Mission: Reducing hunger and poverty in California for seniors and people with disabilities.
Vision: Excellent customer service and access for all.

SUMMARY
For the first time ever in California, hundreds of thousands of seniors and people with disabilities who receive SSI/SSP benefits will also be able to apply for CalFresh food benefits beginning June 1, 2019. This historic change, once successfully implemented, will increase nutrition and health and reduce hunger and poverty among California’s seniors and people with disabilities. California will finally join the rest of the nation in providing CalFresh food benefits to low-income seniors and people with disabilities receiving SSI/SSP.

The CalFresh food program is the State’s number one defense against hunger and malnutrition. Nearly 4 million people a month – half of them children – receive an average of $130 on a debit card to purchase food at grocery stores and farmers’ markets. Employment and training services and healthy living programs are also available. No other social service program lifts more people out of poverty than CalFresh.

With this change, eligible seniors and people with disabilities will be able to receive a monthly CalFresh food benefit to help meet their basic needs. There is no change or reduction to SSI/SSP. CAPI recipients will receive a $10 per person grant increase. Some who are part of households already receiving CalFresh food benefits may receive new state funded Supplemental Nutrition Benefits (SNB) or Transitional Nutrition Benefits (TNB). For more background information on the reversal of the SSI cash out policy, visit www.cdss.ca.gov/CalFreshSSI.

GOALS
- Enroll an estimated 369,000 households with only SSI recipients who are newly eligible for CalFresh.
- Enroll SSI recipients who are excluded members of 125,100 current CalFresh households, and, in order to mitigate any loss of CalFresh benefits, provide SNB and TNB as eligible.
- Provide equal access to all Californians.
- Preserve accuracy and timeline standards.
- Integrate healthy living (nutrition education) and employment and training services as appropriate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SSI BENEFIT TYPE</th>
<th>SSI RECIPIENT AGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disabled 31%</td>
<td>Senior: 60+ 9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged 68%</td>
<td>Adult: 18-59 54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blind 1%</td>
<td>Child: 0-17 37%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF SSI Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total CF Recipients (Jun 2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total CA SSI Recipients (Jun 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Newly Eligible HH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF HH Advantaged</td>
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<tr>
<td>CF HH Disadvantaged</td>
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<tr>
<td>CF HH Discontinued</td>
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*Estimated

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<tr>
<th>CF SSI Language Breakout June 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cantonese</td>
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<td>Mandarin</td>
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<td>Japanese</td>
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<td>Tagalog</td>
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<td>Russian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sign</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
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*See MEDES definition
FOUR IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. Engage and Empower Clients
   • Client stakeholders
   • Client stories
   • Client journey mapping
   • Client data dashboard

2. Target Outreach for Awareness and Assistance
   • Comprehensive partner network for outreach/in-reach
   • Outreach kits and campaign
   • Application assisters serving seniors and people with disabilities
   • Application assistance tools: on-line, in-person, and by phone

3. Streamline Customer Experience at Initial Application and Beyond
   • County "Framework of Solutions" for successful implementation
   • County technical assistance, peer trainings, and resource kits
   • Statewide service enhancements

4. Develop Policy, Automation, and Training Foundation
   • Policy guidance, notices, and forms
   • SAWS automation
   • USDA, SSA, and Tribal partnerships
   • Policy webinar training series

Amanda’s Story

I have been receiving SSI since I was 18 and have been injured with a spinal cord injury since I was 15; I am 36 now. I barely have the income to make ends meet, especially after paying my rent, phone bill, gas, and unexpected costs. I am lucky if there is any money left over for groceries. I have my caregivers go to the food bank every other week and that is helpful. I have been struggling the most to just eat healthy. I feel like I am going to die if I don't eat more fresh vegetables sometimes. I would really benefit from a program like CalFresh but I've been told twice in the last five years that I don't qualify because I receive SSI. I feel very trapped by circumstances that are out of my control. I feel like I need to eat healthy to be healthy; I need many other things, but food is a priority and I have struggled for a long time with obtaining healthy foods every month.

Provided by Amanda
SSI Recipient

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• All Stakeholder Advisory Group meets bi-monthly: next is May 14, 2019
• Four advisory groups (invite only with summaries posted on project webpage): Outreach, Customer Experience, Data Technical, and Automation Technical
• All in partnership with County Welfare Directors Association of California and Californians for SSI

Expanding CalFresh to SSI Recipients Implementation Update – March 2019
PROGRESS 2019

POLICY GUIDANCE:
- Policy guidance issued for implementation and automation of the reversal of SSI cash-out, the SNB Program, and the TNB Program: All County Letter (ACL) 18-90, ACL 18-91, ACL 18-92, ACL 18-131, ACL 19-12, and ACL 19-15
- Policy guidance issued for implementation of the SNB and TNB Program: ACL 18-107 and ACL 18-108. Additionally, SNB and TNB notices issued in 17 threshold languages
- Consultation with California Tribal Leadership on reversal of SSI cash-out and impact on CalFresh and Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Claiming instructions issued for the reversal of SSI cash-out and implementation of SNB and TNB Program: County Fiscal Letter (CFL) 18/19-40, and CFL 18/19-40E; allocation for the administration of the SNB and TNB Program: CFL 18-19-43
- Governor’s Budget Proposal 2019-20: Proposes to make SNB and TNB Programs ongoing
- Policy Webinar Series concluded in March
- Large print/digitally accessible applications in progress to be ready for use beginning in May
- SSA/CDSS Data Sharing Agreement updated by May
- SDX county-by-county March point-in-time data use in development for dissemination in May
- CDSS CalFresh Data Dashboard additions of SSI data in progress
- Automation development underway with SAWS go-live dates in May

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE PREPARATION:
- County “Framework of Solutions” for successful implementation and Resource Tool Kit 2.0 developed
- All County Welfare Directors Letter on Readiness Plans released in February
- County Operations Roundtable on Readiness for Expansion of CalFresh to SSI Recipients convened in February
- State and County Readiness Plans submitted March 22nd and posting in April
- TA, contingency planning, and CQI ongoing

OUTREACH EXPANSION:
- Leveraging current application assisters and tools:
- Added new application assisters: Area Agencies on Aging, via CDA; Independent Living Centers, via DOR; Regional Centers, via DDS; County Nutrition Action Partnership via CDPH; and Social Security Administration
- Upgrading assister tools and expanding language access: Call – CalFresh Info Line, 1-877-847-FOOD (3663) forwarding to counties; Click – GetCalFresh.org mobile-friendly on-line application tool to all counties; Come In – CalFresh “Find an Office” map locator on CDSS webpage
- All County Welfare Directors Letter on Outreach Coordination released in January
- Access for All guest speaker webinar series launched in March
- Outreach Campaign Kick-off on April 25th with digital Outreach Kit including flyers, posters, fact sheets, Q&A for seniors, people with disabilities, and caregivers, in multiple languages
- Mailers to SSI/SSP clients from CDSS in May
- Radio launch in Summer
SUMMER 2019:
- IMPLEMENTATION beginning June 1st
- Continuous Quality Improvement: active monitoring and technical assistance with counties, partners, assisters, and all implementation strategies

IMPORTANT DATES

Expanding CalFresh/Reversing SSI Cash-Out All-Stakeholder Implementation Meeting #6
Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2019
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm
Location: CDSS Headquarters, 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; OB8, Room 0235/0237
Register via WEBINAR or IN-PERSON meeting
DAIL IN ONLY: 1-914-614-3221; Access Code: 822-177-985

CalFresh & SSI Outreach Campaign Kick-Off
Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 1:30pm
CA Endowment and Live Streamed

Expanding CalFresh/Reversing SSI Cash-Out All-Stakeholder Implementation Meeting #7
Date/Time: TBD

More information, including meeting materials: www.cdss.ca.gov/CalFreshSSI
Questions? Email: CalFreshSSI@dss.ca.gov