



CWDA

Advancing Human Services
for the Welfare of *All* Californians

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GOVERNOR'S MAY REVISE MAINTAINS MOST ESSENTIAL ASSISTANCE FOR VULNERABLE FAMILIES

Federal Support Essential to Protect Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect

Sacramento, CA – The County Welfare Directors Association of California released the following statement today from Executive Director Frank J. Mecca:

“The scale of human need now is unlike anything we have seen – even in the Great Recession. Governor Newsom’s leadership in navigating this historic and complex public health and economic crisis is without compare anywhere in our nation. In the context of an unprecedented economic catastrophe, Governor Newsom’s May budget revision does a commendable job maintaining the very essential assistance – including CalWORKs, CalFresh and SSI/SSP – needed for the most vulnerable children, adults and families to survive.

“With the number of Californians eligible for CalWORKs projected rise by 102% and two million more Californians expected to qualify for Medi-Cal, county human services agencies have a monumental challenge ahead to deliver the cash aid, nutritional support and connections to care that are needed now more than ever. We will approach this challenge with both innovation and determination, even though inevitable budget reductions will constrain the resources we have to do the job. We know tens of millions of people and families are counting on our success.

“We wholeheartedly support the administration’s efforts to secure federal funding to support the most essential functions of our state and local governments and stave off an even deeper recession. Of most concern in the absence of additional resources is the safety of children and adults who were at risk of abuse and neglect even before stay-at-home orders separated them from the watchful eyes of educators and community members, and who are further imperiled by a sharp drop in realignment funding. As they return to the community, their bruises and malnutrition will become more evident and federal or state dollars must be in place to support their recovery and long-term success.”

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