

Headlines



Otis and Buggy Win EHSD's Halloween Pet Parade

**The 2020
I Walk Challenge
Champions!**

**Lessons from a
9-year-old and
a slice of pizza**

CONTRACOSTA
COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT &
HUMAN SERVICES

AN ADOPTION STORY -

"She's always been my mom."

ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

How Zechariah Found His Mom

By Melissa Adams, Community Relations

As the mother of two grown children and a grandmother of four, Debby Morton hadn't planned on making any additions to her family. But it turns out, just like the alphabet, it wasn't complete until she got to "Z." In October, she officially adopted 11-year-old Zechariah, whom she had been fostering for more than half his life. "I never thought about adopting any kids in my life," says the longtime Resource Parent. That is, until Zechariah asked her to be his mom. "How could I say no?"

Debby says Zechariah came to her a grown-up at the age of five. By that time, he had been bouncing around the county for several years and had developed some behavioral issues. "They said, 'you can't tell him no,' and I thought, what does that mean?" She found out the first time she tried it. "Oh, did he go off," she says. "I just let him holler and scream." It took about six months, but after Zechariah had settled in and started working with a therapist, his true personality began to shine through. "He's the cutest little boy, smart as heck," Debby says. "Everybody says he's going to be a lawyer."

Not long after Zechariah met the woman who would become his mother, Debby lost her own mother. "He told



Adoption Day for Zechariah on Monday, October 19th.

me not to worry because she was in heaven and he'd take care of me. I believe God sent him to me." And in a way, he did. "I was sitting in church one day and I was thinking I'd always wanted a boys' home and it dawned on me: you already have one. You have four bedrooms," she says. "We're all here on assignment," she adds. "This is my assignment."

Debby first started fostering with her husband in the early 90s and continued to do so after his passing 18 years ago. She estimates she has helped about 20 children along their

Continued on page 10

Adoption Services During COVID Times

Over the past year, Children and Family Services (CFS) completed 100 adoptions despite the courts closing for four months due to COVID-19. CFS continues to find homes for children who are school aged and older, including adoptions by former foster parents, family members, and non-relatives, with one third of the children over eight years old. Hundreds of families in the County are receiving adoption assistance and post-adoption support.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES
Building Brighter Futures Together

CFS Welcomes a Lively Group of New Social Workers

By Ariana Martinez, CFS Staff Development Specialist

On September 30th, four new Children and Family Services Child Welfare Social Workers completed their training and graduated into full time work in the district offices. CFS Deputy Director, **Roslyn Gentry**, welcomed and awarded each new Social Worker their graduation certificates alongside some of their supervisors during a quaint socially-distanced graduation ceremony. A small but mighty group, this New Worker Training Unit (NWTU), was fortunate to be able to spend most of their training together in person, while still meeting social distancing guidelines. They brought good humor and positive attitudes into all of their scheduled trainings, whether meeting in person or via Zoom (even

creating custom backgrounds to imagine taking trips around the world together). The joy they bring to the workplace is a remarkable asset during 2020. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our new CFS Social Workers!

Congratulations to our Fall 2020 Graduates:

WEST COUNTY

Yashawn Smith – Emergency Response

Alexis Owens – Court

CENTRAL COUNTY

Michelle Estrada – Continuing Services

EAST COUNTY

Eric Wagoner – Emergency Response



ABOVE - Photoshopped by Eric Wagoner of New Workers in Paris. The group created custom backgrounds to imagine taking trips around the world together (from L to R): **Alexis Owens, Michelle Estrada, Yashawn Smith, Eric Wagoner.**



Alexis Owens receives her graduation certificate from CFS Deputy Director Roslyn Gentry and Supervisor **Marie-Julie S. de la Fuente** (on screen)

RIGHT- Custom Zoom Background Photoshopped by Eric Wagoner of New Worker Mountain Adventure (from L to R): **Michelle Estrada, Alexis Owens, Eric Wagoner, Yashawn Smith.**



Open Enrollment and New Medicare Choices

By Ruth Atkin, HICAP Program Manager

Medicare open enrollment has begun. This is the time of year when Medicare beneficiaries can compare their prescription drug plans or Medicare Advantage plans. Even if someone is satisfied with their plan, it is good to review coverage because costs change, covered prescriptions change and even participating doctor networks can change.

Contra Costa County has new choices this year. For the first time someone getting kidney dialysis can enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan. About

one third of the prescription drug plans also have a new insulin savings program.

The Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program or HICAP is the place to get free, impartial, individualized, confidential counseling on Medicare. Visit <https://cchicap.org/> or click the image below to view a webinar that highlights the changes for 2021 in Contra Costa County.

Open enrollment for Medicare ends on Dec. 7th.



Oct 15 to Dec 7 2020

Medicare 2021 What do you need to know?

Oct 13, 2020

Contra Costa HICAP



LOCAL HELP FOR PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE

EHSD Election Tools

EHSD has been supporting the Elections Division and overall County effort in providing information and resources for community members during this election season:

- **EHSD-produced [animated video](#)** with election reminders about early voting dates, ballot drop off, and ballot tracking (Spanish in progress).
- **Social Media election posts** on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) @ContraCostaEHSD (English & Spanish)
- **Election fliers** to share with customers, family, friends and other community members (two versions, each in English & Spanish).

Thank you all for all you have done to help get the word out leading up to Election Day.

Contra Costa Employment and Human Services
October 30 at 3:32 PM · 🌐

Vote early in person today, tomorrow and Monday (wear mask). You can still register and vote in person at Regional Early Voting Places. @cocoelections

🔗 See original · Rate this translation

NOVEMBER 2020

El martes
3 de noviembre
es el día de las elecciones

Visit the Voting Information Center for official election resources and local updates.
[Get Voting Information](#)

Contra Costa Employment and Human Services
Yesterday at 7:10 AM · 🌐

Counting down to Election Day on Tuesday, November 3rd. Watch this Elections video <https://vimeo.com/472101051> to learn more about sending in or delivering your ballot. [Contra Costa County Elections](#)

ELECTION DAY IS

Tuesday,
November 3rd
www.cocovote.us

Visit the Voting Information Center for official election resources and local updates.
[Get Voting Information](#)

Want to know what else we're doing at EHSD?

Like us on Facebook
Follow us on
Twitter @ContraCostaEHSD





Magellan Ascend

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

To Yourself Be True

Submitted by Personnel Services

You may have heard about how *being authentic* can improve your daily life. But it's more than just a phrase. Being authentic means being real—when our outer actions and words match with our inner beliefs and values. It means truly being ourselves—not what our parents or the media have told us to be. So how can you be more authentic?

- Take some time for self-reflection about what's right for you, your energy, your time and your interests. Get in touch with your true wants and needs.
- Don't internalize your uncomfortable feelings and let them fester. Have the courage to share your imperfections, such as shame, guilt, regret, etc., with others.
- Let go of who you think you're supposed to be, and embrace who you actually are.

Read the full article at www.magellanascent.com.

Upcoming Webinar: *Avoiding Caregiver Burnout* – November 4

Register for this webinar to:

- Learn the symptoms of caregiver burnout
- Discuss situations and circumstances which can lead to burnout
- Identify ways to prevent caregiver burnout

Missed the live webinar?

Don't worry, you can access webinar recordings by clicking on "Learning Center" and selecting "Webinars." If you haven't signed up to use the County Employee Assistance Program yet, follow these two easy steps:

Step 1: Go to www.magellanascent.com and click on "Sign up".

Step 2: Complete the online registration form and click on "Get Started".

Otis and Buggy Win EHS D's First-Ever Halloween Pet Costume Contest

By Alan Wang, Community Relations Media Specialist

Otis and Buggy, the two pugs, won EHS D's first-ever Halloween Pet Parade & Contest that included more than 30 pets all decked out in a variety of costumes. Otis and Buggy experienced five costume changes that included dressing up as Minions, Incredi-pugs, Ninja Turtles as well as a dragon and dinosaur outfit. Buggy and Otis's owner is **Stefany Martinez**, an Aging and Adult Services Social Worker at 500 Ellinwood. The dynamic duo received the most votes from EHS D staff members who viewed the one-hour lunchtime webinar on October 30th. The Halloween costume contest was produced by the Community Relations team which consists of host **Alan Wang** (Media Specialist), **Deb Johnson** (Community Relations Clerk), and **Tish Gallegos** (Community Relations Manager). **Dave Eisenlohr** (IT Division Manager) provided technical assistance and **Patty Lund** (Admin. EL Clerk) also helped keep the show running smoothly.

Otis and Buggy won a special pet photo shoot and the honor of being featured on the cover of this edition of *Headlines*.



One of five costume changes for Buggy and Otis. Their owner Stefany Martinez says they're very patient because they know they'll get a treat if they put up with it. [CLICK](#) on the play button to watch Buggy and Otis preparing for their *Headlines* photo shoot.



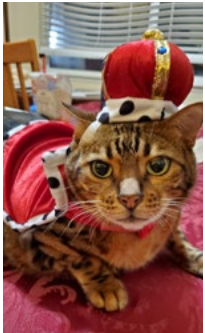
Buggy and Otis are both 7 years old. Stefany says her dogs are like her children.

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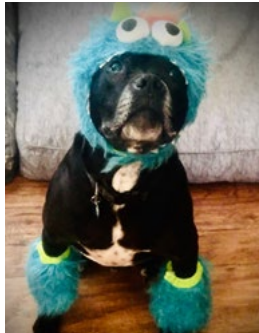
HALLOWEEN VIRTUAL PET PARADE



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Tamina Alon/P&P – Rio, the Prince



Tammy Gochenouer/WFS – Ammo the Monster



Ana Caballero/WFS – Harley the Cowboy



Kathleen Dumlao/WFS – Stewie as Dumbo

The Pet Parade & Contest webinar link will be available soon, and we will send it to all staff via STARS.



Daniel Jameyson/WFS – Gunther, the Emotional Support Peacock



Jessica Maciel/WFS – Tokiio, the Angel



Jacque Mesner/P&P – Watchaman & Laney as Big Kahuna & Pineapple Princess



PUPPUCCINO ORDER READY FOR EHS

Janice Corrales/AAS & CFS – Mochi Puppuccino



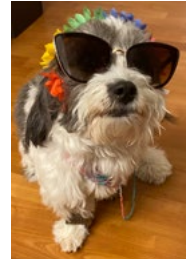
Kathleen Dumlao/WFS – Charlie & Coco as Lion & Alligator



Liza Bollas/WFS – Ping Pong the Pirate



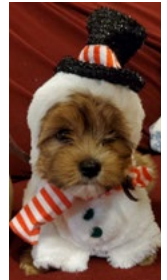
Michelle Calabio/AAS – Star as Batman



Myriam Saenz/CSB – Oreana as La Diva



Patty Lund/Admin – Big Boy as Harry Pudder



Ritche Martija/CSB – Charlie, Snow Pup



Tammy Gochenouer/WFS – Rose the Monster



Toni Thomas/WFS – Bailey & Dory, Opposites Attract



Shalise Santos/Admin (Personnel) – Goober the Ghost



Tracy Story/Admin (Fiscal) – Colt as UPS man & Minky as Little Cowboy

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HALLOWEEN VIRTUAL PET PARADE



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Teresa Gonzalez/AAS – Elvis “Howdy, Buckaroos”



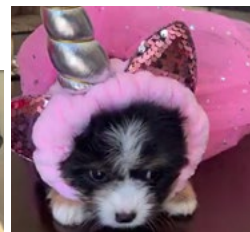
Leslie Ford/CFS – Eevee & Buster as Princess & Pope



Ariel Richards/CFS – Chip & Obi as Olaf & Sven



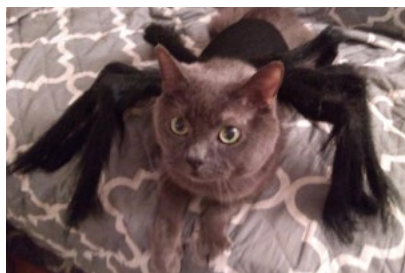
Rob Barnard/Admin Svcs– Sammy as Bark Vader



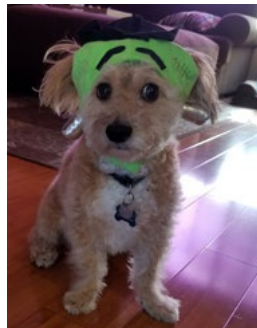
Lynn Peralta/P&P - Mila, Rascal & Ruby in Halloween Puppy Parade



Bao Tran/Personnel – Mochi as Ironman



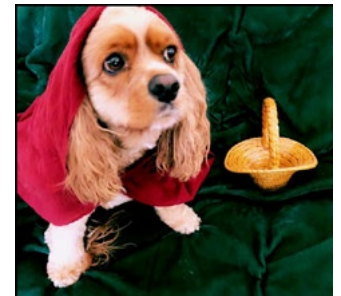
Vera Wienecke/WFS – Clinton the Spider



Amalia Gratteri/CFS – DaVinci as Frankenstein



Dena Holland-Wilson/WFS – Lenox: French Fries, Anyone?



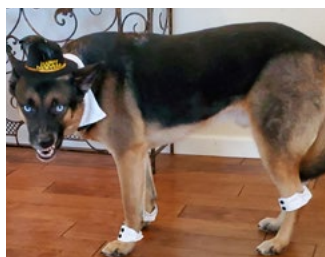
Dana Wargo/WFS – Little Ruby Red Riding Hood



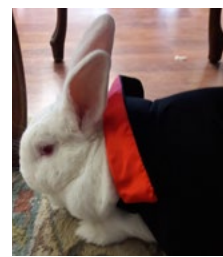
Emilzer Novoa/WFS – Danger, the Lumber Jack



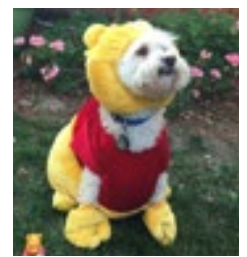
Michelle Calabio/AAS – Cecilia Squash as Santa Cat



Debbie Miller/Admin – Nikko, Debonair Dog



Patty Lund/Admin – Duchess as Bunicula



Susan Bain/Admin – Charlie as Winnie the Pooh

How Zechariah Found His Mom

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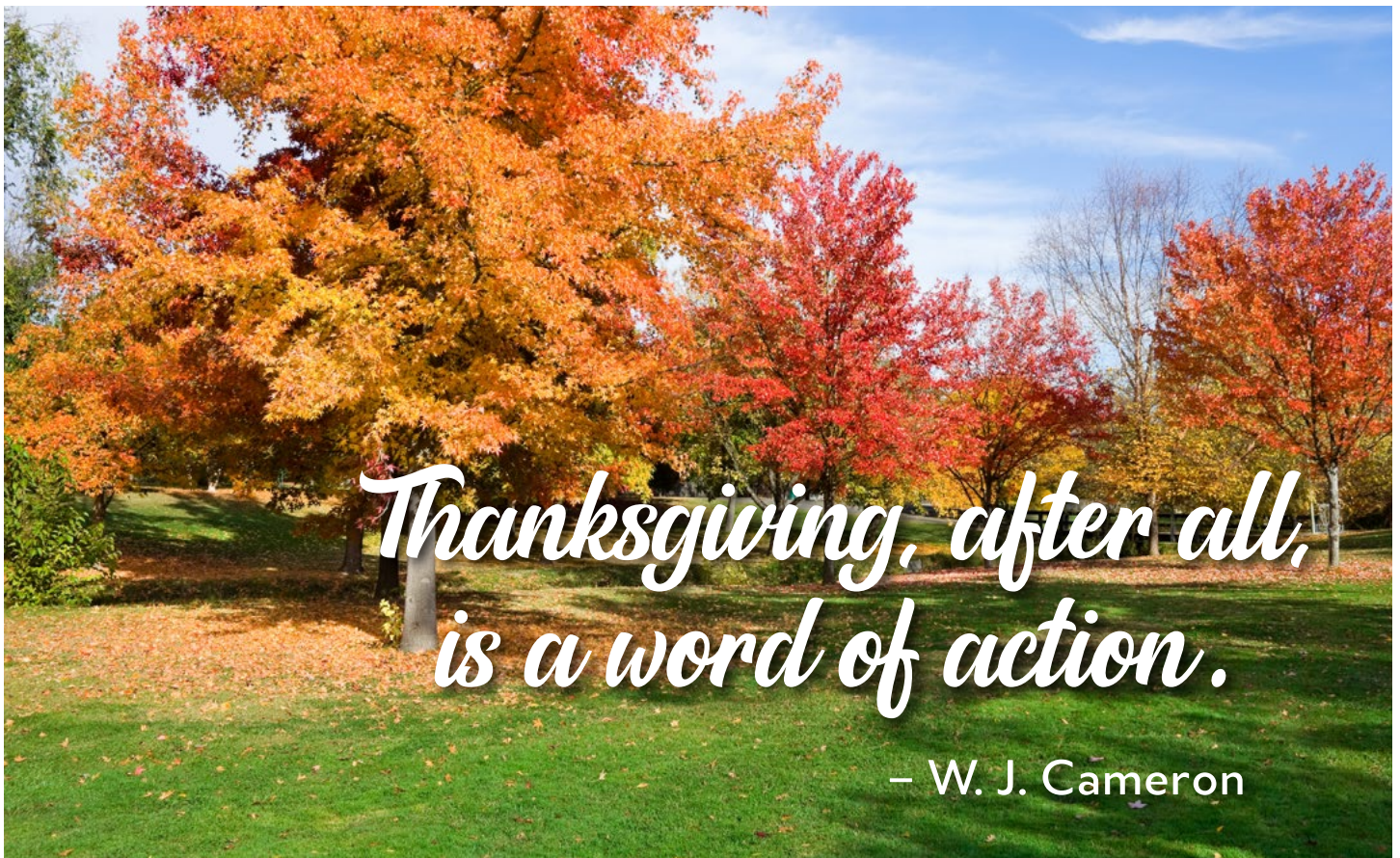
path to permanency, but Zechariah's adoption was a first. Debby says the process was surprisingly smooth thanks to her Social Worker, **Chau Nguyen.**

"I've been doing this for 28 years and Chau is the best I've ever had," she says. "It just felt like she was part of our family." The feeling is mutual. "In my 20+ years of working in Child Welfare, the adoption process for Zechariah with Ms. Morton has been a very special one for me," says Chau. "I am overjoyed that Zechariah has found his permanent home and I know that he is loved and well cared for."



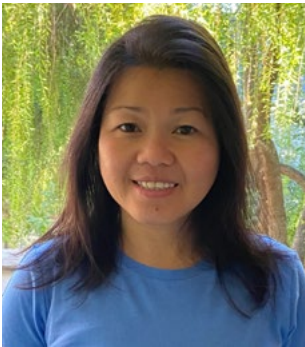
CFS Social Worker Chau Nguyen was instrumental throughout the Morton's adoption process.

Once COVID-19 passes, Zechariah looks forward to resuming his karate lessons, which have been a healthy outlet for him over the years. He already achieved his green belt by the time the pandemic put his training and competitions on hold. He is also active in church, participates in plays, and enjoys attending summer camps. "He's not shy," Debby laughs, noting that Zechariah has developed special relationships with every member of the family. "He's just a loveable kid. Everybody loves him," she says. And it's clear that he loves them. "Someone said to him the other day, 'Zechariah, you've got a mom now,' and he said, 'she's always been my mom.'"



What I Learned From a 9-year-old and a Slice of Pizza

By Khiet-Vi Long, CFS Social Work Supervisor



Khiet-Vi Long, CFS Social Work Supervisor

When I was a Children & Family Services Social Worker in Central Contra Costa County, I was called to investigate a suspected child abuse referral involving a 9-year-old child and his family. By the end of the investigation, the conclusion was

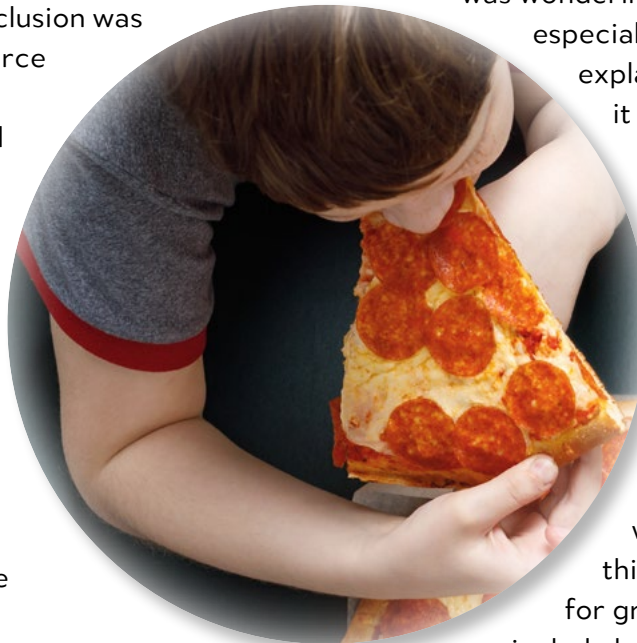
to place the child into a resource home (a.k.a. foster home) immediately because it would be unsafe for him to remain at home with his parent. I transported the child to foster care that day. It was approximately 6 p.m., so I wanted to ensure the child was not hungry. I asked if he would like to grab a bite first and he replied with a "Yes." I then proceeded to ask what he wanted to eat. He replied, "Pizza."

We stopped off at a local pizza parlor. The child ordered a personal-sized pizza and when his food arrived, I noticed he did not open the pizza box right away. I found this peculiar, as most kids would have dived right in. Instead, he put his nose close to the pizza box and deeply inhaled the aroma of his freshly baked pizza. He then asked me if he could smell his pizza a couple more times before he ate it because he had not had pizza for a long time.

Up until then, my focus was on getting him to a foster home especially since it was getting late.

His request surprised me and made me shift my focus. I let him know that it was his pizza and he could smell it as many times as he liked. After a few more sniffs, he dove into the pizza. In no time, he had devoured half of the pizza. I noticed that he decided not to finish the other half so I asked him if he was full and he said no. At this point, I was wondering why he stopped eating,

especially if he was not full. He explained that he wanted to save it for tomorrow because he was afraid he would not have food to eat the next day. Being empathetic to his situation, I reassured him that there would be food at his foster home.



The encounter with this young boy reminded me to always be grateful for what we have (however big or small things are) and not take anything for granted. These things also

include basic necessities such as having my own bed. When foster children are moved from one place to another, they have a bed. But it often is not truly their own bed. Even with my focus on many of the overwhelming challenges in 2020, I try not to forget to value my blessings (which include a meaningful and rewarding job and good health) and also to stop and smell the roses...or in my case, stop and enjoy the aroma of a pizza.

CSB Taps Technology to Help Keep Kids & Families Safe

By Tracy Lewis, CSB Admin Services Assistant

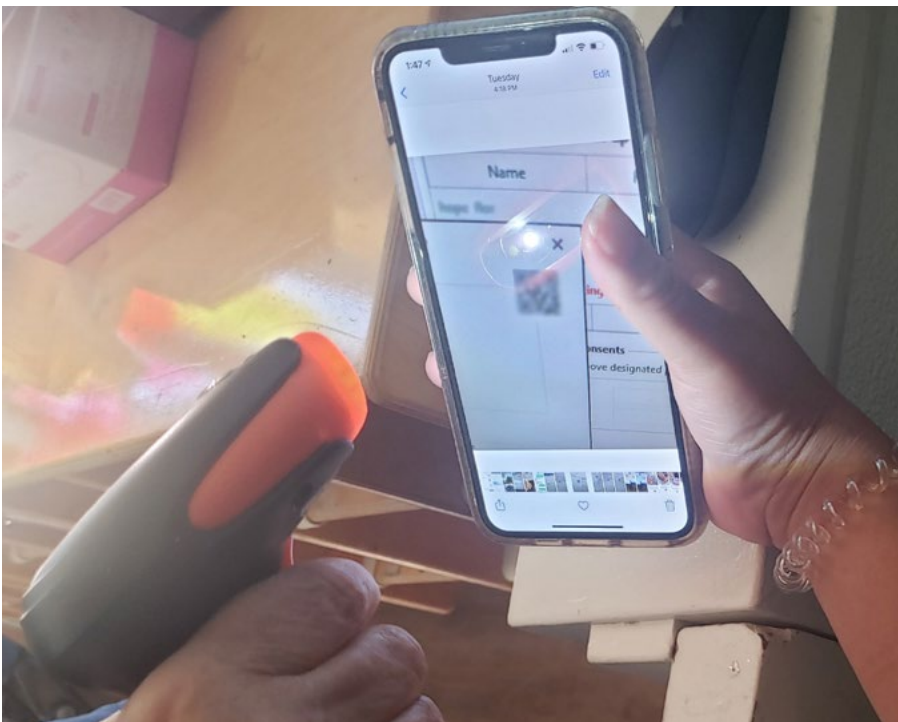
At the Community Services Bureau, in our ongoing efforts to be innovative, we are always looking for ways to improve safety and increase productivity. With the heightened awareness surrounding the need to slow the spread of COVID-19, we have had to find new systems and processes to ensure the safety of the children in our care, as well as the safety of our staff and families. One of the new systems being implemented is the use of scanned QR Codes for families when dropping off or picking up their children. This new system allows families to “sign” their children into our care without physically touching a wall-pad or tablet. Each family receives a unique QR code linked to their data file and a digital copy of their signature. The parent scans their code and a staff member “verifies” the family and child, thus completing the sign in and out process. By

using this method, it eliminates the need to sanitize between each family and allows our teachers to spend more time providing quality service to the children and families they serve.

Gathering and communicating with families is a challenge at this time in part because only about half our families are enrolled in in-class care due to group size restrictions, while the remaining families receive Distance Learning. To address these challenges we have turned to Zoom as an easy-to-use platform to hold monthly parent meetings and Head Start Policy Council meetings. Parents and Policy Council members are adapting to this new way to meet and connect with one another, and feedback from both staff and families is very positive. Because many of our families are not coming physically to the centers each day, we have

enhanced communication through use of automated texts and emails through the CLOUDS systems as well as Facebook and Twitter to ensure that our families continue to receive vital information in a timely way.

CSB staff continue to look for additional innovative ideas to continue to deliver high quality services to our community despite the pandemic and all the restrictions it imposes. Kudos to our creative and innovative CSB team!



QR codes enable families to sign their children into our care without physically touching a wall-pad or tablet.

Meet the CSEC Team (Commercially Sexually Exploited Children)

By Alysia Dellaserra, CFS Program Analyst

The CSEC Team continues to actively explore practices to improve early identification of commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and youth in order to reduce and prevent prolonged abuse and to raise awareness of child sex trafficking. The CSEC Program works by the following Vision Statement:

“We work to end CSEC/Youth through identification, intervention and education.”

The CSEC Team is available to provide support to CFS staff to ensure children and youth who are at-risk or have been commercially sexually exploited get the support they need. Members of the team include: **Kimberly Baker** (CFS Division

Manager), **Veneisha Johnson** (CSEC Coordinator), **Patricia Perkins** (CFS Division Manager/Admin. Support), **Mari Solis** (CFS Staff Development), and **Alysia Dellaserra** (CFS Program Analyst).

General questions and inquiries may be sent to the CSEC Team at cfcsec@ehsd.cccounty.us. For crisis intervention, please call the CVS 24-hour hotline at 1 (800) 670-7273.

The CFS CSEC Team and CVS Case Specialists acknowledge the outstanding work of **Mario Pando** and **Penny Williams**, two CFS Social Workers. See their Customer Service Champions feature on page 16.



Alysia Dellaserra (CFS Program Analyst)



Kimberly Baker (CFS Division Manager)



Patricia Perkins (CFS Division Manager/Admin. Support)



Veneisha Johnson (CSEC Coordinator)



Mari Solis (CFS Staff Development)

I Walk Challenge Results

Deb Johnson, Community Relations EL Clerk

Congratulations and thanks to all EHSD staff who stepped out for the **I Walk Challenge!** The six-week challenge wrapped up on October 19th, and here are the final standings and a few fun facts:

Top Three Teams:

1st Place: Contra Costa College Cadets – 3,203,816 points – 2600 Mission Bell Dr., San Pablo

2nd Place: The Walking Wonders – 2,519,515 points – Richmond locations

3rd Place: Yard Steppers – 2,514,541 points – 2600 Stanwell Dr., Concord

Top Individual Walkers:

100,000–399,000: Mahdiah Rassi with 394,018 steps (Team Ignite)

400,000–599,000: Martha Alvarez with 576,995 steps (Team Ignite)

600,000–999,000: Balsam Nimir with 852,817 steps (Team Stars)

Bureau with the most walkers:

CSB Bureau – out of 152 total walkers they had 81 participants = 53%

Most Spirited Building:

3068 Grant St., Concord CA – This building had the largest number of employees participate in the I Walk Challenge, with a total of 30 out of 58 = 52%.

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Desiree Meuy Maria
Monica Olga Ron-Nysha

First Place Team Contra Costa College Cadets

Honorable Mention:

Most Consistent walker was **Meuy Saechao**. Meuy represents the Contra Costa College Cadets. With 835,238 points, the Cadets were keeping the pressure on the other teams with Meuy consistently walking more than 131,594 each week of the challenge.

Did you know?

In 2015, Noah Coughlan, 33, of Vacaville, California, completed a 3,000-mile solo trek from New York City to San Diego in 127 days.

During our I Walk Challenge 2020, those who completed all six weeks collectively walked 23,591.49 miles. That would be close to eight trips back and forth across the United States!

Keep stepping and just imagine the places you can go!

EHSD's Influences, Monitors Legislation

By Lynn Peralta, Division Manager, Policy and Planning (P&P)

During the 2020 legislative session, Policy & Planning (P&P) monitored over 400 state and federal bills and recommended the County Board of Supervisors take positions on at least 20 bills, budget requests, and resolutions in partnership with the County Administrator's Office, federal and state lobbyists, Board Legislative Committee, Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS), and other County agencies.

As of September 30, 2020, over 35 Human Services bills tracked have been chaptered and will take effect on January 1, 2021.

In addition, P&P provided analysis on the Governor's preliminary 2020–21 State Budget, May revise and final enacted budget and its impacts to human services.

In coordination with Assembly Member Tim Grayson, and Aging & Adult Services Bureau, EHSD

introduced AB 2387 IHSS (In-Home Supportive Services) Telephonic Reassessments to allow the option for telephonic assessments with enrolled IHSS program participants.

Policy and Planning acknowledges the efforts of the Executive Team and bureau staff who helped identify key policy areas, advanced actions on state bills to support, and provided input on draft letters.

We look forward to continuing this successful partnership as we begin planning for the upcoming two-year California legislative session.

To view the full Annual Report, click the below link. **For more information, contact Lynn Peralta, Division Manager, at (925) 608-4881 or email speralta@ehsd.cccounty.us.**

Annual Report link: <https://ehsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Policy-Planning-2020-Annual-Report-48.pdf>



Customer Service Champions

These individuals are being recognized for going the extra mile by delivering excellent service to our customers. They went above and beyond in their willingness to help and demonstrated EHSD's emphasis on providing exemplary customer service. Congratulations on a job well done!

Recognizing Mario Pando

By Rachel Smith, CSEC Program Case Specialist, Community Violence Solutions

Mario Pando, West County CFS Social Worker was nominated by **Rachel Smith**, CSEC Program Case Specialist from Community Violence Solutions. Rachel says, "Mario Pando has been an excellent communicator. He responded right away when I contacted him after receiving the CSEC referral. He spent the time to give me the full background of the client with a complicated case, as the client has suffered multiple traumas. Mario has shown cultural sensitivity in how he refers to the client and demonstrates using a trauma-informed lens by identifying needs rather than criticizing behaviors."



Mario Pando, West County CFS Social Worker

Recognizing Penny Williams

By TaSharele Williams, CSEC Program Case Specialist, Community Violence Solutions

Penny Williams, East County CFS Social Worker. Nominated by **TaSharele Williams**, CSEC Program Case Specialist from Community Violence Solutions. TaSharele says, "I have had the pleasure of working with Penny Williams for three years. Our mutual client expressed her gratitude as Penny assisted her with a conflict at 11 p.m. Although Penny was off work, she made herself available to our client in her time of need."



Penny Williams, East County CFS Social Worker

Service Awards & Retirees

SERVICE AWARDS

30 YEARS

Roz Guillory, Workforce Svcs Specialist, WFS
Xiomara Mayorga, Social Worker, WFS
Kam Phoummatheap, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS

25 YEARS

Lora Duncan, Eligibility Work Supervisor I, WFS
Alvin Gibson, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS
Janeen Lawson, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS
Magdalena Perez, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS
Scott Sanders, Social Worker, AAS

20 YEARS

Marcy Hara, Social Work Supervisor II, CSF
Edith Ortega, Eligibility Worker III, WF
Craig Roney, Eligibility Work Supervisor I, AASDB

15 YEARS

Emilio Alvarez, Eligibility Work Supervisor I, WFS
Michelle Calabio, Social Worker III, AAS
Rebecca Darnell, Deputy Director, WFS
Judy Flores, Social Worker III, CFS
Marichel Garcia, Social Casework Assistant, CFS
Juanita Hardin-Lee, Social Worker, AAS
Christine Jensen, Social Worker, WFS
Maria Mariscal, Eligibility Worker III, WFS
Aileen Palompo, Calvin Help Desk Specialist, Admin
Nanci Powers, Soc Svc Program Analyst, WFS
Maria Rosillo, Master Teacher-Project, CSB
Margaret Smith, Eligibility Work Supervisor I, CFS
Angela Verarde, Soc Svc Program Analyst, WFS

10 YEARS

Monica Russo-Olson, Clerk-Specialist Level, WFS

NEW EMPLOYEES

Lauren Talbert, Clerk-Experienced Level, WDB

RETIREES

Charlotte Brooks, Eligibility Worker III, WFS
Regina Chenoweth, ASA III, Admin
Angela C. Difilippi, Clerk-Senior Level, WFS
Patricia Hui, Social Casework Asst, CFS

Christian Hutchings, Social Work Supervisor II, CFS
*Chase Lockwood, Soc Svc Program Asst, AAS
Phyllis L. Osenga, Accountyng Technician, Admin
Tue Tan (David) Vo, Eligibility Worker III, WFS

*name correction

Are you planning a retirement celebration for a staff member and would like to present them with a retirement certificate? If so, please contact Deb Johnson at djohnson@ehsd.cccounty.us or (925) 608-4904.

SPREAD THE WORD

NOVEMBER

- **ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH**
- **NOVEMBER 1** – Daylight Saving Time Ends
- **NOVEMBER 3** – Election Day
- **NOVEMBER 11** – Veterans Day (Holiday)
- **NOVEMBER 16** – Holiday Food Fight Kicks Off (through 12/31)
- **NOVEMBER 26** – Thanksgiving Day (Holiday)
- **NOVEMBER 27** – Day after Thanksgiving (Holiday)
- **NOVEMBER 30** – Cyber Monday

December

- **DECEMBER 7** – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- **DECEMBER 10-18** – Hanukkah begins/ends
- **DECEMBER 21** – Winter Solstice (shortest day of the year)
- **DECEMBER 23** – Festivus
- **DECEMBER 25** – Christmas Day (Holiday)
- **DECEMBER 26-JANUARY 1** – Kwanzaa begins/ends
- **DECEMBER 31** – Holiday Food Fight Ends
- **DECEMBER 31** – New Year’s Eve

Make a change in a child’s life and become a Resource Parent/ Family for a foster child. Contra Costa County has more than 1,000 children who need your help. Join a free virtual orientation during the COVID-19 Health Order. We will update the in-person orientation schedule as restrictions lift.



FREE VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS

November 12 or 19 • 4 to 6 p.m.
December 3 or 17 • 4 to 6 p.m.

For more information about becoming a Resource Parent visit us at www.ehsd.org. To register for a class, please call (925) 602-6960, toll-free at 1 (866) 313-7788, or email ResourceFamilies@ehsd.cccounty.us

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Contact us at our *EHSD Headlines* email, headlines@ehsd.cccounty.us, if you have an upcoming event, article, our idea you would like to share.
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