



**CWDA**

Advancing Human Services  
for the Welfare of *All* Californians

# Counties and Medi-Cal Eligibility: Past, Present and Future

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# Presentation Overview

- **Past to Present**
  - By the Numbers
  - The Program
  - Eligibility Operations
  - Medi-Cal Philosophy
- **What Comes Next?**
  - Near Term
  - Longer Term

# Past and Present: By The Numbers

**1966-67**

**Nationally**

4m eligibles

<\$1b expenditures

**2016**

**Nationally**

70.5m eligibles

>\$460b expenditures

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**California**

<2m eligibles

\$4m expenditures (staff)

**California**

14.1m eligibles

>\$85b expenditures

# Past and Present: The Program

## Past

Fee-For-Service Only

Mostly Welfare-Linked/  
ABD Population

Asset Tests

## Present

Primarily Managed Care

Broader Eligibility/  
Expansion-Minded

No Asset Test for Most

# Past and Present: Eligibility Operations

## Past

99.8 EWs in 1966

Manual, Paper-Based

In-Person Application

## Present

15,000+ EWs today

Highly Automated

Online Application

# Past and Present: Medi-Cal Philosophy

## Past

“Keep Out Ineligibles”

Health Care

Siloed Systems

## Present

“Let’s Get You Covered”

Whole Person Care

Community Interactions

# Medi-Cal: What Comes Next?

## Near Term:

- Seeking a steady state
- Riding economic upturn
- Smoothing transitions across programs
- Reexamining budget methodology

# Medi-Cal: What Comes Next?

## Longer Term:

- Increasing accountability for service
- Weathering inevitable downturns
- Partnering even more





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