

DRAFT MINUTES

45:20 1. Meeting to order/Establish Quorum

5:20 2. Consent Agenda

- a. *3/10/22 GC Regular Session Minutes*
 - b. *4/14/22 GC Regular Session Minutes*
- No Quorum

4:05 3. Agenda Review

Talk about getting agenda and attachments before the meeting.

4:10 4. CLOSED SESSION

5:20 5. MOW Eviction Notice & Next Steps

Last week MOW/CB received an eviction notice stating MOW has 6 months to vacate the premises. The eviction notice is for the 1777 Capitola Rd location which houses the MOW kitchen, offices, and dining site. Why is the LOSD asking MOW to leave? LOSD is stating that there are major repairs needed. CB asked for an additional consultant, to which LOSD refused the request. CB/MOW is activating telling clients and are assuring them there will be no loss of services. A Supervisor and Mr. Ratten from Grey Bears are heavily involved in the Greenway project. They are acting in collusion asking why don't you sent out to Grey Bears, and doesn't seek to solve MOW issue and the issues of the other people in the building. There is Funding which is specifically given to LOSD for seniors, and state funding for seniors and Measure F, which is for a joint use facility, but there is no legal argument. CB's argument is intent which is clearly spelled out, referring to it as a broken promise. Have we gotten any legal advice on opposing

it? Yes. The County counsel said there is nothing in there to justify a legal argument. MOW PD: We're starting with looking for opportunities for our office, the kitchen and a dining site. What is available to us that has the least amount of challenges? Space for offices in CBHQ, need to find frozen food storage in Watsonville, which could be challenging. MOW would still be working with same food delivery service. MOW will be setting up dispatch points in mid-county and north county and will try to maintain volunteers. MOW is back up to 50 volunteers. MOW will try to minimize traveling. A last option would be putting in place meal option for dining sites, London Nelsen, Watsonville, and Highland Park. Still have in place grab and go option in LO area at dispatch. This might mean substituting direct service model, Highlands Park, Watsonville and London Nelsen; it will mean a lot of pre-purchased items, vs. items prepared in our kitchen. This would be basically very last option, if we had to be out without any other solutions. Looking at possibility for offices on second floor at LL facility. The building has a tin roof which can get noisy in the rain, and consequently would not create a good work environment. There are ways to provide sound proofing to ceiling, sealed office boxes, because there are 30-foot ceilings. It is not hard to envision offices in that space, getting city planning to agree. CB/MOW is working with City of Watsonville planning a remodel of the kitchen in the Senior Center, specifically how we might fit into that plan. At best the time table would be about 9 months to create a mini kitchen facility there. Need to look for further food storage at another facility. One possibility is Ohlone Pkwy, putting in freezers. CA Dept. of Aging has come up with funding for seniors in the amount of \$54k, MOW will have to put in a bid to AAA for what they need by June. If for some reason a program went out of business, the state would need to come and pick up any equipment. The equipment comes ready to be installed. They are very rugged units; the army uses them. CB has gotten bids from the company, need to get ok from PLAY(?). CB would need to pay for equipment up front and CB is looking at either a 10x30 or a 10x20 box. MOW has received bids to \$120k-160k and bringing in required electrical, so total would be between \$150k-\$200k. It will need to include generator back up. Looking to develop a space for MOW at property for lift line, and possibility of purchasing a property to make a kitchen on that property. Another concern with all the options is that CB will have to spend money to create a space. MOW may have to spend money twice, since MOW may not have enough time to do what we need to do unless CB gets an extension from the school district. What is the timeline for Water Street? 2 years and that would be optimistic. A lot of restaurants have their walk-ins go down, you could rent it. A lot of the units can be quite noisy if compressor is on top, and there is the consideration of how much it costs. At some point it becomes much more practical to purchase. Can

we borrow someone's kitchen for a couple of months? Mid-county senior center may be willing, but kitchen is small 1,000 sq. ft. MOW PD will be following up tomorrow. A GC Member likes the idea of building out on LL site. There are some limitations due to the amount of paving and city limitations. However, if we are able to purchase corresponding building, then that would be an option. It's not just the kitchen, it's our services, and also SNS which helps seniors in crisis. CB has spoken to Sen. Laird, he's going to write a letter to set the record straight. The congregate population is very important, people really want to get back to the congregate service. Eating with others decreases depression and increases mental health and outlook.

5:56 6. Items for next GC Agenda/BOD Agenda

5:56 7. Adjourn

Next Meeting: June 9, 2022, 4-5 pm

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/326410777>, or call +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 326 410 777



COMMUNITY BRIDGES PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD

Finance Committee

Thursday, April 14, 2022, 3:00-4:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/326410777>

Zoom Meeting ID: 326-410-777 Santa
Cruz County, CA

Present: Ray Cancino, Jack Jacobson, Michael Babich, Mary McMillan, Doug Underhill,

Minutes: Mary Mackenzie

REGULAR SESSION DRAFT MINUTES

3:00 Agenda Review

3:05 CFO Report – Doug Underhill

a) *Fiscal Department Current Workflow*

Quarterly TDA and CDE report are going out. 990 taxes are going to be a focus and fiscal will be fine tuning 22/23 FY budget. CB is still undergoing a AAA Audit and mandated Measure D meeting. RTC has reviewed measure D audit.

b) *Update on Agency Equity Wage Work and One-Time Payments*

CB is nearing the conclusion implementing wage equity increases. Effective 4/1 CB just have MOW left.

c) *February Program Budget Summary / Program Updates & Analysis*

WIC saw a reduction in expenditure and revenue. WIC has 1 employee retiring and 1 reduced from 40-30 hours.

EED \$230k was approved by CDE and has been spent, \$75k request to purchase supplies, will need board chair signature. That leaves about \$50k to be spent out. Enrollment and new hires need to increase. CB/EED had a meeting with Encompass who runs the Head start program. EED has to be fully enrolled by 7/1/22. What is the number that has to be fully enrolled? 30-40 additional children that could be served. 40-45 because other number is average daily attendance.

Elderday: In February 48 ADA and for March 51 ADA. Because they were working under temporary remote, Elderday is still operating at a \$93k gain. Enrollment is an issue, but PD is aware.

MOW food costs continue to increase. City of Capitola has awarded a 3 year, \$66k/yr grant which has just received tentative approval.

LL implemented new pay rates, \$18k increase in personnel, \$8k increase in taxi, \$5k in G.A. LL received \$105k in TDA and put \$84k in TDA reserve. LL is in good shape for next year with TDA and Measure D and the return of Elderday ride revenues.

FRCs saw a decrease at MCR in personnel, slight increase at NVCR in personnel. The 11

FRCs keep running on a very tight budget, so funds can be put toward next year where possible. LMCR has a new program manager. The FRCs received \$142k in additional funding for emergency rental relief for the 4th quarter.

Admin/Dev – slight increase in indirect G.A., and slight decrease in personnel - CB was projected to use \$83k and is now only using \$65k. Dev only using \$3,500 vs. \$84K projected.

CEO: Even though we've done all these equity wages, inflation has hurt all staff. There are two proposals moving forward, increasing the minimum wage to either \$18 or \$20. CB may need to discuss this, since it is moving through the state legislature.

d) *Investments and Funds – Status Review March 31, 2022 and meeting with Burroughs.*

CB made a \$20,994 withdrawal and consequently the month of March was flat. CB met with Burroughs and redid balancing.

e) *Cash Flow and Line of Credit*

Cash flow is still strong, projected to end the year at \$3.6M. \$500k is the CCAH grant allocated to 501 Main St. So working cash-flow is closer to \$3M.

f) *401K annual review meeting with Quintes*

End of period plan assets for 2020 were \$4.55M 2021 were \$5.03M. Some higher classification employees retired and left the agency. Total plan assets, from 17/18 to 20/21 increased \$3M to \$5M. The current program is a matching program, the employees contribute and CB matches. There was a slight increase in participants this year. One concern is the under 30 age group only having 8 participants. There was a suggestion that CB has an education campaign. CB has to walk a fine line in not providing investment advice. In the past CB has done gift cards, comparisons of savings of the price of a cup of coffee a day, and the match.

3:35 Update on refinancing and restructuring of loans.

a) *CBHQ*

CB is trying to finalize, but is having difficulties with the environmental report which must be within 5 years. A new phase 1 report was required.

b) *MCR*

SCCB offered loan modification fixing the remainder of the term at 4.75%. No inspection, no title, etc. Proceeded with that and heard from contract. CB is really close to completing it and sending over the paperwork to sign.

3:40 Discussion regarding ELD ADA and 501 Main Timeline – CLOSED SESSION

3:50 Closing items

a) *Questions / Answers*

b) *Items for next agenda*

4:00 Adjourn

Next Meeting May 12th, 2022



COMMUNITY BRIDGES PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD

Finance Committee

Thursday, May 12, 2022, 3:00-4:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/326410777>

Zoom Meeting ID: 326-410-777

Santa Cruz County, CA

Present: Jack Jacobson, Ray Cancino, Michael Babich, Doug Underhill

Minutes: Mary Mackenzie

REGULAR SESSION DRAFT MINUTES

3:00 Agenda Review

3:05 CFO Report – Doug Underhill

1. Current Workflow Update

a. Agency 990 Taxes

CB is still going through audit for the AAA. The big focus are the 990 taxes that are due by May 19.

b. Measure D 5 Year Plan / TDA

Measure D 5-Year plan was approved by RTC on Tuesday as well as TDA approval which Doug attended with Jesus. Both were approved as is.

c. Agency Budgets for June Meeting

The budgets are preliminary since CB hasn't heard back from CORE. The budget is going to be on next agenda.

2. March 2022 Program Budget Summary / Program Updates & Analysis 3rd Quarter:

WIC- WIC had an increase revenues and expenditures.

EED- There is still a little bit of money to spend out, waiting for 75k approval from state for supplies, did spend the 230k on furniture. EED PD is working on spending out the rest.

Elderday-There is a strong gain for this year, expenses have been trimmed down while with at-home operation. Next year, will be challenging.

MOW-There was a \$20k loss, but it will be for next year. MOW is moving revenue forward to next FY. MOW received \$9k gift from bequest. There is a mailer campaign right now.

LL-There is a gain from last month. LL is trying to hire staff positions and is chipping away at debt.

FRCs- All the FRCs are showing marginal gains overall, which is by design - spend out what money they need for this FY, and push as much forward to the next FY.

CACFP-CACFP has seen a big jump in revenue due to increased daycare count and decreased healthcare costs, and one person gave notice.

Admin- Admin is only using \$36.7k in prior year funds. Development is projected to have a gain of \$5.5k.

LOCC and Endowment both down with a program gain \$234k

3. *Balance Sheet / Income Statement March 31, 2022*

Operationally CB is -\$500k, EED -\$230k, it will shift to the positive. At the end of last year received \$470k as a gain, grant funds to be utilized this year. This is taking on expenditures. As CB receives grants for next fiscal year, we'll get the payment and the operational gain. It will be pushed back up into the positive. There is a net asset gain of \$852k.

4. *Investments and Funds – Status Review April 30, 2022*

Investments are seeing decreases which is the same with Burroughs. CB also took out \$20k.

5. *Cash Flow and Line of Credit*

Cash flow is still strong for the year. Over \$3M and \$250k more put into a MM account w/1st Capital.

CB paid another \$250k toward an owner carry note.

Measure D Plan includes: 2 drivers built in, driver training, dispatch, maintenance, vehicle matches – next fiscal year 2.5 drivers, for years 3-5: 3 FT drivers, expenses and fuel increases, increase services – they just approved a 5 year plan. Increasing operations and utilizing funds. Focused on utilizing money to increase services and take care of facilities. All money goes into operations; TDA – \$1.1 M, \$204k is STA.

Closed Session

3:25 517/519 Main (CBHQ) refinance

3:35 Meals on Wheels relocation

3:45 Elderday ADA

3:50 Early Education Division – Staffing, Spending and Enrollment

End Closed Session

3:55 Questions and Items for next Agenda

4:10 Adjourn

Next Meeting June 9th, 2022



COMMUNITY BRIDGES PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD

Finance Committee

Thursday, June 9, 2022, 3:00-4:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/326410777>

Zoom Meeting ID: 326-410-777 Santa
Cruz County, CA

Present: Doug Underhill, Jack Jacobson, Michael Babich, Ray Cancino, Lisa Hindman Holbert, Erich Friedrich, Mary McMillan

Minutes: Mary Mackenzie

DRAFT MINUTES

3:00 Agenda Review

3:05 CFO Report – Doug Underhill

a) *CBHQ refinance*

501 Main put 608k on CB's line of credit which has been paid off in full yesterday. The CBHQ loan closed and the Swenson owner carry note/LOC and Santa Cruz County Bank note have been paid off in full.

b) *April 2022 Program Budget Summary / Program Updates & Analysis*

As of April 30, there was a \$30k net change, MOW is showing a -\$76k drop due to Capitola funding from CDBG not starting until 7/1 and also food prices continue to increase.

c) *Investments and Funds – Status Review May 31, 2022*

Live Oak Capital Campaign has been going down as well as the Endowment, closely mimicking drops in the overall market

d) *Cash Flow and Line of Credit*

Expecting to end year with close to 4M, but this really puts us close to 3.5M because part of our cash slow is because of the \$500K payment from CCAH to be used for 501 Main renovations.

The \$230k equipment purchase for EED was completed right at the end of the 3rd Quarter, which lead the state to recalculate after our 3rd quarter report that EED will be able to spend out the contract, so we received a \$750K payment from the State that was originally expected to be \$220K.

Michael asked a question about historical cash flow: First year CFO started, CB had just closed a FY with \$800k in cash. When CEO started it was \$350k at end of FY. CEO:

Financial stewardship has been his number one focus.

3:15 CORE funding analysis and discussion

a) *Program funding losses and consequences*

Currently receiving \$1.253M in CORE funding, and asked for \$1.469M for the new round, receiving \$436k, which equals a loss of funding of \$816k. For the FRCs, CB only has

enough money to open the doors, and realistically can help with projects with specific funding sources. Admin: Will have a reduced budget by \$118k. Prior year funding is being requested have to help support MOW, Elderday and Admin.

MOW: Hopefully through attrition and lowering the number of home delivered meals, MOW will be able to balance their operating budget moving forward. For the offices and kitchen at LOSC, they either have to vacate immediately or they may let us stay for a while and we'll do the maintenance which will cost \$120k. Should keep us there for 18-24 months. There are \$150k in expenses in the FY 2022-2023 budget to pay for repairs at LOSC and to do testing for a potential new home for MOW administration, kitchen and dining site. Raw food expenses continue to increase. MOW is asking for \$339k prior year funds, \$150 maintenance and \$180k in unfunded meals. MOW budget is primarily AAA, CORE and donations. We look at this as a 1-year investment but the program has to figure out a way to bring in additional revenues, or cut down home delivered meals. MOW does have ability to bring in additional revenues throughout the year. Chair: We don't have a means test, we serve everybody. CEO: AAA can't be means tested, only donations and private organizations could be means tested. MOW is sitting on \$1.5M of program reserves. FC Member: Is there a way to translate this to the number of meals? Congregate meal cost vs. home delivered meals and means tested vs. non-means tested, 4 numbers. How do we translate this out to the community? CEO: This is about \$10 per meal. Pre-covid: 100k-110k, now it is 180k, next year it is projected to be 189k. AAA contracted 110k. This needs to be demonstrated to the community.

Elderday: Elderday's budget has taken a -\$145K hit because of CORE, however, ADA is continuing to climb each month. Each ADA is \$30k annually. CB has built the budget at 65 ADA, in which Elderday would be starting at 60 ADA, then 65 ADA by mid-year and ending at a 70 ADA. Transportation charges: Elderday pays LL for the rides by clients to Elderday. The only way to make Elderday work is to have LL undercharge for rides. LL will cut admin expenses and cut 1 FTE position to do so. Elderday will be in structural deficit in the next three years. CB is working on trying to get more funds. Current reserve that they have can support it. LL team stepped up, MOW didn't get as far, but are working on trying to figure out whether there is a way to minimize cost of meals. Elderday runs on a barebones budget. There wasn't much to cut out in terms of expenses. CB is going to have to have a Board discussion to direct the MOW discussion. Every month PD is increasing the ADA, she's on track. What is Kaiser line with the revenue of \$20k? Direct to think about donated services. Elderday is looking for doctor, the stipend would only be \$500.00. CB has requested that Kaiser fund at \$150k for the next three years. The funds from the state include Medi-CAL, CBASS at a rate of \$76/day, maybe \$80/day, CCAH is funding Elderday at \$103.90/day + extra fee. Most people are getting \$82/day. We are getting \$111.53/day. Rate increase sunsets December.

b) *Loss of Administration Indirect*

Admin indirect revenues are decreasing by \$120k as a result of loss of CORE funding and consequently is asking for \$53k in prior year funds. The budget for Admin includes \$50k for strategic plan for this year.

c) *Highlands Park – Redwood Mountain Early Education sites*

HP has been operating on subsidized tiers, which is subsidized from CORE funding. EED PD has been looking at what the impacts are going to be. When CB looks back historically, there are losses without CORE in the amount of \$20k-\$60k+ per year. CB initially thought HP couldn't operate, but with the right amount of children it is possible. There will be no sliding scale. HP will need 15 FTEs, which equals about 21 children. EED PD: What CFO and I did was mapping out expenses that were fixed. State required not more than 16 children. There are 5 children that are there fulltime. EED will need 15 children at the full day rate. EED will have some children that only want 2-3 days. EED will need to analyze the CSPP, state funded sites. EED PD is taking this head on to grow this and make it profitable. CEO: EED PD will have about 6 months to make it work. Redwood Mountain doesn't really pay for itself. FC Member: This isn't affordable to folks, make it a mixed site at \$1700+ a month. How will EED be going from 5 to 15? We will need to do outreach, go to farmer's markets, fliers, etc. FC Member: Why are we running a private pay site, with the hopes of having a sliding scale later? It is an underserved community. FC Member: What is the capacity? There is an infant, toddler and preschool room, which are two separate groups. Title 22: EED can have 1:12 but chooses to have a 1:8 ratios. Data that was created to justify the rates.

3:25 Agency 2022-2023 budget roll-up

- a) *Required usage of prior year funding: Analysis of Meals on Wheels, Elderday and Admin.*

Motion: Approve the \$582,252.00 in prior year funds and to recommend the full board to the FY 22/23 budget as written be approved and amended with a mid-year budget to actual report. Motion moved by Jack/Michael, MSP.

- b) *Review of Agency budget- request for recommendation *Action Item*

3:55 Questions and Items for next Agenda

4:12 Adjourn

Next Meeting July 14th, 2022

COMMUNITY BRIDGES FY 22/23 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Review Timeline

Development Comm Review	May 11, 2022
Management Team Approval	May 25, 2022
Development Comm Approval	June 8, 2022
Board Review & Approval	June 15, 2022

Individual & Business Support						
Donations & Campaigns	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Projected Actual*	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
Unrestricted	\$282,200	\$260,473	\$255,320	\$268,206	\$135,032	\$136,748
CACFP	\$8,450	\$10,567	\$11,168	\$7,610	\$3,732	\$3,685
EED	\$6,350	\$5,115	\$5,486	\$8,410	\$6,332	\$6,491
WIC	\$3,000	\$8,116	\$4,361	\$3,729	\$3,664	\$1,607
ELD	\$8,544	\$8,446	\$10,493	\$18,318	\$7,240	\$9,765
LL	\$13,775	\$12,437	\$9,875	\$16,694	\$6,757	\$18,351
MOW	\$464,495	\$520,039	\$477,189	\$459,686	\$315,596	\$346,729
LMCR	\$5,000	\$4,012	\$4,946	\$4,976	\$9,000	\$1,435
LOCR	\$25,550	\$26,998	\$9,129	\$30,418	\$56,970	\$29,091
MCR	\$85,000	\$70,901	\$114,574	\$95,507	\$75,417	\$68,186
NVCR	\$8,150	\$2,680	\$7,992	\$8,061	\$15,973	\$14,306
TOTAL	\$910,514	\$929,784	\$910,533	\$921,615	\$635,713	\$636,394
Appeal & Campaign Summary	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Projected Actual*	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
Board Member Gifts to CB	\$3,200	\$2,000	\$1,900	\$5,450	\$3,700	\$3,900
CACFP Fundraiser Events	\$500	\$0	\$325	\$962	\$703	\$573
CB Annual Report	\$7,010	\$2,825	\$11,750	\$8,390	\$10,617	\$4,160
CB Calendar Appeal	\$36,350	\$9,359	\$21,523	\$45,911	\$35,090	\$31,748
CB Calendar Sponsors	\$4,000	\$500	\$2,250	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$6,500
CB Farm to Fork Gala	\$66,500	\$66,054	\$41,488	\$72,980	\$62,667	\$60,159
CB Giving Tuesday	\$23,110	\$20,208	\$25,050	\$11,097	\$13,385	\$13,291
General Donations	\$266,600	\$271,706	\$304,568	\$86,276	\$149,748	\$131,567
LL Van Sponsorship	\$8,400	\$8,400	\$3,600	\$10,520	\$2,760	\$12,010
Major Gifts \$1,000-\$5,000+	\$163,250	\$213,929	\$141,173	\$166,331	\$129,832	\$136,037
MCR Mountain Affair	\$28,000	\$27,517	\$2,645	\$21,650	\$21,592	\$21,618
MCR Phone-a-thon	\$12,000	\$100	\$13,877	\$18,604	\$16,652	\$17,475
MCR Outside Fundraisers	\$3,200	\$290	\$9,770	\$1,515	\$970	\$852
MOW Client Contributions	\$8,800	\$14,757	\$6,861	\$10,257	\$6,854	\$5,406
MOW Coin Drive	\$4,595	\$4,800	\$5,370	\$5,452	\$4,118	\$3,439
MOW Fall Mailer	\$140,000	\$144,672	\$169,092	\$101,438	\$88,676	\$102,918
MOW Food from the Heart	\$45,000	\$45,110	\$0	\$19,875	\$37,321	\$36,575
MOW Spring Mailer	\$90,000	\$90,557	\$91,302	\$140,206	\$47,528	\$48,166
COVID-19 & CZU Fire Relief	\$0	\$7,000	\$57,989	\$189,701	n/a	n/a
Grand Total	\$910,514	\$929,784	\$910,533	\$921,615	\$635,713	\$636,394

*21/22 Projected include 9 months actual, 3 months estimated based on prior year.

**Major gifts shown separately: \$5,000+ for CB & MOW, \$1,000+ All Other Programs

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Program Summary

CB Unrestricted Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
Board Donations	\$3,200	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$1,900	\$5,450	\$3,700	\$3,900
CB Annual Report	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$4,510	\$1,000	\$11,750	\$5,910	\$1,895	\$1,850
CB Calendar Appeal	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$20,958	\$8,125	\$9,455	\$28,287	\$23,105	\$15,748
Calendar Sponsors	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,500	\$500	\$2,250	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$6,500
Farm to Fork	\$50,000	\$35,000	\$8,000	\$49,054	\$19,988	\$48,080	\$50,017	\$40,124
General donations	\$135,000	\$40,000	\$32,746	\$113,746	\$131,699	\$38,679	\$33,555	\$28,536
Giving Tuesday	\$15,000	\$9,000	\$6,700	\$11,702	\$11,718	\$5,455	\$9,260	\$9,435
Major Gifts \$5,000+*	\$50,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$74,346	\$50,643	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$30,655
COVID-19 & CZU Fire Relief	\$0	\$0	\$5,500	\$0	\$10,917	\$56,845	\$0	\$0
COVID Major Gifts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$54,500	\$0	\$0
TOTALS	\$282,200	\$133,000	\$102,914	\$260,473	\$255,320	\$268,206	\$135,032	\$136,748

All numbers from this page forward show only the amounts designated or allocated to the specific program.

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

CACFP – Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CACFP Events	\$500	\$500	\$866	\$0	\$325	\$962	\$703	\$573
CB Annual Report	\$250	\$500	\$576	\$0	\$0	\$150	\$840	\$0
CB Calendar Appeal	\$500	\$500	\$527	\$325	\$600	\$585	\$256	\$603
Farm to Fork	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$600
Giving Tuesday	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$1,455	\$1,300	\$0	\$100	\$125
Program Donations	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$382	\$5,787	\$4,043	\$1,548	\$833	\$1,784
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$3,400	\$0	\$0	\$0
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$0	\$3,365	\$0	
TOTALS	\$8,450	\$4,000	\$2,350	\$10,567	\$11,168	\$7,610	\$3,732	\$3,685

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

EED - Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$100	\$0	\$446	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$745	\$0
CB Calendar Appeal	\$750	\$500	\$873	\$0	\$530	\$970	\$500	\$843
Farm to Fork	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$4,800
Program donations	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$2,688	\$1,832	\$906	\$940	\$537	\$823
Giving Tuesday	\$500	\$400	\$405	\$233	\$50	\$450	\$550	\$25
Site-based fundraising	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,800	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$0
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$0	\$550	\$0	\$0
TOTALS	\$6,350	\$5,900	\$7,112	\$5,115	\$5,486	\$8,410	\$6,332	\$6,491

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

WIC - Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$0	\$150	\$491	\$0	\$0	\$20	\$775	\$0
CB Calendar Appeal	\$500	\$250	\$270	\$0	\$500	\$300	\$113	\$25
Farm to Fork	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$600
Giving Tuesday	\$500	\$500	\$540	\$50	\$600	\$600	\$500	\$138
Program Donations	\$1,000	\$750	\$249	\$2,066	\$631	\$654	\$276	\$844
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$1,030	\$0	\$1,000	\$0
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$100	\$905	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$3,000	\$2,650	\$1,550	\$8,116	\$4,361	\$3,729	\$3,664	\$1,607

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

Elderday - Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$285	\$350	\$592	\$800	\$0	\$250	\$888	\$0
CB Calendar Appeal	\$1,500	\$1,250	\$1,141	\$7	\$1,125	\$1,268	\$1,627	\$1,008
Farm to Fork	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$1,200	\$1,000	\$1,000
Giving Tuesday	\$260	\$250	\$270	\$306	\$550	\$300	\$0	\$188
Program Donations	\$3,000	\$2,750	\$1,704	\$2,958	\$3,568	\$3,305	\$2,225	\$2,569
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,066	\$3,375	\$2,100	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$5,000
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$650	\$995	\$0	\$0
COVID Major \$1,000+	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,000		
TOTALS	\$8,544	\$7,600	\$5,773	\$8,446	\$10,493	\$18,318	\$7,240	\$9,765

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

Lift Line - Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$225	\$100	\$534	\$0	\$0	\$50	\$823	\$33
CB Calendar Appeal	\$600	\$500	\$534	\$2	\$1,400	\$593	\$309	\$447
Farm to Fork	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$1,600	\$2,000
Giving Tuesday	\$500	\$500	\$450	\$155	\$500	\$500	\$600	\$550
Program Donations	\$1,800	\$2,000	\$1,224	\$880	\$1,375	\$1,961	\$665	\$3,311
Van sponsorships	\$8,400	\$10,000	\$9,468	\$8,400	\$3,600	\$10,520	\$2,760	\$12,010
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$250	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$0	\$570	\$0	
Totals	\$13,775	\$15,100	\$12,209	\$12,437	\$9,875	\$16,694	\$6,757	\$18,351

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

Meals on Wheels - Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$100	\$0	\$1,525	\$2,483	\$1,246
CB Calendar Appeal	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$8,500	\$650	\$1,755	\$10,113	\$7,153	\$10,673
Client Contributions	\$8,800	\$8,500	\$5,000	\$14,757	\$6,861	\$10,257	\$6,854	\$5,406
Farm to Fork	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$11,200	\$3,000	\$9,000
Food from the Heart	\$45,000	\$35,000	\$10,000	\$45,110	\$0	\$19,875	\$37,321	\$36,575
Giving Tuesday	\$3,600	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$5,849	\$8,817	\$3,042	\$1,275	\$1,405
MOW Coin Drive	\$4,595	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$4,800	\$5,370	\$5,452	\$4,118	\$3,439
MOW Fall Mailing	\$140,000	\$100,000	\$90,000	\$144,672	\$169,092	\$101,438	\$88,676	\$102,918
MOW Spring Mailing	\$90,000	\$55,000	\$45,000	\$90,557	\$91,302	\$140,206	\$47,528	\$48,166
Program Donations	\$100,000	\$75,000	\$68,000	\$130,336	\$141,692	\$24,607	\$88,188	\$69,519
Major Gifts \$5,000+	\$60,000	\$40,000	\$10,000	\$78,208	\$49,000	\$79,301	\$29,000	\$58,382
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$1,300	\$52,670	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$464,495	\$337,000	\$243,000	\$520,039	\$477,189	\$459,686	\$315,596	\$346,729

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

La Manzana Community Resources - Development Goals

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$0	\$0	\$270	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$550	\$0
CB Calendar Appeal	\$500	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$200	\$225	\$100
Farm to Fork	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$300	\$370
Giving Tuesday	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$258	\$520	\$0	\$0	\$25
Program Donations	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$2,982	\$1,754	\$2,926	\$3,176	\$1,259	\$940
Major Gifts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$6,666	\$0
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$0	\$600	\$0	
TOTALS	\$5,000	\$2,700	\$3,252	\$4,012	\$4,946	\$4,976	\$9,000	\$1,435

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

Live Oak Community Resources - Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$0	\$250	\$360	\$0	\$0	\$50	\$650	\$33
CB Calendar Appeal	\$500	\$700	\$518	\$50	\$708	\$575	\$442	\$600
Farm to Fork	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$650	\$370
Giving Tuesday	\$50	\$50	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$50
Program Donations	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$2,931	\$2,848	\$3,921	\$2,818	\$5,128	\$4,038
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$20,000	\$2,000	\$20,700	\$23,000	\$3,000	\$24,200	\$50,000	\$24,000
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$0	\$1,775	\$0	\$0
TOTALS	\$25,550	\$7,500	\$24,508	\$26,998	\$9,129	\$30,418	\$56,970	\$29,091

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

Mountain Community Resources – Development Goals

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$500	\$500	\$540	\$500	\$0	\$435	\$1,100	\$120
CB Calendar Appeal	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$2,403	\$200	\$4,450	\$2,670	\$760	\$1,250
Farm to Fork	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$1,250	\$800	\$925
Giving Tuesday	\$500	\$500	\$675	\$100	\$995	\$750	\$0	\$225
Mountain Affair	\$28,000	\$22,000	\$0	\$27,517	\$2,645	\$21,650	\$21,592	\$21,618
Outside Fundraisers	\$3,200	new	new	\$290	\$9,770	\$1,515	\$970	\$852
Phoneathon	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$16,731	\$100	\$13,877	\$18,604	\$16,652	\$17,475
Program Donations	\$8,800	\$8,000	\$9,000	\$8,194	\$10,815	\$4,227	\$9,543	\$10,721
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$28,000	\$15,000	\$25,200	\$26,000	\$28,000	\$37,830	\$24,000	\$15,000
COVID-19 & CZU Fire	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$7,000	\$40,022	\$6,576	\$0	\$0
TOTALS	\$85,000	\$60,500	\$54,549	\$70,901	\$114,574	\$95,507	\$75,417	\$68,186

COMMUNITY BRIDGES 20/21 DEVELOPMENT PLAN
Program Summary

Nueva Vista Community Resources - Development Goal

Activities	22/23 Goal Proposed	21/22 Goal	20/21 Goal	21/22 Actual + Projected	20/21 Actual	19/20 Actual	18/19 Actual	17/18 Actual
CB Annual Report	\$150	\$0	\$180	\$375	\$0	\$0	\$550	\$35
CB Calendar Appeal	\$500	\$500	\$315	\$0	\$500	\$350	\$600	\$451
Farm to Fork	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$300	\$370
Giving Tuesday	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,125
Program Donations	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$3,495	\$1,305	\$2,992	\$4,361	\$6,857	\$9,325
Major Gifts \$1,000+	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$900	\$0	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$6,666	\$3,000
COVID-19 Relief	\$0	\$0	tbd	\$0	\$0	\$1,350	\$0	\$0
TOTALS	\$8,150	\$7,500	\$4,890	\$2,680	\$7,992	\$8,061	\$15,973	\$14,306

COMMUNITY BRIDGES FY 22/23 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Fundraising Activity Calendar

Activity - Q1	Event Date	Program
Farm to Fork Event	7/16/2022	CB
Calendar Sponsor Appeal	8/1/2022	CB
Mountain Affair	10/21/2022	MCR
Major Gift Outreach	10/15/2021	CB
Activity - Q2	Event Date	Program
Subaru Share the Love	11/1/2022	MOW
Calendar Mailing	11/1/2022	CB
Direct Mail Fall	11/15/2022	MOW
Giving Tuesday	11/29/2022	CB
Year-End Promotions	12/31/2022	CB
Activity - Q3	Event Date	Program
Monthly Giving Outreach	1/31/2023	CB
Flower-Gram Valentines	2/14/2023	CACFP
Food from the Heart	3/3/2023	MOW
Coin Drive promotion	2/1/2023	MOW
Community Champions Week	3/20/2023	MOW
Activity - Q4	Event Date	Program
Lift Line Sponsor Appeal	4/1/2023	LL
Phone-a-thon Campaign	4/1/2023	MCR
Annual Report	4/15/2023	CB
Direct Mail Spring	4/30/2023	MOW
Planned Giving Outreach	5/1/2023	CB

COMMUNITY BRIDGES

AGENCY BUDGET July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

	ADMIN	DEV.	CACFP	LOCR	WIC	LMCR	LL	MOW	MCR	NVCR	CDD	ELD	Budget Total 22/23	Budget FY 21/22	% Change
REVENUE:															
4001 Contributions from Individuals		202,200	4,500	23,950	3,000	5,000	5,100	364,900	54,000	6,150	5,650	7,044	681,494	473,354	43.97%
4002 Contributions from Business		30,000		1,500			10,000	50,000	3,000	2,000	250	1,500	98,250	88,250	11.33%
4003 Contributions from Other Fdns	110,555	6,335		106,448	11,720	487,909	40,000		328,176	124,671		20,000	1,235,814	515,626	139.67%
4200 Special Events		50,000						49,595	28,000				127,595	86,000	48.37%
4300 Legacies & Bequests								160,000	1,134				161,134	11,134	1347.22%
4700 United Way Allocations									25,000				25,000	95,600	-73.85%
5000 Gov Agencies-Other												71,691	71,691	91,276	-21.46%
5501 County of Santa Cruz								436,222					436,222	1,127,000	-61.29%
5501 County of SC-Summer Lunch						28,711							28,711	28,711	0.00%
5501 County of Santa Cruz-Other				23,840		89,116	1,045,000		8,000		66,800		1,232,756	1,108,599	11.20%
5503 City of Santa Cruz SSP													0	126,000	-100.00%
5503 City of SC/Capitola CDBG				5,521				66,000		100,000	1,004		172,525	166,521	3.61%
5503 City of Santa Cruz - TDA							905,637						905,637	775,247	16.82%
5505 City of Watsonville								5,000					5,000	5,000	0.00%
5600 State Government				5,000		47,704	413,743	577,535	5,000	5,000	1,933,408		2,987,390	2775000	7.65%
5700 Federal Government			4,218,676	21,301	6,861,445	113,037	119,500	668,212	10,930	23,248	75,354	59,475	12,171,178	11,757,390	3.52%
6200 Program Service Fees	2,118,715			43,003		85,906	238,847	136,588	38,921	71,946	247,248	1,644,933	4,626,107	4,382,843	5.55%
6500 Investment Income					6			3,091	24	5,606			8,727	8,727	0.00%
6900 Miscellaneous Revenue				23,500	1,800	38,025	29,832		16,880	11,289	1,946		123,272	107,467,00	14.71%
Transfer from Reserves	53,752							339,711				188,789	582,252	174,563	233.55%
Community Foundation of SC		50,000	10,000	15,000		40,610			110,000			50,000	275,610	130,000	112.01%
First 5 Santa Cruz County				39,771		199,703			45,656	5,000	13,320		303,450	283,450	7.06%
TOTAL REVENUE:	2,283,022	338,535	4,233,176	308,834	6,877,971	1,135,721	2,807,659	2,856,854	674,721	354,910	2,344,980	2,043,432	26,259,815	24,317,758	7.99%

	ADMIN	DEV.	CACFP	LOCR	WIC	LMCR	LL	MOW	MCR	NVCR	CDD	ELD	Total 22/23	FY 21/22	% Change
PERSONNEL EXPENSE:															
7000 Salaries Total	1,472,345	96,102	254,172	148,807	1,418,875	542,198	928,954	731,184	180,376	197,554	1,278,327	748,288	7,997,182	7,363,801	8.60%
7100 Employee Health	141,234	9,929	40,742	18,885	154,704	85,594	131,858	100,511	17,759	19,181	210,790	111,134	1,042,321	1,062,631	-1.91%
7100 Employee Retirement	59,294	3,695	5,807	1,270	66,690	15,349	23,438	27,553	6,305	1,750	27,404	31,389	269,944	229,803	17.47%
7200 Payroll Taxes	136,366	8,792	25,126	13,598	126,402	49,654	126,626	76,156	16,343	17,899	164,025	70,843	831,830	793,078	4.89%
TOTAL SALARIES/BENEFITS:	1,809,239	118,518	325,847	182,560	1,766,671	692,795	1,210,876	935,404	220,783	236,384	1,680,546	961,654	10,141,277	9,449,313	7.32%
SERVICES/SUPPLIES EXPENSE:															
8000 Professional Fees: Audit	41,807						2,884						44,691	44,058	1.44%
8010 Indep. Prof. Consultants	122,262	91,657	28,514	28,116	41,394	84,030	113,246	255,756	23,617	7,242	19,631	84,101	899,566	604,204	48.88%
8100 Supplies	43,194	55,090	5,828	5,414	67,397	15,750	19,200	1,030,691	12,529	5,646	113,076	150,819	1,524,634	1,185,542	28.60%
8200 Telephone/Communications	15,814	1,860	2,402	10,229	37,085	16,085	23,722	11,050	5,517	10,972	15,541	7,946	158,223	182,810	-13.45%
8300 Postage & Shipping	2,682	4,816	6,091	1,882	9,157	20,437	2,295	14,977	1,404	113	256	2,284	66,394	45,502	45.91%
8400 Occupancy Total	95,789	260	28,754	17,283	276,026	74,372	139,712	130,763	55,581	27,505	121,250	289,042	1,256,337	1,275,761	-1.52%
8500 Rent/Maintenance of Equip	7,564			8,522	1,973	3,241	48,605	20,806	2,738	1,218	5,640	626	100,933	52,683	91.59%
8600 Printing & Publications	9,928	13,675	2,861	1,305	2,464	1,729	2,825	9,365	1,475	2,581	841	1,222	50,271	46,753	7.52%
8700 Travel & Transportation	6,705	857	3,075	1,482	1,545	3,117	163,586	30,922	2,412	1,478	8,899	210,806	434,884	510,453	-14.80%
8800 Conferences and Meetings	64,286	1,294	1,298	851	15,000	1,239	4,049	1,697	867	475	9,963	3,751	104,770	77,160	35.78%
8900 Assistance to Individ.					4,257,496				264,500				4,521,996	4,260,496	6.14%
9000 Membership Dues	9,943	500	250	186	3,856	837	3,942	1,679	0	210	410	6,992	28,805	25,357	13.60%
9300 Insurance/Bond	11,200		930	4,475	11,030	6,897	84,885	22,801	5,026	9,219	17,746	16,475	190,684	184,763	3.20%
9400 Miscellaneous	19,008	814	906	1,651	4,934	3,326	14,907	8,333	2,226	1,643	10,269	9,940	77,957	81,647	-4.52%
9400 Fixed Assets	1,806						708,900		16,000				726,706	472,345	53.85%
9600 Dist. of Program Costs	21,795	49,194	65,733	44,878	381,943	157,159	264,025	382,610	60,046	50,224	340,902	297,774	2,116,283	1,922,116	10.10%
Program Reserve													0	19,860	-100.00%
9691 Payment/Affiliated Orgs.			3,760,687			54,707							3,815,394	3,876,925	-1.59%
TOTAL SERVICES/SUPPLIES:	473,783	220,017	3,907,329	126,274	5,111,300	442,926	1,596,783	1,921,450	453,938	118,526	664,434	1,081,778	16,118,538	14,868,445	8.41%
TOTAL EXPENSES:	2,283,022	338,535	4,233,176	308,834	6,877,971	1,135,721	2,807,659	2,856,854	674,721	354,910	2,344,980	2,043,432	26,259,815	24,317,758	7.99%
Percentage Change 21/22 to 22/23	9.43%	5.15%	0.00%	-17.60%	3.49%	26.81%	16.32%	28.32%	21.20%	0.70%	10.10%	-1.79%	7.99%		
Total Budget FY 20/21	2,086,237	321,957	4,233,176	374,781	6,645,974	895,605	2,413,740	2,226,420	556,714	352,453	2,129,942	2,080,759	24,317,758		
	ADMIN	DEV.	CACFP	LOCR	WIC	LMCR	LL	MOW	MCR	NVCR	CDD	ELD			

Note: WIC VOUCHERS AND CACFP PASSTHROUGH IN 2022/2023 BUDGET IS SAME AS 2021/2022 BUDGET

Increase in 2022/2023 budget versus 2021/2022 budget = 1,942,057 7.99%

Increase in 2022/2023 budget versus 2021/2022 budget without prior year funding = 1,359,805 5.59%

Increase in 2022/2023 budget versus 2021/2022 budget without WIC Vouchers and CACFP pass-through= 11.94%

Increase in 2022/2023 budget versus 2021/2022 budget without WIC vouchers and CACFP pass-through without prior year funding = 8.36%

	ADMIN	DEV.	CACFP	LOCR	WIC	LMCR	LL	MOW	MCR	NVCR	CDD	ELD	Total 22/23 FY 21/22	% Change
PERSONNEL EXPENSE:														
7000 Salaries Total	1,472,345	96,102	254,172	148,807	1,418,875	542,198	928,954	731,184	180,376	197,554	1,278,327	748,288	7,997,182	8.60%
7100 Employee Health	141,234	9,929	40,742	18,885	154,704	85,594	131,858	100,511	17,759	19,181	210,790	111,134	1,042,321	-1.91%
7100 Employee Retirement	59,294	3,695	5,807	1,270	66,690	15,349	23,438	27,553	6,305	1,750	27,404	31,389	269,944	17.47%
7200 Payroll Taxes	136,366	8,792	25,126	13,598	126,402	49,654	126,626	76,156	16,343	17,899	164,025	70,843	831,830	4.89%
TOTAL SALARIES/BENEFITS:	1,809,239	118,518	325,847	182,560	1,766,671	692,795	1,210,876	935,404	220,783	236,384	1,680,546	961,654	10,141,277	7.32%
SERVICES/SUPPLIES EXPENSE:														
8000 Professional Fees: Audit	41,807						2,884						44,691	1.44%
8010 Indep. Prof. Consultants	122,262	91,657	28,514	28,116	41,394	84,030	113,246	255,756	23,617	7,242	19,631	84,101	899,566	48.88%
8100 Supplies	43,194	55,090	5,828	5,414	67,397	15,750	19,200	1,030,691	12,529	5,646	113,076	150,819	1,524,634	28.60%
8200 Telephone/Communications	15,814	1,860	2,402	10,229	37,085	16,085	23,722	11,050	5,517	10,972	15,541	7,946	158,223	-13.45%
8300 Postage & Shipping	2,682	4,816	6,091	1,882	9,157	20,437	2,295	14,977	1,404	113	256	2,284	66,394	45.91%
8400 Occupancy Total	95,789	260	28,754	17,283	276,026	74,372	139,712	130,763	55,581	27,505	121,250	289,042	1,256,337	-1.52%
8500 Rent/Maintenance of Equip	7,564			8,522	1,973	3,241	48,605	20,806	2,738	1,218	5,640	626	100,933	91.59%
8600 Printing & Publications	9,928	13,675	2,861	1,305	2,464	1,729	2,825	9,365	1,475	2,581	841	1,222	50,271	7.52%
8700 Travel & Transportation	6,705	857	3,075	1,482	1,545	3,117	163,586	30,922	2,412	1,478	8,899	210,806	434,884	-14.80%
8800 Conferences and Meetings	64,286	1,294	1,298	851	15,000	1,239	4,049	1,697	867	475	9,963	3,751	104,770	35.78%
8900 Assistance to Individ.					4,257,496				264,500				4,521,996	6.14%
9000 Membership Dues	9,943	500	250	186	3,856	837	3,942	1,679	0	210	410	6,992	28,805	13.60%
9300 Insurance/Bond	11,200		930	4,475	11,030	6,897	84,885	22,801	5,026	9,219	17,746	16,475	190,684	3.20%
9400 Miscellaneous	19,008	814	906	1,651	4,934	3,326	14,907	8,333	2,226	1,643	10,269	9,940	77,957	-4.52%
9400 Fixed Assets	1,806						708,900		16,000				726,706	53.85%
9600 Dist. of Program Costs	21,795	49,194	65,733	44,878	381,943	157,159	264,025	382,610	60,046	50,224	340,902	297,774	2,116,283	10.10%
Program Reserve													0	-100.00%
9691 Payment/Affiliated Orgs.			3,760,687			54,707							3,815,394	-1.59%
TOTAL SERVICES/SUPPLIES:	473,783	220,017	3,907,329	126,274	5,111,300	442,926	1,596,783	1,921,450	453,938	118,526	664,434	1,081,778	16,118,538	8.41%
TOTAL EXPENSES:	2,283,022	338,535	4,233,176	308,834	6,877,971	1,135,721	2,807,659	2,856,854	674,721	354,910	2,344,980	2,043,432	26,259,815	7.99%
Percentage Change 21/22 to 22/23	9.43%	5.15%	0.00%	-17.60%	3.49%	26.81%	16.32%	28.32%	21.20%	0.70%	10.10%	-1.79%	7.99%	
Total Budget FY 20/21	2,086,237	321,957	4,233,176	374,781	6,645,974	895,605	2,413,740	2,226,420	556,714	352,453	2,129,942	2,080,759	24,317,758	
	ADMIN	DEV.	CACFP	LOCR	WIC	LMCR	LL	MOW	MCR	NVCR	CDD	ELD		

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Increase in 2022/2023 budget versus 2021/2022 budget without WIC Vouchers and CACFP pass-through= **11.94%**

Increase in 2022/2023 budget versus 2021/2022 budget without WIC vouchers and CACFP pass-through without prior year funding = **8.36%**

COMMUNITY BRIDGES

AGENCY BUDGET July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

	ADMIN	DEV.	CACFP	LOCR	WIC	LMCR	LL	MOW	MCR	NVCR	CDD	ELD	Budget Total 22/23	Budget FY 21/22	% Change
REVENUE:															
4001 Contributions from Individuals		202,200	4,500	23,950	3,000	5,000	5,100	364,900	54,000	6,150	5,650	7,044	681,494	473,354	43.97%
4002 Contributions from Business		30,000		1,500			10,000	50,000	3,000	2,000	250	1,500	98,250	88,250	11.33%
4003 Contributions from Other Fdns	110,555	6,335		106,448	11,720	487,909	40,000		328,176	124,671		20,000	1,235,814	515,626	139.67%
4200 Special Events		50,000						49,595	28,000				127,595	86,000	48.37%
4300 Legacies & Bequests								160,000	1,134				161,134	11,134	1347.22%
4700 United Way Allocations									25,000				25,000	95,600	-73.85%
5000 Gov Agencies-Other												71,691	71,691	91,276	-21.46%
5501 County of Santa Cruz								436,222					436,222	1,127,000	-61.29%
5501 County of SC-Summer Lunch						28,711							28,711	28,711	0.00%
5501 County of Santa Cruz-Other				23,840		89,116	1,045,000		8,000		66,800		1,232,756	1,108,599	11.20%
5503 City of Santa Cruz SSP													0	126,000	-100.00%
5503 City of SC/Capitola CDBG				5,521				66,000		100,000	1,004		172,525	166,521	3.61%
5503 City of Santa Cruz - TDA							905,637						905,637	775,247	16.82%
5505 City of Watsonville								5,000					5,000	5,000	0.00%
5600 State Government				5,000		47,704	413,743	577,535	5,000	5,000	1,933,408		2,987,390	2775000	7.65%
5700 Federal Government			4,218,676	21,301	6,861,445	113,037	119,500	668,212	10,930	23,248	75,354	59,475	12,171,178	11,757,390	3.52%
6200 Program Service Fees	2,118,715			43,003		85,906	238,847	136,588	38,921	71,946	247,248	1,644,933	4,626,107	4,382,843	5.55%
6500 Investment Income					6			3,091	24	5,606			8,727	8,727	0.00%
6900 Miscellaneous Revenue				23,500	1,800	38,025	29,832		16,880	11,289	1,946		123,272	107,467.00	14.71%
Transfer from Reserves	53,752							339,711				188,789	582,252	174,563	233.55%
Community Foundation of SC		50,000	10,000	15,000		40,610			110,000			50,000	275,610	130,000	112.01%
First 5 Santa Cruz County				39,771		199,703			45,656	5,000	13,320		303,450	283,450	7.06%
TOTAL REVENUE:	2,283,022	338,535	4,233,176	308,834	6,877,971	1,135,721	2,807,659	2,856,854	674,721	354,910	2,344,980	2,043,432	26,259,815	24,317,758	7.99%

COMMUNITY BRIDGES Program Budget Summary April 30, 2022											
Projections for Year Ending 6-30-2022											
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	J	K
PROGRAM NAME:	6/30/21 Audited Balance	Annual 21/22 Approved Budget	Current Projected Expenses	Current Projected Revenues	As Yet Unsecured Revenues	(E-D) Net 2021-2022 Gain/Loss	(B+G) Cumulative Gain/Loss	Goal 25% Reserve %	Change from Prior Mo	% Change	14.53% Gen'l & Adm Exp
WIC (CB FY)	202,467	2,396,283	2,417,827	2,421,377	0	3,550	206,017	8.6%	-	0.0%	348,437
Early Education Division	396,803	2,129,942	2,294,589	2,386,981	120,000	92,392	489,195	21.4%	(4,800)	-0.2%	286,194
Elderday	374,009	2,115,484	1,748,544	1,867,972	200,000	119,428	493,437	28.2%	8,157	0.5%	247,594
Meals on Wheels	1,482,216	2,226,420	2,453,424	2,347,278	150,000	(106,146)	1,376,070	58.5%	(76,815)	-3.1%	350,449
Lift Line	(162,360)	2,394,240	2,592,310	2,614,499	75,000	22,189	(140,171)	-6.3%	(4,513)	-0.2%	262,468
La Manzana Commtty Res	301,521	895,605	1,425,493	1,432,057	55,700	6,564	308,085	21.8%	(7,537)	-0.5%	170,493
Mountain Commtty Res	359,168	556,714	644,670	650,499	64,920	5,829	364,997	57.6%	3,357	0.5%	77,754
Nueva Vista Commtty Res	292,144	352,453	468,869	484,773	38,800	15,904	308,048	66.3%	15,449	3.3%	68,133
Live Oak Commtty Res	186,265	374,781	455,040	456,854	29,000	1,814	188,079	41.3%	(128)	0.0%	66,124
CACFP (CB FY)	21,931	4,178,223	3,902,236	3,952,393	120,000	50,157	72,088	8.9%	12,647	0.3%	65,733
Administration	167,049	2,090,173	2,167,699	2,151,352	50,000	(16,347)	150,702	7.0%	20,393	0.9%	19,616
Philanthropy	244,344	316,214	311,685	320,806	33,000	9,121	253,465	81.3%	3,596	1.2%	45,292
TOTAL PROG OPERATIONS	3,865,557	20,026,532	20,882,386	21,086,841	936,420	204,455	4,070,012	24.74%	(30,194)	-0.1%	2,008,287
LOCR-Capital Campaign	531,628	27,240	24,070	(39,347)	0	(63,417)	468,211	NA	(25,926)		0
CBHQ FY 20/21 Activity		-	249,432	235,649	0	(13,783)	(13,783)	NA	(2,623)		0
501 Main Street	850,000		610,175	0	0	(610,175)	239,825	NA	(14,366)		15,451
Fixed Assets & Gen'l Agy	4,475,620	-	1,780	50,848	0	49,068	4,524,688	NA	(28,469)		0
TOTAL AGENCY	8,872,805	20,053,772	21,767,843	21,333,991	936,420	(433,852)	9,288,953	24.74%	(101,578)	-0.5%	2,023,738

Fixed Asset purchases and Pass-Thru expenses exempt from Indirect; Revenues and Expenses include all pass-through

Program Budget Summary
April 30, 2022

PROGRAM NAME:

WIC	-10K CDPH rev/exp, -8.5K Telephone
Early Education Division	75K supply purchase still awaiting approval, +60K to spend out, -5K HP rev.
Elderday	+1K V.A. rev, +11K private pay, -4K CCAH rev., April ADA= 56
Meals on Wheels	+63K projected food expenses, +6K revenue (4.5K participant contributions)
Lift Line	-12K personnel (new hires), +8K vehicle operating, +intrest expense
La Manzana CR	+5K contract services, +2K media, +3K CAFB, +3K CFMC, -15K prog supply, +6K minor equip, 15K grant deferred
MCR	-12K Phone-a-thon rev., -10K personnel exp.
Nueva Vista CR	-8.5K personnel (EE term), +5K CAFB, + 2K outside contracts
Live Oak CR	minimal change
CACFP	+DCH count, DCH proj 348 Mar.and 360 Apr., New Hire LT Farm to School
Administration	-10K Personnel (new hire pushed out + vacancy), -5K supplies, +7K G.A.
Philanthropy	Trimming year end expense lines, proj 18K donations May/June
 LOCR-Cap Campaign	 Actual YTD less proj FY 21/22 expenses, 4/30/2022 \$471,287
La Manzana Property	Actual Revenue/Expense through 3/31/2022, +Maint exp.
501 Main Street	Actual Expenses as they occur, CCAH grant not yet realized revenue
FAs & Agy Unrestr.	Actual YTD less projected FY 21/22 expenses, Endowment Balance 4/30/2022 \$730,747
Total Agency	Proj Program +204, Proj Agency -433K, +857 FA

SANTA CRUZ LOCAL™

South County residents describe their priorities for supervisor candidates

By Natalya Dreszer and Kara Meyberg Guzman | March 17, 2022



Santa Cruz Local interviewed and surveyed 40 residents of Watsonville and the surrounding areas about their priorities for the District 4 Santa Cruz County supervisor race. (Kara Meyberg Guzman — Santa Cruz Local file)

WATSONVILLE >> Santa Cruz Local is focusing its June 7 election reporting on the issues most important to residents. To find the priorities of residents of Santa Cruz County supervisorial District 4, interviews and surveys were conducted with 40 residents from the district.

[District 4](#) includes part of Watsonville and much of Pajaro Valley including areas east of Green Valley Road, along Highway 152 and neighborhoods along Casserly and Mount Madonna roads. The District 4 seat is held by Greg Caput, who is in his third four-year term. He is not running for reelection.

We asked:

- What do you want local candidates to talk about as they compete for your vote?
- What do you want local government to do for you and your community? Why is that important to you?
- What help or services do people you know need right now?

We heard from people ages 12 to 70. We interviewed District 4 residents at:

- A La Manzana Community Resources food distribution in Watsonville.
- Watsonville Farmers Market.
- A Barrios Unidos food distribution in Santa Cruz.

We also sent our survey with the Santa Cruz Local email newsletter, through social media and through Rise Together, a coalition of people of color working to advance racial equity in the county.

Priorities from residents are listed below in order of frequency.

A need for rent assistance

Rent assistance was the most frequently mentioned priority in our surveys and interviews with District 4 residents.

Benito Perez, 66, is a registered District 4 voter and also works in the berry fields. He pays \$2,300 for a two-bedroom apartment in Watsonville.

“My dream is to buy a house, or at least find something cheaper to rent,” Perez said in Spanish.

He wants the supervisorial candidates to address the high cost of rent. He does not have an income in the winter since farm work is seasonal.

“Lower the rents. The salaries that we make are little and the rent is so high,” Perez said. “The cost of food is rising and the gas is going up. What’s going to happen now?”

Watsonville resident Elias Lopez, 47, works in the berry fields. His wife works with children. They pay \$1,800 in rent for a two-bedroom apartment for their family of five. Even with their two incomes, it’s difficult to afford. He said he would want the supervisorial candidates to prioritize rent assistance.

“The biggest problem is rent,” Lopez said in Spanish. He said he and his wife work hard, but they make very little. Like Perez, he does not have an income in the winter.

Higher wages

Many District 4 residents described a need for higher wages to afford the rising cost of living.

Josefina Reyes, 45, works in the berry fields. She said she recently got a \$1 raise, but it’s not enough. She said she wants more housing dedicated to farmworkers.

“The (berry) season hasn’t started yet,” Reyes said in Spanish in early March. “What we saved is already gone to pay rent.” Costs are rising. “It’s \$100 for a little bag of groceries. I need help. Low-income homes need to be built.”

Affordable housing

District 4 residents want to be able to afford to live in Watsonville. Watsonville resident Raynaldo Ramirez, 55, is a welder. He dreams of owning a home one day. He pays \$1,500 in rent and says he needs higher wages and more work to comfortably afford that.

Ramirez said he’d like to see supervisorial candidates create more job opportunities and more affordable housing. About 12 years ago, Ramirez applied for a Housing Choice voucher, formerly known as Section 8. He is still on a wait list. “I have only received letters, but I’m hoping,” Ramirez said in Spanish.

Activities for youth

Some District 4 residents said they want more programs and activities for youth. Some teens described a perceived lack of safety.

Fatima Ayalah lives in Watsonville. “I don’t feel safe in the plaza,” she said in Spanish in an interview at the Watsonville City Plaza. She said that when she and her friends walk through the plaza and the Watsonville Slough trails, they are harassed by older men. “Older guys tell you things,” Fatima said. “You just feel not safe, like not secure. Even though they don’t do anything. Sometimes they tell you nasty words.”

Fatima said she’d feel safer with more police presence.

Watsonville resident Blanca Iris Cruz, 60, works as a caregiver in Santa Cruz. She said she wants youth programs like sports to keep adolescents away from gangs. District 4 residents don’t need more parks — they need organized activities for youth, Cruz said. “I’m from Guatemala,” she said in Spanish. “From a young age in Guatemala, they show you to be involved in gymnastics, basketball — sports. The adolescents all participate in sports. I’d love to see that in Watsonville. That help for the youth, so they don’t go into gangs.”

A 46-year-old Watsonville resident named Elvia works at a local medical facility. She said she plans to register to vote by June 7. She said she wants “more things for kids. Definitely like maybe an arcade for the kids, maybe a bowling alley. I feel like there’s nothing for the kids and they’re always running around in the streets.” Elvia said her family drives to Salinas, Morgan Hill and San Jose for activities due to a lack in the Watsonville area.

A supervisor who will advocate for South County

Some District 4 residents said they want a candidate who will be a strong advocate for resources for South County.

Former Watsonville mayor and registered District 4 voter Oscar Rios said “it has always been, like, the North and the South. And the South has always been left, you know, to survive by its own.”

Rios compared supervisors’ achievements in District 4 with those in Monterey County. “When I hear what supervisors are able to do, it floors me,” he said of the work in Salinas by Monterey County Supervisor Luis Alejo. “The kinds of things [Alejo] is doing in Salinas to represent his district, to enforce programs for kids, to enforce police vigilance, to enforce housing to work, to enforce, you know, housing for the homeless, on and on and on, and he is out there in the front. Have we had that in our area? No. And that’s what’s been disappointing there for 36 years.”

A draft for our People’s Agenda

Our questions for the District 4 candidates are based on themes we heard from District 4. We call this list our “People’s Agenda.”

1. Many District 4 residents told us they need immediate help to pay rent. They can’t wait for an affordable housing project to be developed. What will you do as a county supervisor in your first year to expand rent assistance programs? Where could that money come from?

2. We heard from many District 4 residents that they want more affordable housing projects in District 4. What's your plan as a supervisor to bring more affordable housing projects to District 4?
3. Many District 4 residents told us about their frustration and anxiety about their low wages that don't match the cost of rent, food, gas and child care in Santa Cruz County. Is addressing low wages a priority for you? What's your plan to attract and retain employers to create more jobs that pay enough to live here?
4. We heard a demand for more activities for youth and families. How can you expand programs, including parks and recreation? What will you do to attract more entertainment and leisure businesses for youth and families?
5. Some District 4 voters we talked to said they wanted a supervisor who will advocate for Watsonville and District 4 residents. They want a supervisor who will push the rest of the board and bring more county resources to this area. Please give an example of how you have successfully pushed for the interests of District 4 residents. We want to know how you'll work with others on the board to improve the district.

District 4 residents, what are your thoughts about our People's Agenda? We invite you to [take our online survey](#). Your feedback will inform our reporting for the Nov. 8 general election.

Below is a summary of the responses we've received as of March 11.

Read [priorities of District 3 residents for the Santa Cruz County supervisor race](#).

Editor's note: Co-author Kara Meyberg Guzman is a member of the Rise Together coalition mentioned in this story. Oscar Rios, a Watsonville voter quoted in this story, was hired by Santa Cruz Local as a Spanish interpreter for this story.

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Kara Meyberg Guzman is the CEO and co-founder of Santa Cruz Local. Prior to Santa Cruz Local, she served as the Santa Cruz Sentinel's managing editor. She has a biology degree from Stanford University and lives in Santa Cruz.




**NoticiasYa Costa Central**
March 21 at 4:47 PM · 

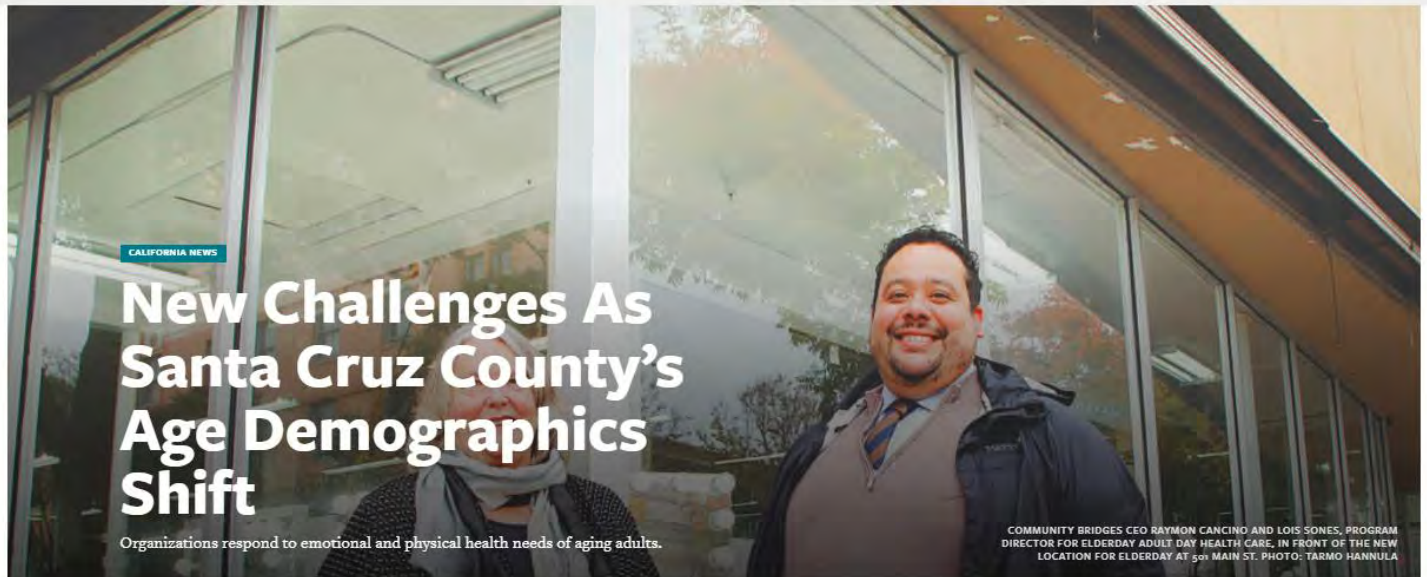
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Community Bridges CEO Raymon Cancino and Lois Sones, Program Director for Elderday Adult Day Health Care, in front of the new location for Elderday at 501 Main St. Photo: Tarmo Hannula

New Challenges As Santa Cruz County's Age Demographics Shift

Organizations respond to emotional and physical health needs of aging adults.

BY **JOHANNA MILLER**

POSTED ON MARCH 22, 2022

<https://goodtimes.sc/this-weeks-issue/new-challenges-as-santa-cruz-countys-age-demographics-shift/>

For the first time in this country's history, older adults are soon expected to outnumber children. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, by 2030—by which time even the youngest of the Boomer generation will have turned 65—older Americans will make up 21% of the population, compared to 15% today.

This same shift is happening locally, as well.

“More people here are going to be over age 60 than under 18 very soon,” says Alicia Morales, director of Santa Cruz County's Adult and Long Term Care Division. “In Santa Cruz specifically, by 2030 about 30% of our residents will be over the age of 60.”

With this comes new challenges: How can communities better meet the needs of their older populations? How can cities become safer, healthier, friendlier and altogether more livable places for these residents?

In California, a group of advocates has been working to address those issues. The SCAN Foundation, an independent charity aimed at transforming care for older adults, led an effort to get both of the last gubernatorial candidates to commit to creating a comprehensive Master Plan for Aging (MPA) if elected.

The ambitious 10-year plan, says Morales, aims to provide a framework that communities can use to build their own initiatives and strategies that function on a local level.

“What we want to do is really look at the systems we already have in place,” Morales says, “and focus on improving and reforming those systems in innovative ways, to help promote aging in California.”

PAVING A PATH

When Gov. Gavin Newsom was elected in 2018, he created a 30-person advisory committee, made up of caregiving and at-home services experts, academics, health care professionals and regional Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), which are tasked with fulfilling the requirements of the Older Americans Act of 1965.

“Our group was in charge of putting together recommendations of things we would like to see in the plan, with public input,” says Clay Kempf, executive director of the Seniors Council of Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties, a local AAA organization. “Throughout the conversation, there was great concern that it not just be a plan sitting on a shelf. That it actually be used. It’s fine for a governor to say, ‘We want to have this plan,’ but somebody’s got to implement it. I think it was brilliant to put that component and document together, just to make it clear: We want to see this become reality.”

MPA includes five broad goals: Housing for All Stages and Ages; Health Reimagined; Inclusion and Equity, Not Isolation; Affording Aging; and Caregiving that Works.

Housing for All Stages and Ages looks at the various types of housing needed to support older adults, including neighborhoods that are accessibility friendly and disaster-ready. Health Reimagined aims to create communities that support healthy aging—that is, access to good medical care, home care and health plans.

The Inclusion and Equity, Not Isolation goal targets job creation, volunteer opportunities and other types of engagement for older adults while protecting them from isolation, discrimination, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Affording Aging speaks to how the current cost of living is outpacing retirement income. Morales reported that in Santa Cruz County, 42% of residents do not have sufficient income to meet basic needs, and that 11.3% of people experiencing homelessness are now over 65.

The final goal, Caregiving that Works, addresses the ongoing caregiver shortages occurring nationwide and locally.

“Good caregiving is essential for people to live where and how they want to,” Morales says. “This is also about job creation, pay and training. Most caregivers are family members and are unpaid. It’s estimated that there is a couple of billion dollars of care in the U.S. being provided to people for free. We want to build a better system for caregivers.”

With the MPA, agencies and their nonprofits partners hope to tie in budget requests for state and federal funding to these five items.

“That is what the plan helps us do,” Kempf says. “A budget proposal will seem more credible because it ties into something that the governor supports. We don’t have to work so hard. We can just say, ‘Yeah, this ties into goal No. 4 on the MPA.’ You can walk away with support right off the bat.”

Earlier this year, the Seniors Council held a kickoff webinar to introduce the community to the MPA, encouraging more people to get involved. They will be meeting with local leaders every month to discuss how it can be used. In addition, the county has pulled together a governance group that is meeting quarterly about the plan.

“Santa Cruz County really wanted to take the lead,” Kempf says. “So I’m cheering, silently doing a standing ovation that there’s engagement here, and an effort to try and implement some of these opportunities.”

GROUNDWORK

Prior to adopting the MPA, local groups were already looking for ways to help older adults. The City of Watsonville, with the help of Kempf and Older Adult Services Supervisor Katie Nuñez, implemented Livable Communities (LC), an initiative through the World Health Organization that was adopted by AARP. By receiving LC status, a jurisdiction is taking a five-year commitment to becoming a more livable community for older adults.

“It’s about working on housing, transportation, walkability, social programs, health services ... basically, the overall livability of a community,” Nuñez says. “It’s about looking through the lens of older adults, and the challenges they face.”

Both Watsonville and the City of Santa Cruz have now moved toward the LC designation, as has the county as a whole. The jurisdictions will soon join forces to conduct a countywide survey to determine what issues are most important to residents.

“We are looking to partner with the county to help with outreach efforts,” Nuñez says. “That way, we don’t have to double up.”

Adds Morales: “As we’re moving forward with the MPA, we’re sort of meeting the Livable Communities goal at the same time. We figured, let’s come together, leverage resources and be as efficient as possible.”

South Santa Cruz County will soon become a regional hub for senior services. Elderday Adult Day Health Care, a program of nonprofit Community Bridges, is moving into Watsonville. On March 25, a groundbreaking ceremony will be held for their new center at 521 Main St.

The \$6 million project, aided by a \$2.5 million grant from the Central California Alliance for Health, will add an additional 3,600 square feet of space and allow the program to expand its services.

“We’re just really excited because this means that we’re going to serve lots of seniors with medically complex needs, have daily access to nurses, to therapists, social workers, to help support their health as well as their well-being,” says Community Bridges CEO Raymon Cancino. “And it will help families have a safe location for their loved ones during the day, which is incredibly needed.”

Elderday moving to South County will be a boon to the municipality, which is one of the fastest-growing and most densely populated in terms of MediCal eligible patients. The move will decrease the number of cars on the busy Highway 1 corridor, and make it viable for North Monterey County and San Benito County seniors to be served, Cancino says.

“Programs like Elderday are incredibly rare in the State of California,” Cancino adds, “just because the funding has been going down year by year from the federal government. We’re lucky we have great partners [who] understand the preventative health value of adult day health care services that having daily monitoring helps tremendously in health outcomes. We’re excited to have a healthier senior population by relocating to Watsonville.”

OVERLOOKED ISSUE

Throughout the pandemic, Community Bridges has retained its Lift Line transportation services and adapted its Meals on Wheels program. It also partnered with the county, cities, local libraries and other groups to create Senior Center Without Limits, which offers virtual services to older adults to help them stay connected with activities and friends as they sheltered in their homes.

But more support for older adult-serving organizations and programs is sorely needed. In March 2021, AARP reported that growing feelings of loneliness, abandonment, despair and fear have had a drastic effect on older adults' physical and emotional health, possibly pushing the death toll of Covid-19 higher, both for those living at home and at long-term care facilities.

In addition, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported that poor social relationships were associated with a 29% increased risk of heart disease and a 32% increased risk of stroke in older adults, and that loneliness among heart failure patients was associated with a nearly four times increased risk of death, 68% increased risk of hospitalization and 57% increased risk of emergency visits. These issues disproportionately affect people of color, immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals and victims of elder abuse.

The MPA, as well as the LC initiative, could help to tackle these issues by prioritizing vital funding and resources that would normally go to other departments or projects.

"The pandemic has really laid bare the bones of concerns and the issues that we have that impact vulnerable communities," Morales says. "Putting together comprehensive plans like these will hopefully address these disparities. Ageism is one of the last -isms we haven't really tackled as a society, and this really gives us an opportunity to do that."

Adds Kempf: "Legislation is becoming more and more senior-friendly. We need to elevate the conversation about older adults. And that has happened. This plan is proof of it."

Santa Cruz County extends evictions protection

By Joronica Vinluan

March 23, 2022 8:08 PM

Published March 23, 2022 11:45 AM

<https://kion546.com/news/2022/03/23/santa-cruz-county-extends-evictions-protection/>



<https://youtu.be/SjOe6l5vz4>

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, Calif. (KION-TV)-- Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved extending additional protections for tenants struggling because of the pandemic in unincorporated parts of the county.

This decision comes as the last day to apply for the CA COVID-19 Rent Relief program approaches. March 31 is the deadline to apply to receive financial help, if you're an eligible renter and landlord who's been impacted by COVID-19.

"There's no shortage of funding. So if people can get into the door by March 31st and start filling out that application," said Jason Hoppin, PIO for Santa Cruz County.

Once the deadline passes, the program will continue to operate until all completed applications are processed and all eligible people get their funding.

The county board authorized up to \$500,00 for house-related community issues.

"What this five hundred thousand dollars will do is to help prevent evictions and situations that occur where the individual is working with the state through the housing program," said Raymon Cancino, C.E.O of Community Bridges. "Working with landlords to ensure that we find alternative solutions than unlawful detainers and eviction proceedings."

Part of the funding is meant to go towards legal defense and case management for renters.

"We know that a lot of our clients are not digitally savvy. They don't have the resources to hire their own attorney. We know that their outcomes are different when you have an attorney and represented legal support," said Cancino.

Some landlords said that they're glad to have the back up support.

"It's giving me relief that in case tenants do run into issues with payment of rent, employment, et cetera, that there is a safety net for us," said Darius, a Santa Cruz landlord. "So that makes it easier that, you know, to accept nonpayment, slow payment, partial payment of rents."

Especially since the money is definitely needed.

"The rent relief program has actually been very helpful. I've received some funds for a couple of my tenants, and although it's not instantaneous," said Darius. "It does take a few months to get reimbursed but you will get reimbursed."

State officials have said that nearly 2.5 billion dollars has been given out for rental assistance. This has helped roughly 215,000 households in California so far.


According to county officials, only 23 cases were filed in as of February 2022.

The county officials also said local landlords who've participated have received in total \$16 million in rent due to pandemic-related job or income losses with the average award being around \$10,000.

Additional Eviction Protections Approved In Santa Cruz County

Money has been set aside to offer resources to tenants after the state COVID Rent Relief program expires on March 31.



Sara Schaefer, Patch Staff 

Posted Wed, Mar 23, 2022 at 1:04 pm PTUpdated Wed, Mar 23, 2022 at 1:06 pm PT

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Nearly \$16 million has been paid to local landlords for owed rent due to pandemic-related job or income loss, the county said. (Shutterstock)

WATSONVILLE, CA — Funding for additional eviction protections for residents in Santa Cruz County facing pandemic-related housing issues was approved Tuesday.

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors unanimously authorized up to \$500,000 for housing-related community resources. This can potentially include legal assistance and mediation, flexible financial assistance, tenant rights education and counseling, or housing-related problem solving and case management services, the county said.

The state program, which directs landlords and tenants into a COVID [Rent Relief](#) program prior to any court action, expires on March 31. The county encourages tenants to apply for the COVID Rent Relief program at [HousingIsKey.com](https://housingiskey.com) as soon as possible.

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The [Self-Help Center of Santa Cruz County Superior Court](#) is another resource for tenants and landlords facing legal issues.

Additional protections are within the [2019 Tenant Protection Act \(AB 1482\)](#) which requires "just cause" evictions and limits increases in rent, the county said.

The county said nearly \$16 million has been paid to local landlords for owed rent due to pandemic-related job or income loss with an average award exceeding \$10,000.

How Meals on Wheels serves record numbers of elderly amid inflation, other pandemic hurdles



Meals on Wheels San Antonio

3:02

A truck out for meal delivery in San Antonio, Texas. American farmers feeling the pinch

By Kelly McCarthy <https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/food/story/meals-wheels-serves-record-numbers-elderly-amid-inflation-83644778>

As many Americans resume some sense of normalcy in daily life, a large sector of the population hit hard by the pandemic requires more assistance than ever and nonprofit groups are working tirelessly to deliver essential help for the increasing number of seniors in need.

Hundreds of thousands of older adults across the country struggled with hunger and isolation before COVID-19, and Meals on Wheels said it has doubled down its efforts to meet growing demand even as compounding issues of inflation, food costs and gas prices rock its channels of support and funds.

The Older Americans Act (OAA) Nutrition Programs, which celebrated 50 years this month, provides grants to states to help support nutrition services for people over the age of 60 throughout the country. Meals on Wheels President and CEO Ellie Hollander called it "foundational financial federal support" for its more than 5,000 community

programs, but told "Good Morning America" why especially in the wake of the pandemic and up against new hurdles, it's not enough.

"What people may not know is that Meals on Wheels is a public-private partnership, so the federal government provides approximately 40% of the seed funding -- but we need individuals, we need corporations and foundations to step up to the plate to help fill that gap," Hollander said. "Quite frankly, the funding has never been adequate to meet the growing demand, the increase in the senior population, not to mention inflation and, most recently, the cost of food and gasoline. Being that we do deliver the price of gas really does impact our operations."

We can provide a senior with Meals on Wheels for an entire year for the same cost as being in the hospital for one day or a nursing home for 10

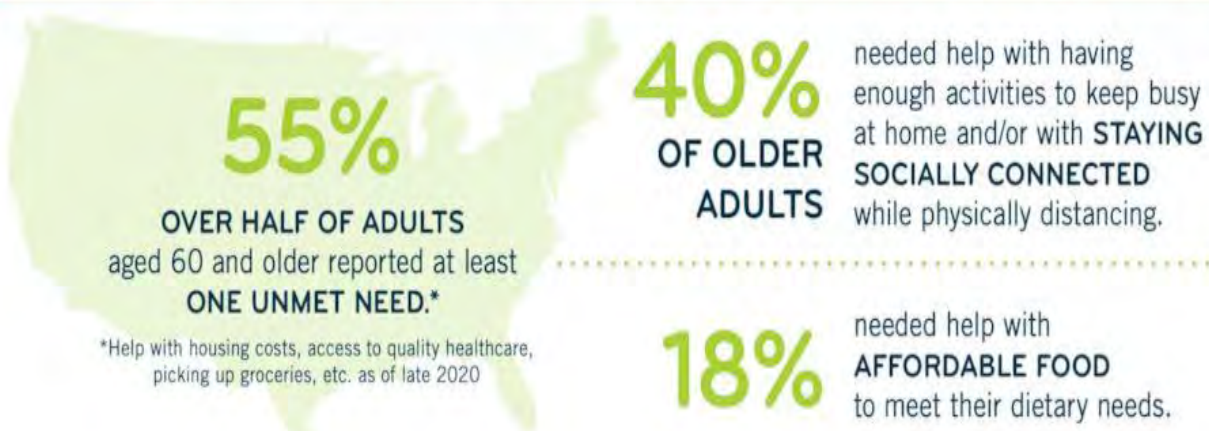
Hollander noted that Congress stepped up in the short term and delivered emergency funding to ensure seniors were not left behind during the pandemic, but said "the last amount of funding we got was a year ago in March 2021."

"Congress finally passed the appropriations bills for 2022 and we were expecting, given the huge surge in need and more meals being served to more seniors, that both the House and Senate would approve a large increase in spending," she explained.

"However, Congress only approved a 1.5% increase -- which is completely inadequate and we're very concerned about a services cliff nationwide."

As of 2022, eight out of 10 of the organization's more than 5,000 local programs serve more home-delivered meals than they did prior to March 2020, Meals on Wheels reported in a recent [fact sheet](#).

Many older adults struggled with hunger and isolation before the coronavirus pandemic. The pandemic exacerbated these issues and increased the need for services like Meals on Wheels.



Data from Meals on Wheels was collected as the COVID-19 pandemic was affecting the U.S. in 2020 through mid-2021.

"The pandemic, I think, really created a lot of hardships for seniors and threw a whole new pipeline of older adults into homebound status," Hollander said. "Our programs at the local level have been stepping up building capacity on a regular basis, not really knowing where the funding is coming from, but wanting to be sure that no senior is left behind."

Logistics amid pandemic, inflation, rising fuel costs and disruptions in food supply



Cars line up to pick up meals for delivery in San Antonio, Texas.

Holly Hagler's program in Orange County served 10,000 people a year prior to the pandemic -- 90% of whom live below the senior poverty level -- with a million home delivered meals and hot lunches for group settings in senior centers annually.

"We went from serving about 5,000 hot meals per week to serving 30,000 frozen meals, a week," Hagler told "GMA" of the surge when the program converted to grab-and-go. "It's a 600% increase so the cost of it all has just been huge. We were spending about \$3 million annually on just the raw food costs and on packaging supplies for the food. And as a combination of both the increase in volume and inflation, we're serving more than 5 million meals annually. For us, a 10% increase in food costs equals, an average impact of \$400,000 or more a year. That equates to about 75,000 fewer meals that we can serve."

Everything boils down to how many fewer meals can we serve because of these rising prices

"Older adults have been hit the hardest by COVID and now they are really getting hit extra hard," she said, adding that "a lot of them can't afford to come to the senior center everyday anymore to get a hot meal because they're living on fixed income with health care costs, gasoline and food prices, and they're concerned."



A fleet of Meals on Wheels trucks in San Antonio, Texas.

She said her program's fleet of trucks that hit the road daily have been slammed by the soaring gas prices in just the past few months.

"Our gasoline bill in January was \$9,500 and now we're expecting it to be \$12,500 this month, maybe pushing \$13,000," Hagler said. "For us that annual impact is 9,000 meals. So everything boils down to how many fewer meals can we serve because of these rising prices."

San Antonio Meals on Wheels CEO Vinsen Faris, who has been involved with the organization since 1988, told "GMA" that "optimism was growing coming into the spring after the very, very tough two years we've had. However, with rising gas prices suddenly everything is getting turned on its head again."

"When you have an organization like this that relies on so many volunteers -- to deliver meals using their own vehicles and their own fuel to see those prices going up at the pumps -- we started hearing from volunteers and they're concerned," he said. "I had a lady this week in a Prius of all things, when I was greeting her in the pickup line and she said 'I just don't know about these prices.' So it's been tough. Now with the fuel costs rising we're going to see additional cost pressure on the food products themselves, plus our cost of fuel here just in the delivery of meals that we undertake."

Another large hurdle currently facing Hagler's program is that "people working from home that volunteered have returned to the office."

"A lot of cities stepped up huge in our area and put their recreation staff in vehicles delivering the meals that we provide. But they're opening back up and called back into regular jobs, so we're really at a critical point here because of inflation and challenges with staffing -- I've never seen turnover like this in my entire career of 35 plus years."



Volunteers and staff prepare meals for delivery in San Antonio, Texas.

Another critical challenge Faris has faced in San Antonio amid the pandemic "has been the wonkiness of the food supply chain."

"That has impacted the food products that we could get in here to prepare because sometimes it was just, 'surprise that's not coming in' and we're not going to get it," he said. "The biggest problem has been the cost increase. Since the start of the pandemic our actual meal cost of increased about 20%," he said of their program that operates its own kitchen and is in the process of completing a new 44,000 square foot facility slated to open in October. "We're producing 50,000 meals a week -- so it's really high volume but the cost has put a strain on it."

Bigger than food deliveries



Meals prepared for delivery in San Antonio, Texas.

One silver lining Faris has found from all of this is the spotlight the pandemic has put on isolation and the need to look out for seniors.

"We've actually increased the number of clients that we were serving pre pandemic by almost 80% and it's that public support that has allowed us to do that," he said of the now 4,500 meals served daily compared to 2,500 before the pandemic. "We are just now getting back to pre-pandemic levels of volunteers ... we have more meals delivered here in San Antonio, Texas, by individual volunteers than we have ever had in our 40 plus year history."

[It's more than a meal, it's also the social connection...](#)

"With older adults it's not just income, it's isolation, which is probably the single greatest risk factor they have because they're not connected to resources. It is lack of capacity, whether it's their mobility, declining cognitive capacity or just losing interest in cooking," Hagler explained. "We really need people to stand up for seniors."

Faris echoed a similar sentiment adding that "the more we can shine the light on our older adults who are having challenges -- I believe that the public is going to respond and do the right thing."

"We have to pay it back, these are the people who made it possible for all of us to be here today. They were our teachers in school, they were our firemen. Whoever they were, doing whatever in the community, they made it all possible for us, so we need to be taking care of them," he said.

How Americans can take action

Hollander said there are three main ways to support The Meals on Wheels America organization.

First, donations to a local program. "A little goes a long way. This is when individuals can truly be heroes too," she said.

Second, offer to volunteer. "It doesn't mean that you need to be delivering meals, it can be skilled volunteering. Making phone calls or writing cards to let seniors know that someone's thinking of them. That made a big difference during the pandemic."

Third, advocate. "Particularly with federal funding not keeping pace with need and the gap growing further between those in need and not being served it's very important for people to step up and advocate for more funding for this critically important 50-year proven program."

Hollander, who has been in her role for more than nine years shared what she calls "the best fact that says it all: we can provide a senior with Meals on Wheels for an entire year for the same cost as being in the hospital for one day or a nursing home for 10."

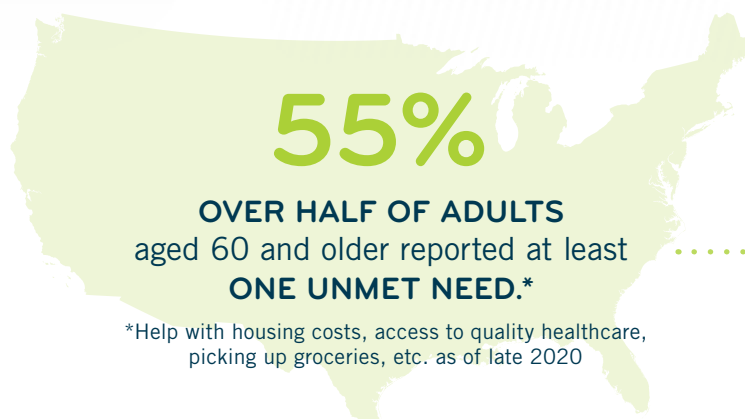
COVID-19 FACT SHEET



UNITED STATES 2021

This fact sheet presents the latest data collected as the COVID-19 pandemic was affecting the United States in 2020 through mid-2021. The situation may have changed since data collection.

Many older adults struggled with hunger and isolation before the coronavirus pandemic. The pandemic exacerbated these issues and increased the need for services like Meals on Wheels.



40%
OF OLDER
ADULTS

needed help with having enough activities to keep busy at home and/or with **STAYING SOCIALLY CONNECTED** while physically distancing.

18%

needed help with **AFFORDABLE FOOD** to meet their dietary needs.

Senior hunger, social isolation, anxiety and depression rose dramatically at times during the pandemic.

The proportion of seniors aged 60 and older who sometimes or often **DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT** rose from:

2.8% —————> **4.9%**
(2019) (2020)

A 75% INCREASE



1 IN 4 ADULTS aged 65 and older reported **ANXIETY OR DEPRESSION** during the pandemic.*

*This was substantially higher than the 1 in 10 (11%) older adults with Medicare who reported depression or anxiety in 2018.

Even pre-pandemic, many seniors faced challenges of paying for housing and other necessities, in addition to food.



In 2018, **53% OF RENTERS** aged 62 and up were cost burdened, meaning they paid more than **30% OF THEIR INCOME** for rent and utilities.

In late 2020, **18% OF ADULTS** aged 60 and older reported needing help with **BEING ABLE TO AFFORD PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.**



With help from emergency pandemic relief funding, Meals on Wheels programs greatly increased their home delivery services.

At their highest numbers served during the pandemic, programs reported delivering an average of about

100% MORE
HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

weekly than they were before the pandemic began.



As of July 2021, programs were still serving an average of

57% MORE
MEALS

weekly than they were before the pandemic began.

In November 2020,
4 out of 5 local
programs agreed,
**"NEW CLIENTS
ARE HERE
TO STAY."**

Programs quickly adapted services to safely meet clients' needs during the pandemic.

**CHANGING
SERVICES PROVIDED**
(Nov. 2020)

98% OF PROGRAMS said they had reworked one or more areas of service or operation because of COVID-19.
90% reworked home-delivered meal options and logistics.

**TAPPING LOCAL
PARTNERSHIPS**
(July 2020)

47% OF PROGRAMS had tapped local partnerships to help fill gaps, provide emergency meals, etc.

**PROVIDING CONGREGATE MEAL
SERVICES IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS**
(July 2020)

47% OF PROGRAMS were serving congregate meal program clients in alternative formats, such as drive-thru or curbside pick-up.

**DEVELOPING SOCIAL
CONNECTION PROGRAMS**
(Nov. 2020)

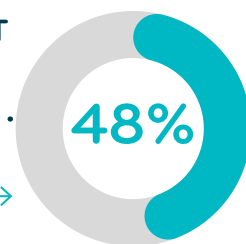
56% OF PROGRAMS had at least some clients participating in a service they developed to address social isolation.

The need is greater than the majority of Meals on Wheels programs can meet without more resources.



In late 2020, nearly 9 in 10 programs said there was an **UNMET NEED FOR HOME-DELIVERED MEALS** in their community.

In 2021, nearly half of programs said they would **NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT** their current client base without infusions of funding beyond their typical funding.



Plus, programs' costs have gone up during the pandemic.

88% OF PROGRAMS SAID THEIR OPERATIONAL COSTS HAD INCREASED.

Meals on Wheels programs require sustained and expanded funding to continue providing existing services to meet the unmet need and to address senior hunger and isolation in their communities.

Elderday Project Off to Smashing Start

By Todd Guild

March 28, 2022

<https://www.goodtimes.sc/elderday-project-off-to-smashing-start/>



In a brief ceremony in Community Bridges' sunny outdoor atrium on March 25, the organization held a groundbreaking ceremony for what will eventually be Elderday's new, expanded adult day health care center.

When complete, the center at 521 Main St. will provide services for Santa Cruz County's older adults regardless of income level or immigration status, the only such facility in the county.

That's important at a time when rising rents and an economy beset by the Covid-19 pandemic have left many worrying about how they will support themselves, let alone their aging parents.

Santa Cruz County 4th District Supervisor Greg Caput said that more than 44,000 adults over 65 live here, and added that residential care for older adults can cost \$70,000 per year.

"It's growing every year, and there are families who are trying to decide whether they can stay in their homes," Caput said. "This larger, new facility is a win for the entire community."

The move was made possible by a \$2.5 million grant from Central California Alliance for Health.

Elderday, a program of Community Bridges, currently provides care for about 150 older adults with medical conditions such as dementia, and people with disabilities, allowing them to stay in their own homes and out of institutional care. The new space offers an additional 3,600 square feet than its current location in Santa Cruz. Organizers say the day services allow participants to continue living at home, and provide a place to socialize while their families are at work.

The organization has been operating out of its Santa Cruz location since 2012, with services that include social workers, physical therapists and nurses.

Watsonville City Councilman Francisco "Paco" Estrada praised the organization for 40 years of service in the county.

"The fact that these services are offered to everyone regardless of income is something to celebrate and be thankful for," he said.

Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley Executive Director DeAndre James said that the services provided are part of Santa Cruz County's "health care landscape." "Sometimes the hardest thing is for us to take care of ourselves, and this is what this allows us to do: take care of ourselves," he said.

Work will begin in April. The facility is expected to be ready in early 2023.



Eviction Protections to End as Thousands of Renters Still Await Promised Relief

By **Aiyana Moya**

March 29, 2022

<https://www.goodtimes.sc/eviction-protections-to-end-as-thousands-of-renters-still-await-promised-relief/>



Lourdes Rios has waited for her \$3,000 in rent relief to come for more than a year. The state's Covid-19 rent relief program Housing is Key promised her the money, which would pay her landlord for the pandemic rental debt that Rios has accumulated.

But now, a year into waiting for it to come through, Rios and her family of three are faced with the consequences of rental debt, despite being in line to have it cleared.

On March 9, three weeks before the state program ceases to accept new applications, and all tenant-related eviction protections are set to end, Rios received a Pay or Quit notice from her landlord.

“I know my rights,” Rios says through an interpreter. Rios is a leader at Communities Organized for Relational Power in Action (COPA), a faith-based nonprofit where she educates renters like herself, who have lost their jobs due to the pandemic and are unable to keep up with their monthly payments. “But it’s nerve-racking. Especially now that I have this eviction notice, and with protections ending April 1.”

When we speak over the phone, Rios is nannying—she had just put the child she cares for down for a nap—but this is the first job she has been able to get since the pandemic began. Rios is a housekeeper, and even as local Covid-19 restrictions continue to relax, none of her usual clients have taken up her offer to come back to work.

Because Rios and her husband both worked jobs that required being on site and in person, they were out of work for multiple months when the pandemic hit. They were able to pay rent with their savings for a few months, and when that ran out, her son’s best friend’s parents lent them money. It was embarrassing for Rios to accept that money—“I felt like a beggar,” she says—but at the same time, she knew there was no other option. Rios and her husband were already sacrificing essential goods like food and school supplies to cover the rent.

So last April, when Rios was approved for rent relief, she was hopeful that the money would keep her family housed.

That was nearly a year ago.

Now, Rios is part of one of the estimated 214,000 households that are still waiting on the rent relief they were approved for. As the end of the month quickly approaches, state legislators are rushing to pass eviction protections that will extend past April 1.

Without additional protections, local nonprofits fear cities will see an eviction tsunami, compounding the homelessness crisis both locally and across the state. So what will happen? *GT* spoke with a local attorney, nonprofits and the state to see what will—and won’t—change come April 1.

What’s Going to Change

Even though the statewide eviction moratorium expired at the end of September, California’s rental assistance program provided some of its own protections—and a new bill introduced last week aims to preserve some of these defenses.

On March 24, two lawmakers—Assemblymembers Tim Grayson and Buffy Wicks—introduced a bill that would extend eviction protections for people with pending applications through the end of June. Assembly Bill 2179 was approved in the Assembly on Monday. It must be signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom before the March 31 deadline to buy qualifying tenants another three months of protection.

If it is not approved, renters with applications that are still pending or under review will no longer be able to legally use the program’s protections as a defense in court, says Sasha Morgan, Santa Cruz Superior Court’s director of non-criminal operations. That would allow landlords to not only serve an eviction notice for nonpayment of rent, but also to sue that individual in small claims courts for the money they are owed.

The bill has faced criticism from tenant advocates and representatives from Los Angeles, Fresno and San Francisco counties who fought hard to enact their own local moratoriums on evictions for nonpayment of rent. AB2179 would pause most local eviction protections until July 1.

Morgan says that since the eviction moratorium ended on Oct. 1, there has not been a wave of eviction cases that have gone through the court for non-payment of rent. There were 23 eviction cases filed during the first two months of 2022, but that includes evictions for reasons outside of non-payment of rent.

Still, that number doesn’t capture the people who have been served an eviction notice and moved out of their house voluntarily, tenant advocates say. Most landlords, however, want to keep their tenants in place, says Victor Gomez, the director of Santa Cruz County Association of Realtors.

“Vacancy is not good,” says Gomez. “Landlords in general want to retain existing tenants. If there’s an opportunity for mediation or an opportunity to work with one another, even outside of mediation, to resolve their tenancy issues.”

Still, he says, landlords have their mortgages to consider. He knows many landlords who have been waiting for months, some close to a year, for the state to pay them the back rent their tenants owe, and many are growing skeptical that the money will come at all.

“I’m hearing people wonder when and if this money is even coming,” says Gomez. “People are saying, ‘Where the heck is the government now?’”

State Response

The state’s program dashboard shows that it has received 3,407 complete applications from residents across Santa Cruz County, and has issued money to a

little less than half of those applicants (1,465). The average time that an applicant receives money is about four months after the application is submitted, according to a report by the National Equity Atlas—but local nonprofit leaders tell *GT* that they think the waiting period is closer to six months.

Geoffrey Ross, the deputy director of the California Department of Housing and Community Development, says that the reason some people are experiencing longer wait times might be partly due to the process by which the state was prioritizing applications. It has been prioritizing low-income applicants and those that it classifies at highest risk of eviction. Ross says that, originally, the State Treasurer's Office restricted its funding to the program according to this prioritization.

“Part of the reason it has been slow is because of just having to deal with the timing of resources, the prioritizations that resulted with that,” Ross says. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Development's definition of low-income for Santa Cruz residents, Rios and her family qualify. But she says when she reached out to Housing is Key representatives to check the status of her application, they told her she wasn't a priority.

“They told me to stop calling, I'm not a priority,” says Rios. “I'm even embarrassed to try to call and find out what the status on my application is.” Ross says that since the state passed Senate Bill 115 in February, the program has been able to expand its resources and change its prioritization. This bill also ensures that everyone who applies and is approved is guaranteed to receive funding. According to Ross, the earliest applicants like Rios will be able to receive their funding in the next month.

“We are now in a different place because of the state's intervention (with SB 115),” Ross says. “We are moving as quickly as we can to make payments.” Still, he acknowledges that the program will likely be processing applications into late fall.

Local Response

The county and local cities declined to extend local eviction protections, but did shell out funds for local programming and legal services.

Santa Cruz City Council raised the question of whether or not to pursue a local eviction moratorium at its latest meeting. But according to the city's attorney, an eviction moratorium has to be handed down at the state level rather than be implemented at the local level. At the county level, Housing for Health Director Robert Ratner also noted that state law has limited local governments' ability to enact new renter protections.

Certain requests that local nonprofits were calling for were also left out of the recent city and county meetings—things like changing the eviction notice from three to 15 days, or requiring mediation between landlords and tenants before moving to eviction. These are the things that could make a huge difference for tenants, says Ray Cancino—even more so than money. Cancino is the CEO of Community Bridges, a nonprofit that has been helping renters fill out their rent relief applications.

“Policies are going to be far more impactful than any funding that we’re going to get,” says Cancino. “What always ends up happening in situations like this is that the funding provides services for those that come first, and know about the service. But those folks that are most vulnerable are usually not the folks that are going to necessarily know about the service.”

At the same time, he acknowledges that cities and counties are in tough positions, and thinks that, ultimately, these policy changes need to come from the state.

“State legislators should be providing a statewide solution to this issue,” says Cancino. “So local municipalities aren’t having to be put in awkward situations where they’re having to react ahead of the state, as a result of an issue that they weren’t even in control of to begin with.”

Regardless, action needs to come soon for struggling Santa Cruz County tenants to remain protected from eviction.

But Rios says she isn’t getting her hopes up that help is on the way. She has talked with her landlord, and will be making additional payments each month until she and her husband are caught up on their back rent. She can’t keep waiting until her application money comes through.

“I have shared my story with the county, with state legislators,” Rios says. “I’ve cried and cried, because every time I talk about it, I get really sentimental. But now I feel like a show. I thought there were so many people there that they were going to help me. And nobody has helped. I’m still waiting.”

To file for rent relief, visit housing.ca.gov, or call 833-430-2122 between 7am-7pm. Resources for those who need help with their application include (South County) Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, 831-778-4535; Families in Transition, 831-740-2947; (Mid-and North County) Community Bridges-Live Oak, 831-476-7284; Community Bridges-Beach Flats, 831-423-5747 ext. 13; (San Lorenzo Valley) Community Bridges, 831-335-6600.

Watsonville contributes to countywide plan to curb Covid-related evictions

By: **TONY NUÑEZ** March 30, 2022

0 272

WATSONVILLE—Since the state opened its Covid-related rental assistance program roughly a year ago, 889 Watsonville residents who have fallen behind on their monthly payments have submitted an application for help.

But only around half of those people have received funds, putting them in a precarious situation as tenant protections that were baked into the state program—[known as Housing Is Key](#)—are set to expire at the end of March.

Countywide, the [numbers are equally as bleak](#). Some 1,600 people are still awaiting funds from the state—more than 3,300 applied for relief.

In response, jurisdictions across the county are pooling resources to help tenants stay housed and keep landlords from foreclosure.

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on March 22 approved the use of [\\$500,000 to kickstart that countywide plan](#) and, in a special meeting on Tuesday, Watsonville City Council chipped in \$20,000 from the city's affordable housing fund.

The funds will cover the cost of legal assistance and mediation, flexible financial assistance, tenant rights education and counseling and case management services. The hope is to help stave off evictions for people that are still awaiting funds from the state program.

In a presentation to the council on Tuesday, Housing Manager Carlos Landaverry said that state lawmakers will likely extend those protections before they expire—[Assembly Bill 2179 seeks to shield any renters with pending applications for the program through June](#). But, in the case that they don't, the multi-jurisdiction fund will give a local coalition of service providers resources to solve tenant-landlord disputes.

The cities of Santa Cruz and Capitola, Landaverry said, were also weighing whether they would contribute funds to the pool.

In all, the state has distributed \$3.27 million to Watsonville renters who have fallen behind on their payments because of the pandemic.

But there have been numerous hiccups with the program, Landaverri said. That includes increased scrutiny and longer processing times from Housing Is Key administrators for applications from undocumented individuals and people renting a room or area of a home—a move officials say is a way to prevent fraud.

Many of those Watsonville tenants have instead received help from the city's [Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#) the council established shortly after the pandemic began. The city kickstarted the program with federal funds from President Donald Trump's Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Along with paying off tenants' back rent, the program also worked with nonprofits such as California Rural Legal Assistance, the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Community Bridges and United Way to resolve disputes, conduct educational sessions with renters and landlords and help people apply for the state program.

Landaverri said that the countywide program will be essential in uniting rental assistance efforts between the county and city. There have been instances in which city staff has had to turn away a person who lives a block outside of city limits. The new program will help all renters and landlords, regardless of where they live.

"It helps if we work together and have one, unified consistent message," Landaverri said.

After 45 years Santa Cruz Meals on Wheels in need of new kitchen location

<https://www.ksbw.com/article/santa-cruz-meals-on-wheels-kitchen-45-years/39960448>

Updated: 7:09 PM PDT May 10, 2022

Phil Gomez Reporter



SANTA CRUZ, Calif. —

After 45 years of serving thousands of seniors hot meals at the Live Oak Senior Center, Meals on Wheels has to move from its Capitola Road location.

The Live Oak School District says the building isn't safe. The district's board voted last month that it will not fund repairs for the building, leaving Meals on Wheels just a few months to figure out what to do next.

A handful of other seniors gather socially at The Volunteer Center which is located next door to the Meals on Wheels building. COVID-19 cut down their social time meaning these gatherings are even more important. Where before 40 seniors might have filled the dining room now, they aren't allowed inside because of safety concerns.

It also means, the nonprofit organization will lose the commercial size kitchen it uses to prepare meals, said, Carol Childers, Assistant Program Manager for Meals on Wheels.

"The meals have been coming out of the kitchen next door for 45 years and those hot meals go to all of our meal sites throughout the county," Childers said. "The building is literally going to fall apart."

The roof leaks, there's potential mold and the parking lot is a mess.

Live Oak School District Superintendent, Dr. Daisy Morales told us the school board was given the cost of \$120,000 to make temporary repairs and a half million to fix it completely.

"The Board said, 'No,' to both of those that we're not sinking any more money into the building. We can't, you know, it doesn't help students," Morales said.

The district has been negotiating with Community Bridges which oversees the Meals on Wheels program for the past few years but the pandemic put talks on hold. The site rests in Supervisor Manu Koenig's district.

He met with both sides in August. He hopes to bring both sides back for talks

In the meantime, he offers this suggestion: "For people who are concerned about Meals on Wheels and the actual service that's being provided of Senior meals for people. I would say there is potentially an opportunity of Meals on Wheels working with Grey Bears which also provides Senior meals."

Both sides say they are willing to talk but no meeting is scheduled at this time.

The school district plans to use the property as a workforce site for its teachers and is willing to include Meals on Wheels in the project.

"If we can't do the venture together then they're going to have to vacate and it's not really us wanting to push them out or send them out, there is the idea that there are significant structural issues," Morales said.

For now, Meals on Wheels needs a new location with a commercial size kitchen in which to serve up senior meals.

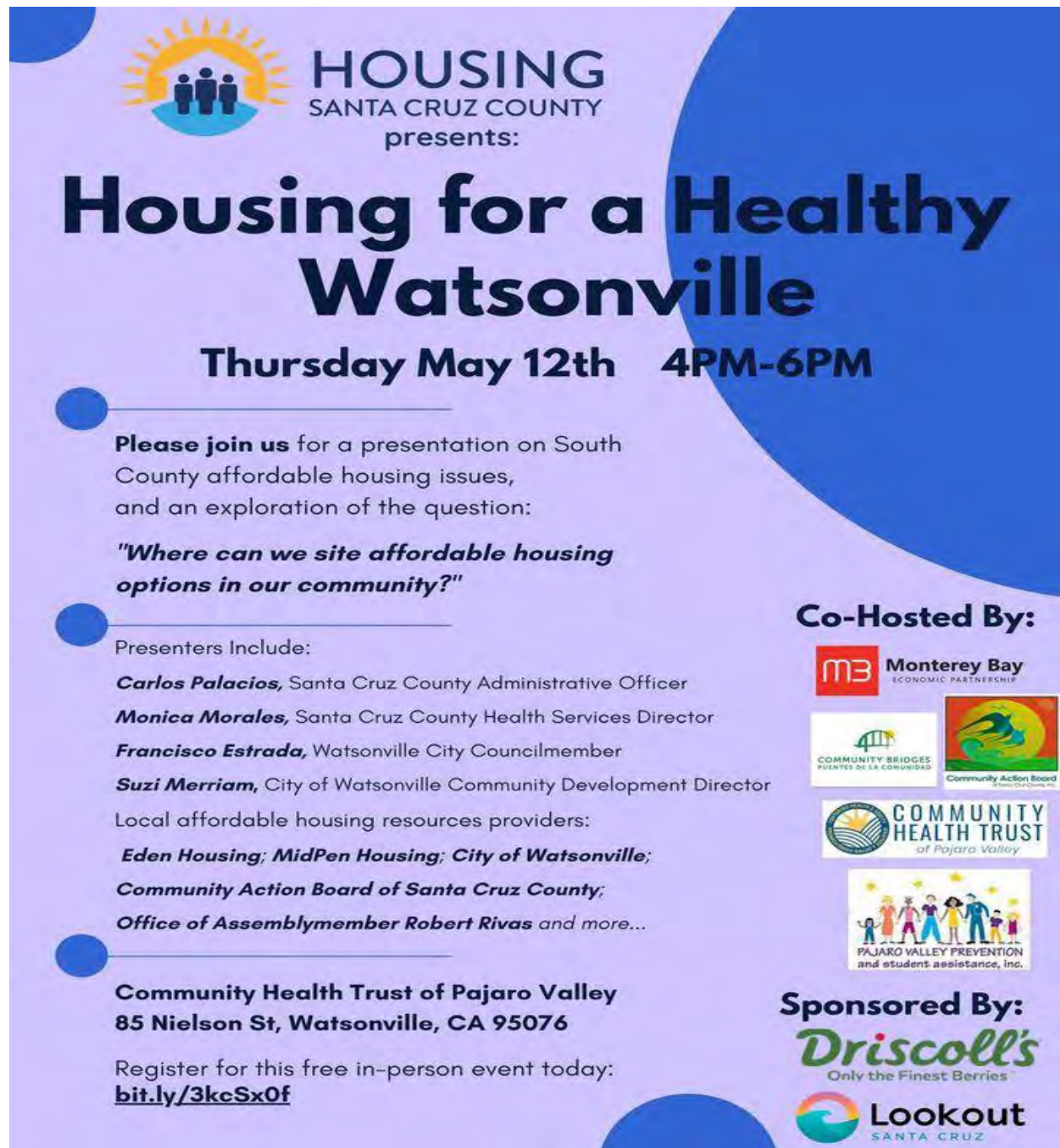
HAPPENINGNEXT

Housing for a Healthy Watsonville

Schedule: Thu May 12 2022 at 04:00 pm

Location: Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley | Watsonville, CA

<https://happeningnext.com/event/housing-for-a-healthy-watsonville-eid3a08psgwnu>



HOUSING
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
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Thursday May 12th 4PM-6PM

Please join us for a presentation on South County affordable housing issues, and an exploration of the question:

"Where can we site affordable housing options in our community?"

Presenters Include:

- Carlos Palacios**, Santa Cruz County Administrative Officer
- Monica Morales**, Santa Cruz County Health Services Director
- Francisco Estrada**, Watsonville City Councilmember
- Suzi Merriam**, City of Watsonville Community Development Director






Local affordable housing resources providers:

- Eden Housing; MidPen Housing; City of Watsonville;**
- Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County;**
- Office of Assemblymember Robert Rivas and more...**



Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley
85 Nielson St, Watsonville, CA 95076

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Housing Santa Cruz County invites you to join us for Housing for a Healthy Watsonville, a presentation on South County affordable housing issues, and an exploration of the question: Where can we site the affordable housing in our community?

Presenters include:

Carlos Palacios, Santa Cruz County Administrative Officer

Monica Morales, Santa Cruz County Health Services Director

Francisco Estrada, Watsonville City Councilmember

Suzi Merriam, City of Watsonville Community Development Director

Co-hosted by: CommunityAction Board of Santa Cruz County, Community Bridges, Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley Monterey Bay Economic Partnership Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc.

Local affordable housing providers and other local community resources will be in attendance, including: Eden Housing; MidPen Housing; City of Watsonville; Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County; Office of Assemblymember Robert Rivas, Habitat for Humanity Monterey Bay, the Housing Authority of Santa Cruz County and more...

Where is it happening?

Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley, 85 Nielson St., Watsonville, United States



Host or Publisher: Housing Santa Cruz County

It's more fun with friends. Share with friends





Seniors enjoy lunch thanks to the Meals on Wheels program Wednesday at the Watsonville Senior Center. —photo by Tarmo Hannula/The Pajaronian

Local News

Meals on Wheels facing eviction

By: **TODD GUILD** May 13, 2022

0 265

LIVE OAK—[Meals on Wheels](#) (MOW) is looking for a new home after being served an eviction notice by Live Oak School District, which has been leasing its location to the organization for more than four decades.

The district has told the organization that the aging space poses several safety concerns, and that it is looking to convert the spot at 1777 Capitola Road into teacher housing.

MOW says it knew about those plans, so the news did not come as a shock. Still, the six-month deadline is posing a challenge for MOW, which runs its kitchen, dining site and administrative offices out of the site, says Jayme

71

Ackemann, a spokesperson for Community Bridges, which runs the meal delivery program.

"We understood there were long-term plans for this site, and we were working towards our own long-term location," she said. "But we believed we had more time to do that."

MOW makes and distributes more than 180,000 meals annually to Santa Cruz County seniors.

In addition, some 45 people per day are served by the onsite senior center, where the mid-county location draws people from throughout the county, Ackemann said.

"The more local these services are to the people who need them, the more effective they are going to be," she said.

Ackemann questions the assertions that the safety concerns are so urgent that they require an immediate move-out.

"The idea that there is suddenly an urgency is new," she said. "It's the abruptness that took us off guard."

MOW has a potential site, Ackemann said, but declined to give specifics because it is still under negotiation.

Santa Cruz County Supervisor Manu Koenig, whose district covers the building, says the organization has been on a month-to-month lease since 2017 as the district readied its plans for teacher housing.

"It's a huge need for them, and they want to put that property to work solving that problem," he said. "Their main concern is that the building needs major repairs, and they feel like they wouldn't be good landlords if they let the tenants stay there for another winter."

Koenig said that the situation presents an opportunity to improve services within the MOW program. In a recent request for proposals—required every five years by the federal government—the organization Grey Bears stated that it is poised to take on the services.

The organization, Koenig says, has two commercial kitchens—one in mid-county and one in Watsonville—and already has a food delivery program.

"There is actually an opportunity to combine Meals on Wheels and the Healthy Food Program so seniors have just one service to sign up for," he said. "Hopefully they can manage that transition if Community Bridges can no longer deliver on the program."

Live Oak School District Superintendent Daisy Morales did not respond to a request for comment by deadline. But she told KSBW that the school board declined to make temporary repairs to the facility to allow MOW to stay, saying it wouldn't help students.

Farm to Fork Gala Dinner

July 16 @ 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm \$150



Farm to Fork Gala Dinner

Saturday, July 16, 4 – 8pm

Community Bridges 7th Annual Farm to Fork Gala Dinner will be hosted at Sesnon House featuring local wines and beers, live auction and a locally-sourced gourmet dinner hand crafted by acclaimed Cabrillo College Culinary Arts Program. This event is expected to draw up to 200 local supporters for a lively outdoor celebration of the vital support that drives our mission. The festivities will continue online to engage additional supporters participating virtually.

Farm to Fork is the only event that celebrates all ten Community Bridges programs that create a vital safety net from infancy to elderly. These programs rely on local community support to deliver essential services. We invite you to support this event that celebrates our community and culture while benefiting programs that enhance the lives of children, families and seniors throughout Santa Cruz County.

<https://communitybridges.org/farmtofork/>

Questions? Contact info@cbridges.org or call 831-688-8840 ext. 205.

+ GOOGLE CALENDAR

+ ICAL EXPORT

[Community Corner](#)

Baby Formula Shortage: Health Officials Give Tips To Parents

Compared to other states California is faring better, but the shortages are still of concern.



Sara Schaefer, Patch Staff P

Posted Fri, May 27, 2022 at 1:17 pm PTUpdated Fri, May 27, 2022 at 1:20 pm PT

[Reply](#)

Health officials will continue to monitor the shortage and provide updates as new information is available.
(Shutterstock)

[News release from the County of Santa Cruz:](#)

WATSONVILLE, CA — There continues to be a shortage of infant formula nationwide due to supply chain issues and a recall of infant formula due to bacterial contamination in the Abbott manufacturing plant in Michigan. The federal government is currently working on strategies to increase production of formula and help families access existing stock.

Compared to other states California is faring better, but the shortages are still of concern. Babies need the right balance of nutrients- not too much or too little of anything- to grow and be

Find out what's happening in Watsonville with free, real-time updates from Patch.

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Let's go!

healthy. It is important for your baby's health to use products that meet federal standards to ensure the formula is safe and free of harmful bacteria.

During this challenging time, the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Benito, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, and the City of Berkeley encourage parents and families to:

- **If you are currently breastfeeding, continue if possible.** We recognize this option may not be viable for everyone. If someone is partially breastfeeding, they may consider reaching out to a lactation care provider (in-person or by telehealth) to help ensure that they maintain or increase their milk supply by breastfeeding more.
- **Talk to your child's doctor about substituting formula brands.** For most babies, if their regular brand of formula is not currently available, it is OK to substitute with a similar version. Also consult your child's pediatrician if your baby requires a specialized formula, (therapeutic or metabolic formula for an infant with a medical condition requiring different caloric or nutrient content), before making any substitution. Your pediatrician may recommend a milk bank referral.

If you have questions about which formula is acceptable, contact your child's pediatrician or your local WIC agency. In Santa Cruz County, contact Women, Infants and Children (WIC)-Community Bridges, Watsonville 831-722-7121, Santa Cruz, 831-426-3911, Felton, 831-426-3911.

- **Avoid making your own formula at home, watering down formula to make it last longer, using expired formula, using cow, goat, or plant-based milk for formula, or giving toddler formula to infants.** Doing so can reduce the amount of nutrients a baby receives and can lead to potential serious health complications. If no other options are available to feed your baby, children over six months may be eligible for whole, pasteurized, cow's milk, as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. This is not ideal and should not be done for more than one week. Talk to your pediatrician if you need to give your baby cow's milk for a week to see if this option is appropriate for your child.

- **Apply to the WIC program.** About half of all births in California are in low-income families who qualify for the WIC program, and income-eligible clients can receive a WIC card and use it to purchase a limited amount of formula at participating retail stores. WIC offices are staffed by individuals with close ties to their communities. Existing WIC clients should use their benefits for formula earlier in the month in case they run into shortages near the end of their benefit period.

Health officials will continue to monitor the shortage and provide updates as new information is available.

This news release was produced by [the County of Santa Cruz](#). The views expressed here are the author's own.

Elderly services search for new home

Community Bridges assures clients that agency will meet its meal obligations



Meals on Wheels and Senior Network Services have been inhabiting the Live Oak Senior Center since 1977. In early May, they received an eviction notice and were given six months to vacate the building. The building is owned by the Live Oak School District. (Jessica A. York — Santa Cruz Sentinel).

By **PK HATTIS** |

May 28, 2022 at 3:45 p.m.

LIVE OAK – After inhabiting the Live Oak Senior Center for more than 40 years, Meals on Wheels, Senior Network Services and other elderly assistance programs are now looking to relocate their services after receiving an eviction notice from the building's owner, the Live Oak School District.

The organizations were served the notice in early May and were told they have six months to vacate the building, at 1777 Capitola Road. The district plans to remake the facility into teacher housing, said Community Bridges Program Director Lisa Berkowitz. Community Bridges provides administrative support and oversight for Meals on Wheels and a variety of other senior support services across the county. It distributes 180,000 meals to Santa Cruz County seniors each year, through home delivery and in-person dining facilities.

Contingency plans

Berkowitz acknowledged that discussions around the school district's long-term development plans have been ongoing for almost a year, but said they had received assurances that no immediate decision was looming and that there would be "ample time to talk and discuss" before a move was made.

"When it did arrive we were surprised. Not unexpected, but surprised," Berkowitz said.

It is no accident that Meals on Wheels has been committed to the facility since 1977. Ray Cancino, the CEO of Community Bridges, said the building has just the right amount of space for its offices, dining space, cooking space and storage facility, all under one roof. Still, he's realistic about the situation and wants to assure the community that it is exploring contingency plans and doing all it can to ensure services continue.

"I want to reassure the public that, as the provider for meals in the county, that we have every single intention and every single plan to meet our obligations," Cancino said. "We'll ensure that no senior sees any loss of service as a result of what's happening at the Live Oak Senior Center."

In that regard, Cancino and Berkowitz did have some positive news to share: Meals on Wheels secured a space to provide in-person senior dining services at the Mid-County Senior Center, after the center's board approved a recent proposal. Community Bridges currently operates two additional dining sites in north and south county, but Berkowitz says this midtown location will prove to be a critical resource.

"Because there isn't anything in place in the midcounty area, basically seniors have to go to either one end or another. For big swaths of the county in the middle, there really isn't any place for seniors to go," Berkowitz said. "Particularly in these very expensive times we're living in ... it's an opportunity for a senior to come and enjoy a good meal, hang out, talk and be with friends." Details for when this service will begin have not yet been announced.

Community Bridges confirmed it is continuing to explore potential options for relocating its cooking and food storage facilities, but was unable to provide specifics.

During a recent Santa Cruz City Council meeting, Councilmember Sandy Brown made a desperate appeal to the community. “It’s kind of a desperate situation now, to try to identify an alternative kitchen,” she said. “We are beginning to have more in-depth conversations in the city of Santa Cruz ... but I want to just let people know this is a significant challenge.”

Senior Network Services

Meals on Wheels is not the only senior support organization operating out of the Live Oak Senior Center. Clay Kempf is the executive director of the Area Agency on Aging in Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. He says his organization is the primary funder of programs housed in the senior center, including Meals on Wheels. Some of these programs include Senior Information & Assistance, Medicare Navigation, Senior Shared Housing and the Family Caregiver Support Program.

Kempf highlighted the precarious situation these organizations have been put into by the eviction notice and lack of mitigation measures to ease the transition.

“All these services are in danger. I think that’s the overriding message,” Kempf said in an interview with the Sentinel. “Contingency plans are in process, people are trying to find alternatives, but we know all the alternatives are going to cost more and probably cost us quality and access.”

Kempf also stressed the importance of the the geographic location of the current facility, which his organization has designated the “senior hub” in their area plan for Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. “We’re trying to route all seniors through that location and the location is perfect,” Kempf said. “It’s in midcounty, it’s along the major bus line, it has substantial and adequate parking for seniors who can drive there,” he said.

Kempf said that Santa Cruz County has more than 70,000 residents age 60 and older and that population is expected to rise. According to the California Department of Aging, the percentage increase of the elderly population aged 60 and over in Santa Cruz County is expect to rise almost 110% from 2010 to 2060.

Kempf and Berkowitz confirmed that negotiations with the Live Oak School District for both short-term and long-term solutions are ongoing. The Live Oak School District did not respond to a request for comment, but did say it would work to provide an update next week once graduation ceremonies have passed.

OPINIONCOMMENTARY

Guest Commentary | Community is essential in mental wellness

By **SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL** |

May 30, 2022 at 7:00 a.m.

By Therese Adams

It took a while for Sonia to pick up the phone and ask for help. But no one in her family understood what she and her 13-year-old daughter Ana were going through, or were willing to talk about it. Ana had been recently diagnosed with anxiety and depression and Sonia was in pain too. "I was watching my daughter suffer and I didn't know how to help." The physical isolation of the pandemic made everything worse. Ana's doctor gave Sonia the number for the bilingual Help Line at National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Santa Cruz County. She was filled with doubt about how a phone call could help, but when she finally reached out, everything changed.

May is Mental Health Awareness month and mental health statistics have been in the news everywhere. It's clear that mental illness is a public health crisis. We know that at least one in five adults experiences mental illness each year. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, one in six youth ages 6-17 experienced a mental health disorder each year and suicide had already become the second leading cause of death among people ages 10-34. Since then, that picture has only become worse. According to new CDC data, released last month, during the pandemic more than 1 in 3 high school students experienced poor mental health and nearly half felt persistently sad or hopeless. We also know that these international and national statistics are reflected here at home in Santa Cruz County across all races, classes and genders.

But statistics feel totally irrelevant when it's you or someone you love who is suffering from mental illness. No matter how much mental health is in the news, it can still feel terrifying to talk about it when we ourselves are affected because when it comes right down to it, mental illness is still stigmatized, feels shameful, and deeply isolating.

But it doesn't have to be.

You aren't alone and there is a whole community ready to support you. Every day at NAMI SCC we see people go from despair and suffering to recovery.

Over the past two years, NAMI SCC has ensured that we have the staff and capacity to meet our county's growing need for mental health – and meet that need equitably. We've grown our Spanish programs 300%, hired four bilingual/bicultural staff members, and partnered with trusted organizations in Pajaro Valley including Salud Para La Gente and Community Bridges to ensure that we can support Santa Cruz County's Spanish speaking community. We offer no-cost bilingual (English and Spanish) education and support to those affected by mental illness and their care providers. We partner with middle and high schools to teach youth about mental health and bust the stigma that can prevent youth from seeking help. We advocate for solutions such as suicide prevention strategies, preventative care, including for youth and for those with the first symptoms of mental illness and support for activities that stop jails from becoming an alternative to mental health treatment.

Since that first Help Line call, Sonia enrolled in, and completed, NAMI SCC's six-week Basics Class for parents and family caregivers of children and teens (ages 11-17). This class is for parents of youth who are experiencing symptoms of a mental illness or who have already been diagnosed. In the class, she learned facts about mental health conditions; how best to support Ana at home, at school, and when getting medical care; and perhaps most importantly, she connected with other parents who were in her same situation.

Sonia says that she now feels equipped to be Ana's advocate. "I know now that there is a community full of support that I can reach out to." For other families facing similar challenges, she urges them to pick up that phone and call.

"Help is right there."

Therese Adams is Executive Director at NAMI Santa Cruz County. Please get the support you need at <https://www.namisc.org/>



**WE BELONG
PERTENECEMOS**

Local News

News

Event to engage Watsonville with ongoing immigrant justice project

By: JOHANNA MILLER May 5, 2022

0 273

WATSONVILLE—For the past three years, [UC Santa Cruz's \(UCSC\) We Belong research project](#) has aimed to elevate immigrant voices, strengthen local community coalitions and inform local policy.

And next week, their work will be on display during a special event in downtown Watsonville.

We Belong grew out of several on-campus programs within its Sociology Department, including the [Community-based Action Research and Advocacy Program](#) and the [No Place Like Home project](#), along with partner organizations such as Community Action Board (CAB), Community Bridges, and the United Way.

The project identified a need for better research on the experiences of immigrants, in order to better improve services and support advocacy efforts.

"What we saw was that immigrants bore the brunt of a lot of local issues," said Dr. Steve McKay, associate sociology professor and director of the UCSC Center for Labor Studies. "We're trying to look at immigrants not just as a variable, but instead at what it means to be an immigrant or from a mixed-status family."

Key issues they discovered included physical and emotional well-being, legal statutes, economic well-being and places of belonging or exclusion. Students conducted over one hundred in-depth interviews and worked closely with social providers and advocated.

"What we've been asking is, what does it mean to belong to a mixed-status, or immigrant family in Santa Cruz County?" said Amaury Kruggel-Diazandi, a UCSC student who has been working on We Belong this school quarter. "Right now we are at the stage of fully analyzing that data that we've compiled over the years."

McKay praised the students working on the project, which has been ongoing throughout the pandemic, adding an additional level of challenges.

"Students, many who are also from immigrant or mixed status families, worked on [We Belong]," he said. "It's a testament to their ability to do this kind of work that we were able to interview so many people."

To share their findings and provide important resources to the community, We Belong will host an event in downtown Watsonville on May 13 during the weekly farmers market. The event will include information about the project's findings and a resource fair, as well as ballet Folklorico performances, games and activities.

"This is a new kind of event. We haven't really done anything like it before," McKay said. "We really are trying to push the envelope in linking research, community organization, and intervention. We want to make research accessible and understandable to all. Not just on campus or inside a closed building."

McKay said they chose to hold the event during the Farmers Market after asking interviewees one simple question: "Where do you feel like you most belong?"

"Many of them said, 'At the Farmers Market, downtown Watsonville on a Friday afternoon,'" McKay said. "So we thought, where better to share our results?"

A screening of the documentary "Fruits of Labor" will also be held, plus a discussion panel with filmmaker Emily Cohen Ibañez. "Fruits of Labor" follows the life of a Watsonville High School student from a mixed-status family who must work in the strawberry fields and factories to help support her family.

The event was organized with help from the city of Watsonville, Arts Council Santa Cruz County, Watsonville Film Festival and CAB. It will be held May 13, 5:30-9:30pm, with the film starting at 7:15pm. Organizers urge guests to bring their own blankets and low-back chairs.

“I hope this event will inspire a sense of hope and belonging for immigrants here,” Kruggel-Diazandi said. “With all the challenges they face ... It’s almost like a sense of responsibility we have here at this institution to really be of service and provide these resources for these communities.”

Learn more about the “We Belong” project at webelongproject.sites.ucsc.edu.

More parents could have access to baby formula from abroad

CNN - Politics

By CNN Newsource

June 6, 2022 4:35 PM

Published June 6, 2022 4:02 PM

<https://kion546.com/politics/cnn-us-politics/2022/06/06/more-parents-could-have-access-to-baby-formula-from-abroad/>



Eric Lee/The Washington Post/Getty Images

Workers unload a FedEx Express cargo plane carrying infant formula as a Secret Service agent stands watch at Dulles international airport in Dulles

By Tami Luhby, CNN

The Biden administration is making it easier for low-income families to obtain baby formula being imported from abroad to alleviate the [shortage plaguing parents](#) from coast to coast.

The US Department of Agriculture announced Monday that it is offering nationwide waivers so that [families with federal WIC benefits](#) can access formula that's not normally approved for use in the program. The products are coming from other countries as part of [Operation Fly Formula](#), which the administration launched last month in the wake of a massive recall of Abbott Nutrition baby formula in February.

The agency is leveraging new authority from the Access to Baby Formula Act that Congress recently passed to offer the waivers.

Earlier Operation Fly Formula missions delivered formula products that have already been available in the US, so they already meet the standard for WIC, formally known as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. About half of the infant formula in the US is purchased by those using federal WIC benefits, which allow them to obtain the formula for free but restrict what type, size and brand they can select. Some 1.2 million infants are in the program.

This latest step builds on the USDA response to the recall and ensures WIC benefits can be expanded to include new, imported formulas, said Brian Dittmeier, senior director of public policy at the non-profit National WIC Association.

“As Operation Fly Formula bolsters supply in the short term and brings peace of mind to parents nationwide, we cannot lose sight of the structural reforms that are needed to safeguard against a failure like Abbott’s, build a resilient manufacturing sector and center the needs of the nation’s most vulnerable infants,” he said.

Getting infant formula to parents

The Biden administration is making [multiple moves](#) to try to get baby formula into the hands of parents after Abbott’s recall, which exacerbated shortages caused by ongoing supply chain issues.

The government has airlifted tons of formula from other countries since last month. The administration announced a fifth flight Monday that will bring the equivalent of about 1.6 million 8-ounce bottles of Nestlé infant formula to Fort Worth, Texas, from Cologne, Germany, this week.

Also, Abbott has [reopened the factory](#) at the center of the recall, which produces almost half the powdered formula sold in the US. But it could take weeks for it to ramp up to its regular supply levels.

Abbott is the exclusive formula provider for about half of the infants in WIC.

WIC waivers

The USDA has already provided waivers to states to give parents using WIC benefits a wider array of options. Authorized since February, the waivers allow families to purchase alternate container sizes, including those that exceed typical maximums, and forms of formula, as well as to buy alternate brands without doctors’ notes. The flexibilities enable parents to get liquid concentrate or ready-to-eat formula, rather than just powdered.

A third type of waiver allows stores to accept exchanges of formula purchased with WIC benefits.

The USDA has approved well over 250 state waiver requests, the agency said Monday. Every state now offers at least one waiver.

North Carolina and its contracted formula manufacturer, Nestlé Gerber, are the first to have put the increased flexibility into action by agreeing to a contract modification that expands access to formula for WIC participants in the state, the USDA said Monday. It allows them to choose different sizes, types and brands of formula.

Ohio's state WIC agency received USDA approval to cover eight additional Mead Johnson products, starting June 13, Gov. Mike DeWine said on Monday.

Formula still hard to find

Formula remains in short supply in many places, however.

WIC program managers told CNN late last month that they're still receiving a steady stream of calls from families who can't find formula. Rural areas that lack grocery stores seem to be struggling most, even in states that have generally seen fewer shortages.

The 49 US states and territories that contract with Abbott for WIC formula also seem to have had bigger shortages for a longer time than those that contract with the two other major formula companies, Mead Johnson Nutrition, a Reckitt subsidiary, and Nestlé, which makes Gerber brands.

In Michigan, which contracts with Abbott, about 85% of formula-fed WIC participants are affected by the recall and shortage, said Lynn Sutfin, press officer with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Illinois WIC Director Stephanie Bess said that state had been "in pretty good shape" at the beginning of the national shortage because it has a formula contract with Mead Johnson. Only about 1,000 families were affected at the start of the shortage, but in the past few weeks the office has seen a significant increase in calls from caregivers who can't find formula.

The-CNN-Wire

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Puentes Comunitarios protesta por posible recorte de \$800,000 en el presupuesto 2022-2023

By Edgar Olivares

Published June 6, 2022 5:07 PM

<https://kion546.com/t23/2022/06/06/puentes-comunitarios-protesta-por-posible-recorte-de-800000-en-el-presupuesto-2022-2023/>



WATSONVILLE, Calif. (KMUV) Una nueva propuesta reduciría 800 mil dólares al presupuesto de la organización Puentes Comunitarios en el Condado de Santa Cruz y podría afectar a cientos de familias latinas en plena crisis de inflación.

Los líderes de Puentes Comunitarios protestaron hoy en Watsonville y advierten que si se realiza este recorte, varios servicios que ofrecen a la comunidad dejarán de existir.

De acuerdo con esta organización comunitaria, los apoyos para vivienda, beneficios de personas con discapacidad, apoyo para transporte, servicios gratuitos y apoyo para trámites migratorios, programas para apoyo en acceso a la salud, entre otros, son los que se pueden afectar si se quitan los fondos.

Además, expusieron que se perderían abogados y activistas para apoyar a la comunidad con educación y servicios. También estarían en riesgo herramientas que se utilizan en el Centro de Recursos Familiares.

“Sabemos que las personas que vienen a nuestros servicios en nuestra comunidad, 76% son personas de color, personas que viven en el sur del condado. Sabemos que va a afectar más a las personas latinas que a cualquier otra comunidad”, dijo Raymon Cancino, Director General de Puentes Comunitarios

“Hemos ayudado tanta gente este año a través de los recursos del hogar, a través de *housing sky* y muchas de esas familias van a perder la asistencia que ellos recibieron a través de esos recursos que nosotros hemos dado a nuestra comunidad”, agregó Cancino.

Puentes Comunitarios pidió a la gente que ha sido beneficiada que llame a sus representantes en el Condado de Santa Cruz para pedirles que les sigan asignando los recursos.

Por su parte, el Condado de Santa Cruz, explicó que no se trata de un recorte, sino de asignación de recursos basada en un proceso llamado CORE (siglas en inglés), que significa: Inversiones Colectivas Basadas en Resultados y Evidencias y cuyas recomendaciones de un panel de expertos, se presentarán ante la Junta de Supervisores para aprobar más de 6 millones para organizaciones que ayudan a las personas con bajos recursos.

En el caso de Puentes Comunitarios, la propuesta es entregarles más de \$500 mil dólares para el programa alimentos sobre ruedas, para apoyar a los adultos mayores de 60 años.

NEWSHEALTH

Local service providers condemn CORE investment recommendations

Board will consider awards recommendation at Tuesday meeting



Community Bridges held a press conference on Monday morning condemning the proposed CORE funding recommendations. Award details will come before the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday. (PK Hattis – Santa Cruz Sentinel)

By **PK HATTIS** |

PUBLISHED: June 6, 2022 at 4:25 p.m. | UPDATED: June 6, 2022 at 4:43 p.m.

WATSONVILLE – Representatives from Community Bridges held a press conference on Monday morning in response to funding proposals for the Collective of Results and Evidence-based Investments (CORE) that on Tuesday will be brought before the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors for consideration.

The new slate of grants for the 2022-23 fiscal year will reduce funding for Community Bridges' programs by \$816,000, according to representatives from Community Bridges.

"Not only can we see directly that the disproportionate burden of the loss of these services have been on low income South County people of color, but the realignment is heavily laid on the backs of the fastest growing part of the population—our older adults—showcasing the ageism of this proposal," Community Bridges CEO Ray Cancino said to a crowd of supporters gathered outside its Watsonville offices. "We urge our leadership to direct staff to reassess their investments and to clearly articulate the impacts, the loss of services, and to reinvest in our services altogether."

Community Bridges

Community Bridges provides administrative support and oversight for a variety of programs across the county including Meals on Wheels, Family Resource Collective and the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

The CORE program is lead and designed by the Santa Cruz County Human Services Department in partnership with the City of Santa Cruz who shares in funding some of the sponsored programs. The request for proposal coming before the board on Tuesday is the second in the program's history and includes a three year contract term, according to a staff report. The proposed awards for the fiscal year 2022-23 total \$4.87 million allocated through the county General Fund and \$1.08 million from the City of Santa Cruz. The total funds requested by applicants were more than \$15.6 million.

Community Bridges submitted a request for about \$1.47 million annually for the coming funding cycle, a total it says is in line with previous awards. The proposal detailed in the staff report awards them \$436,221 for Meals on Wheels. A representative from Santa Cruz County confirmed this is among the largest total of recommended awards.

Should its funding be reduced, Community Bridges says it anticipates partial closure of all four Family Resource Centers, loss of subsidized childcare slots, potential early education child care site closures across the county and significant reduction in services at Elderday for seniors and disabled adults with complex medical issues.

“It was disheartening to review the CORE funding recommendations. While I do see the importance of all the programs that are currently being recommended for funding, it is evident that the panel who reviewed the applications does not fully grasp the significance or importance of our family resource centers,” said Family Resource Collective Program Director Mayra Melendrez while speaking at the podium. Melendrez stressed the importance of family resource services which she said serves more than 6,000 participants each year and provides lockers, showers, laundry, food and mailing services to houseless participants. “It feels like we’re going to need to turn our backs on (participants) due to lack of funding and investments from the county.”

In an email to the Sentinel, County Spokesperson Jason Hoppin said that the CORE process, which was approved by the county board in 2015, was designed to guide the distribution of scarce local community funding dollars. He said the county previously approved funding for the same local nonprofit organizations for 35 years, without a competitive process. CORE establishes a fair and competitive opportunity for all organizations and ensures targeted investments areas are established, according to Hoppin.

Elderly Care Services

Clay Kempf is the executive director of the Seniors Council and Area Agency on Aging in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties. These agencies are the primary funder for several elderly programs currently housed in the Live Oak Senior Center including Meals on Wheels. In a letter mailed to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, Kempf said that while the staff report indicates \$2.2 million in funding cuts, it does not list which organizations will lose funding. He urged the board to insist on seeing such a list so that discussion around planning for these losses can be had. He reiterated these concerns when addressing the crowd on Monday.

“It’s great to tweak allocations. Everybody does that, it’s probably healthy to do that, but to do that without looking at the unintended or intended consequences of who you’re defunding is just socially irresponsible,” Kempf said. “I can’t imagine anyone in public or private office not having access to that information before they take action.”

Kempf also highlighted that many elderly care programs are facing funding cuts or complete elimination because many of the state and federal grants these programs receive require local match. All of this he said is happening despite the population of adults age 60 or older growing at a much faster rate than the under 60 population. “Aging is an equity issue,” he said.

Hoppin recognized that many worthy programs are not receiving a recommendation for funding, but pointed to high standards of objectivity in the grant recipient selection process. Funding recommendations come from a 58 person panel of independent reviewers consisting of county community members, researchers, subject matter experts and staff from the local cities and nonprofits. He said the process is set up so that a variety of local organizations can fairly compete for funds.

Hoppin also said that stakeholders, including those involved in the Monday press conference, understood this process and that applicants may also file appeals to funding decisions.

The CORE funding announcement comes almost a month after Senior Network Services and Meals on Wheels received an eviction notice from the Live Oak School District. They had been inhabiting the Live Oak Senior Center located at 1777 Capitola Road for more than 40 years.

Other meeting agenda items

Other items listed on the June 7 board meeting agenda include a public hearing to consider a new recycling and solid waste service charge at the Buena Vista Landfill, proposed adoption of a resolution for the Prohousing Designation Program and consideration of a resolution approving the submittal of a grant application to the California Transportation Commission for the 2023 Active Transportation Program.

If you go

What: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors meeting

When: 9 a.m., June 7

How: Zoom – <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85163210200>

El condado de Santa Cruz propone recortar los fondos de Community Bridges

By Melody Waintal

Published June 7, 2022 9:53 AM

<https://kion546.com/t23/noticias/2022/06/07/el-condado-de-santa-cruz-propone-recortar-los-fondos-de-community-bridges/>



CONDADO DE SANTA CRUZ, California (KMUV) - La Junta de Supervisores del Condado de Santa Cruz está proponiendo recortar los fondos de Community Bridges.

Estos proporcionan servicios de cuidado de ancianos y niños, alimentos para las comunidades de bajos ingresos y centros de recursos familiares, entre otros servicios en la comunidad.

"Va a tener un impacto devastador en los centros de recursos familiares a nivel local. Solemos atender a unas 6.000 personas al año. Sólo vamos a poder atender a unas 3 mil al año", dijo Raymon Cancino, portavoz de Community Bridges.

"Vamos a tener recortes en todos los ámbitos. El 76% de nuestros clientes son personas de color. Son gente del sur del condado, y la realidad es que perder esa financiación les va a afectar negativamente".



El condado de Santa Cruz financia Community Bridges a través de su programa CORE, y este año pidieron 1.469.000 dólares, pero sólo recibirán 436.222 dólares, según ellos. Normalmente reciben entre 1 y 1,4 millones de dólares de financiación anual.

La pérdida de fondos supone el riesgo de que se acaben los programas y servicios.

Los puentes comunitarios dicen que el impacto inmediato será el cierre de sus cuatro Centros de Recursos Familiares. Una de cada diez familias en el condado de Santa Cruz busca estos servicios.

Community Bridges planea hablar en la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores del 7 de junio para pedir a la junta que reconsidere su propuesta.

Community Bridges worried about funding reductions

By: **TODD GUILD** June 7, 2022

0 10

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY—The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors will consider allocating some \$5.8 million to dozens of social services and programs countywide over the next three years.

This includes just over \$770,000 for United Way's Cradle to Career, \$436,221 for Meals on Wheels and \$241,680 for Second Harvest Food Bank's Equitable Access to Food and Nutrition program.

But due to the county's competitive funding process—the Collective of Results and Evidence-based (CORE) Investments—Community Bridges could see an \$816,000 reduction in the amount the organization receives typically.

Community Bridges provides dozens of services for children, adults and seniors throughout Santa Cruz County.

This amount has terrified the organization's service providers as they gauge the impacts it could have. Cancino says the organization typically requests—and is granted—between \$1 million and \$1.4 million annually.

With only \$436,221 on the table for a three-year budget cycle, Community Bridges could see a partial closure and reduction in services at all four family resource centers—La Manzana, Nueva Vista, Live Oak and Mountain Community Resources. These serve more than 6,000 families countywide, providing tutoring, lunch programs, CalFresh and MediCal.

There could also be a reduction in services at Elderday, which requested \$150,000 and received none.

Because the funding comes in three-year cycles, Community Bridges will have to backfill roughly \$2.5 million through 2025, Cancino says.

He adds that the proposed reductions fall hardest in the Watsonville area.

"In this staff proposal, not only can we see directly that the disproportionate burden of the loss of these services has been on low-income South County people of color, but the realignment is heavily laid on the backs of the fastest-growing population, our older adults," he said.

Community Bridges in 2020 reported More than \$17.5 million in revenue and just over \$16 million in expenses.

County spokesman Jason Hoppin says that the proposed CORE funding represents an 11% increase from the previous three-year funding cycle, equal to a \$545,000 expansion of services.

Hoppin says that, in sending out a request for proposals countywide, the county received 128 applications totaling nearly \$16 million in proposals, almost three times the size of the available funds. A total of 36 awards were recommended.

Before the CORE program, the county approved funding for the same local nonprofit organizations for 35 years without a competitive process, Hoppin says.

The new system, he says, ensures a fair and competitive opportunity for all organizations and a standardized selection process.

The recommendations came after five stakeholder meetings and seven public hearings.

The 58-member panel reviewed the applications included community members, subject matter experts, researchers, and city, county and nonprofit staff. The proposals are reviewed and are subject to approval by the County Board of Supervisors and the Santa Cruz City Council.

Also funded under the new proposal is the expansion of the Safe Spaces parking program, expanded learning opportunities for young people, a farming education program and therapy services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.

The Supervisors will finalize the contracts on June 28. The changes will take effect within 30 days after they are approved.

Santa Cruz County proposing cut to Community Bridges funding

By Calista Silva

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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, Calif. (KION-TV)-- The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors is proposing cutting funding from Community Bridges.

They provide senior and child care services, food for low-income communities and family resource centers, among other services in the community.

"It's gonna have a devastating impact on the family resource centers locally. We usually serve about 6 thousand people a year. We're going to only be able to serve about 3 thousand a year," Raymon Cancino, a spokesperson for Community Bridges said.

"We're going to have cuts across the board. Seventy-six percent of all our clients are people of color. They're people from the south county, and the reality is, is that losing that funding is going to negatively affect them."



Santa Cruz County funds Community Bridges through its CORE Program, and this year they asked for \$1,469,000 but will only receive \$436,222, according to them. They usually receive between \$1 million to \$1.4 million in annual funding.

The loss of funding means the risk of programs and services ending.

Community bridges say the immediate impact will be the closure of all four of their Family Resource Centers. One in every ten families in Santa Cruz County seeks these services.

Community Bridges plans to speak at the June 7 Board of Supervisors meeting to ask the board to reconsider their proposal.

Board of Supervisors move forward with service programs funding request

Final vote to approve funding recommendations is scheduled for June 28

By **PK HATTIS** |

June 9, 2022 at 4:58 p.m.

SANTA CRUZ – The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday voted unanimously to move forward with a proposal seeking to fund numerous social service programs across the county.

The awards proposal comes from the Collective of Results and Evidence-based (CORE) investments program, designed and funded by the Santa Cruz County Human Services Department and the City of Santa Cruz.

The vote was met by opposition from the public, voiced to the supervisors during a period of public comment in advance of the vote. Dozens of community members attended the meeting both in person and online and shared comments for more than an hour.

“We need to see the full scope of which programs and services will lose funding, how many people it will impact, where it will impact,” said Community Bridges CEO Ray Cancino. “None of this was provided to you in the report you saw.”

Individuals voicing displeasure with the funding announcement included employees and participants of Community Bridges and its various social service programs. The organization also held a press conference Monday morning to publicly condemn the proposed action, saying that the new slate of grants represented a \$816,000 funding cut to its programs.

What was presented

The Collective of Results and Evidence-based Investments program was originally approved in 2015 by the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors in an effort to move toward a more equitable funding model, according to the county's staff report. The first round of grants was approved five years ago for a three-year term period but was extended twice – a one year period each time – for budgetary reasons and in response to COVID-19.

The program's history and goals were presented to the board by Randy Morris, director of the county's Human Services Department. He was joined by Kimberly Petersen, the department's deputy director. Morris began the presentation by underlining that the 2015 process was established in an effort to provide equal grant opportunities for county service providers. "There are a number of service providers who have not had access to this money for sure for 35 years," Morris said. "To create a level playing field we put in place a technical assistance program to help make sure all service providers had a fair opportunity to apply for these service funds."

Petersen followed up on Morris' comments by sharing application data. According to Petersen, 127 application proposals were received, requesting more than \$15.5 million in funding. The total available funding is \$5.8 million. The applications were then scored through a review process led by 58 trained independent analysts, ultimately leading to 53 total award proposals.

Tuesday marked the second request for proposal submitted under the collective program. According to Morris, the first proposal that was approved five years ago funded many of the same programs that had been received funding the previous 35 years, which is why this new slate of awards is so challenging. Morris also said that 12 meetings were held during the current recommendation process where stakeholders had an opportunity to comment and provide feedback.

"This is a difficult moment. These recommended awards honor the process your board asked us to follow," Morris said. "We respect the passion and the debate that is to follow and ultimately I hope...that you support our recommended awards."

Community feedback

Cancino was the first to make a public comment after the staff presentation to the board. He took issue with Morris' claim that there had been adequate opportunity for stakeholders to share comments and questions. "We have raised some of the questions that are being denied by the HSD director. We have asked questions about how we (are) going to keep the social safety net," Cancino said. He rejected the notion that he was advocating for defunding other programs so that Community Bridges could receive adequate awards. "Those conversations were never, never intended to be about, 'we should have funding over someone else.' "

Representatives from Community Bridges say the organization applied for more than \$1 million in funding requests, but received \$436,221. If funding is cut, it anticipates partial closure of all four Family Resource Centers which serves more than 6,000 participants each year and provides lockers, showers, laundry, food and mailing services to houseless participants.

Clay Kempf is the executive director of the Seniors Council and Area Agency on Aging in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties. These agencies are the primary funder for several elderly programs in the Live Oak Senior Center including Meals on Wheels, which is operated by Community Bridges. Like Cancino, Kempf was critical of what he experienced as a "zero sum" approach to the process. "Being challenged to say which community programs we should be pitted against and take money away from in order to address seniors – I'm not going to say seniors deserve money over children ... that's a zero sum game," Kempf said. "That is also a very weird dynamic today."

Many organizations that were recommended for funding also showed up to express their gratitude and some even advocated for Community Bridges. "We are deeply honored and grateful to be recommended to receive the CORE target impact grant and serve multiple communities across our county," said Cradle to Career Director Allison Guevara. Cradle to Career works to empower families and deliver community resources that help children thrive. "We truly value community partners including Community Bridges Family Resource Centers and Childcare Centers and feel it's critical we work together to ensure their doors remain open," she said.

Comments from the board

Each member of the Santa Cruz County Board acknowledged the difficulty of the moment and encouraged programs experiencing cuts to take advantage of the appeals process. According to Morris, organizations have until Friday to submit appeals, where they will be processed and evaluated by the collective investment program's staff. Morris also clarified that while Tuesday's vote moves the process forward, a final motion for awards approval will come before the board on June 28.

After the public comment period, Supervisor Ryan Coonerty stood by the collective results and evidence-based process and commended its fairness. “In a better, more perfect world, we would have the resources to fund everybody and more for the work, because the needs are great and the resources are scarce,” he said. “I recognize this is a hard moment and a hard hearing...but I do think that’s because we’ve opened up this process and when you open up a process and invite a lot of new groups into the room it makes the existing resources more scarce and it’s more difficult.”

Board Chair Manu Koenig also acknowledged the independent approach and review process, but said he feels he did not see enough of that data and evidence during the presentation. “Am I seeing number of people served, efficacy of the money being used, results from the last round of funding?” he said. “Something that we can improve in the next round, but I definitely heard that comment a couple times today and it does resonate with me. It feels like that work was done by the 58 reviewers and very little of it is available to the public.”