

Headlines



**APS — Stefany Martinez
and the Heart of
Human Services**

**Honoring Social Workers
in March**

*Meet New CSB Deputy Director
Dr. Easter Calvit*

**CFS Social Workers
Volunteer to Train
Mandated Reporters**

CONTRACOSTA
COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT &
HUMAN SERVICES



CSB Welcomes New Deputy Director

“I am very pleased and excited to announce that Dr. Calvit has joined CSB. She and I will be working very closely together to move our Bureau forward, ensuring that we continue delivering services with excellence and passion!”

– Dr. Aaron Alarcón-Bowen, CSB Executive Director

EHSD welcomes **Dr. Easter Calvit** who has joined the Community Services Bureau (CSB) as its new Deputy Director.

Dr. Calvit transitioned from Compass Family Services in San Francisco, where she served as Deputy Director. She had oversight for the Family Resource Center which annually served more than 3500 homeless families; the Children’s Center, which served 70 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in San Francisco’s Tenderloin District; a Childcare Referral Program, which ensured that homeless families were connected to quality child care; and an Impact and Learning Department that conducted research on issues that impact homeless families.

Dr. Calvit worked for nearly 16 years in the Early Head Start/Head Start arenas, serving in various management positions. Her last position in Early Head Start/Head Start was as the Director of Child and Family Services for Kai Ming Head Start in San Francisco for more than five years. There, Dr. Calvit established new programs, including a prenatal program funded by the City and County of San Francisco, and Kai Ming’s initial Early Head Start program. She also has worked with a First 5 agency, overseeing a Child Care Initiative and working closely with Family Child Care Providers.

Dr. Calvit holds a Doctorate of Education-Educational Leadership and Master of Public Administration from California State University, Stanislaus; a Master of Education from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona; and a Bachelor of Public Administration from Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi.

WFS Management Changes

By Kelley Curtis, Workforce Services Director

EHSD Division Manager **Sandy Bustillo** has announced her retirement at the end of March. Sandy has shared her skills and talents with EHSD for an incredible 30 years. With Sandy's departure, we have an obvious void in one of our primary public-facing offices. We are fortunate to have EHSD Division Manager **Renee Giometti** who will lead intake and building operations for Central County as Sandy retires. Renee and Sandy will work together to transition leadership at Ellinwood this month. Congratulations to Sandy on her retirement and Renee in her new role.



Sandy Bustillo turns over the reigns after 30 years of services.



Renee Giometti will take over as Intake and Building Operations Manager.

CFS Welcomes New CSEC Case Specialists

By Alysia Dellaserra, Social Services Program Analyst, CFS

Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Case Specialists work with CFS-involved youth and their families who are at-risk or involved in commercial sexual exploitation. The CFS CSEC Team is pleased to welcome two new CSEC Case Specialists with Community Violence Solutions (CVS) who are available to support CFS Social Workers in their work with youth and families. The specialists will also be facilitating presentations for staff on the fourth Thursday of each month. Informational flyers will detail the topic of the month and the Zoom link will be published to STARS.

Norma Guadalupe Arreguin Zamora is a CSEC Case Specialist with CVS. Norma is stationed at

the East County office on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and is available to support district staff, and youth and families who are CFS-involved. Norma feels passionate about building a better and safer community for youth. In addition to her work as a CVS CSEC Case Specialist, Norma has worked hand-in-hand with other departments



Norma Guadalupe Arreguin Zamora

Continued on next page

CFS Welcomes New CSEC Case Specialists

Continued from previous page

to help combat both human trafficking and labor trafficking, including: law enforcement, Homeland Security, SWAT, and the courts. Norma has also participated in sting operations. She hopes to one day be a hostage negotiator. In her spare time, she enjoys riding her horse, cooking, and spending time with family.

Jasmin Sanchez is a CSEC Case Specialist with CVS. Jasmin is stationed at the West County office on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m., and at the Central County office on Thursdays from



Jasmin Sanchez

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jasmin is looking forward to partnering with CFS Social Workers, and supporting youth and families. She holds a degree in Child and Adolescent Development from San Francisco State University. Jasmin enjoys being outdoors and has a goal to visit every National Park in the US.

CSEC Case Specialists are able to assist with the following:

- Provide CSEC screenings to identify possible commercial sexual exploitation.
- Provide support in CFS service plan development.
- Problem solve complicated CSEC cases by providing guidance and expertise as needed.
- Attend Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings, upon request.
- Meet and engage with runaway youth to connect them with services and support.
- Attend the Human Trafficking Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings on behalf of the youth or social worker, upon request.
- Provide regional updates and communication to CFS staff about CSEC issues and concerns.



CFS Social Workers:

Do you suspect or have a commercially sexually exploited child/ youth on your caseload? Are you interested in learning more about available CSEC services? Please send your CSEC referral (CSEC 04) or inquiry to the CFS CSEC Team at cpscsec@ehsd.cccounty.us.

The Time is Right

By Tish Gallegos, Community Relations/Media Manager

March is National Social Work Month and this year's theme is ***The Time is Right for Social Work.***

We celebrate our EHSD Social Workers who are in a profession dedicated to improving human well-being and enhancing the basic needs of all people, especially the most vulnerable in Contra Costa County.

The 2022 theme embodies how our Social Workers continue to meet the most pressing challenges of our times – the COVID-19 pandemic, systemic racism, economic inequality, and other crises.

EHSD Social Workers in Aging & Adult Services, Children & Family Services and Workforce Services, support families and individuals in a number of ways. They help our community members by: protecting children from abuse and neglect; finding foster and adoptive homes for children; helping families reunite; providing comprehensive assessment, intervention and advocacy on behalf of senior and disabled clients; investigating abuse, financial exploitation, neglect and isolation; helping ensure safety and independence through referrals to other community resources; determining job readiness;

as well as assisting clients in finding resources to overcome employment barriers.

Our County's Social Workers are on the front lines of upholding social safety net programs that help eliminate hunger, homelessness, and poverty, ensuring the availability of affordable, high-quality health care, and delivering mental health support. Their valuable work helps empower people in our County to live to their fullest potential.

The time is definitely right for social work. Join in recognizing the numerous contributions that Contra Costa County's Social Workers make as we celebrate this noble profession during Social Work Month.



THE TIME IS RIGHT
FOR SOCIAL WORK

New Contact Info for Emergency Relief Fund

EHSD's Volunteer & Emergency Services (VES), in partnership with the San Francisco Chronicle Season of Sharing (SOS), provides emergency relief for families and individuals. To reach VES about the Emergency Relief Fund, be sure to use these updated phone numbers:

The new number for the SOS hotline is **(925) 655-1205**.

You can reach VES Program Coordinator Cindy Smith at **(925) 655-1202** and SOS coordinator Alvaro Florez at **(925) 655-1203** or aflorez@ehsd.cccounty.us.

Stefany Martinez and AAS Swing Into Action

Expanding Community's Help for Elderly Woman

By Alan Wang, Community Relations/Media Specialist

Neighbors were banding together to help an 80-year old woman who was living at the end of the street in a ramshackle camper. Plastic tarps draped over the roof to keep the rain out, and pieces of plywood filled in the missing walls. Univision 14 (KDTV) reported on the senior woman's plight and how her neighbors were looking out for her, featuring her story on the station's website on February 22nd (<https://www.univision.com/local/san-francisco-kdtv/maria-mexicana-vive-camper-pobreza-bay-point>).

That same evening and again the next day, Aging and Adult Services Social Worker **Stefany Martinez** drove out to the scene in Bay Point where the elderly woman humbly accepted her offers of food and medical resources. Stefany examined the camper where the woman had been fighting off the cold with her small dog, her pet cockatiel, and her adult son who was out looking for work. The woman, who says she immigrated from Jalisco, Mexico, 15 years ago, had been keeping warm under a pile of blankets. However, she was in need of a toilet and running water. "In a case like this, we will work with community partners," said Stefany. "We'll figure out how to keep her safe, warm and make sure she has all her basic needs like food, shelter and healthcare."

Meanwhile, a neighbor drove up to drop off food for the woman. No one in the neighborhood initially thought to call EHSD's Adult and Aging Services. "This is common," says Stefany. "I don't think many people are aware of the Adult Protective Services (APS) program and what services we have to offer. But this is what we're here to do."



APS Social Worker Stefany Martinez explains the many services the County has available to a potential client. **CLICK** on the play button to watch Stefany's interactions with the woman as she assessed her situation and needs.

Stefany offered that message to Univision 14 during a later interview with reporter Candy Duran. This case demonstrates what is at the heart of social work – supporting the County's most vulnerable residents.

The case also underscores the importance of a concerted effort to inform/remind our community members – even mandated reporters – that they can call our **Information and Assistance** line at **(800) 510-2020** if they need resources for a senior or disabled adult, and, if they suspect elder abuse, they can report it by calling **(877) 839-4347**.



APS is working to find permanent housing for the elderly woman and her dog.

Headlines is including this story and photos with permission from the woman who is featured.

CFS Volunteers Step Up to Train Mandated Reporters

By Mari Solis, CFS Staff Development Specialist

Announcing the renewed partnership and collaboration between Contra Costa County Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC) and Children & Family Services (CFS)!

In late 2020, **Cristina Hickey** (CAPC) and **Mari Solis** (CFS) joined efforts with two goals in mind: 1) develop a consistent and comprehensive mandated reporter training program for agency/community partners, and 2) recruit a group of dedicated CFS social worker volunteers to co-train with CAPC. The training would also aim to clear up common misconceptions about suspected child abuse reporting, and educate audiences about CFS's mandates of child safety, permanency & wellbeing.

With more than 16 years of knowledge and experience, Cristina helped set the vision for a new and improved CAPC Mandated Reporter Training (MRT) community-outreach training program, while Mari steered the process to get there. As a

result, two separate trainings emerged: MRT 101, the Basic Mandated Reporter Training, which now integrates some CFS information; and MRT 102, which clarifies "What You Need to Know" about CFS's role upon receiving a Suspected Child Abuse Report (SCAR).

Since September 2021, the CFS social worker volunteers have co-trained at 12 schools (including 784 mandated reporters). In 2022, more MRT 101 & 102 trainings will be held virtually or in person throughout Contra Costa County. If you are a CFS social worker interested in becoming a Mandated Reporter Training volunteer to co-train with CAPC, or you have an audience for either MRT 101 or 102, please contact **Cristina Hickey at (925) 798-0546, ext. 15.**

Thank you to CAPC and our wonderful CFS social worker volunteers!



Cristina Hickey



Mari Solis



Ariel Richards



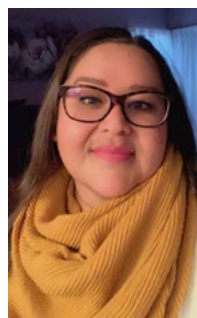
Georgette Shipe



Jamie Rucki



Nicole Koprek



Nelly Villanueva

Kudos!

Opportunity to Serve



WANTED:

Community members interested in helping shape Contra Costa County's in-home care for seniors and disabled adults.

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Public Authority is recruiting to fill four vacancies on its Advisory Committee. The committee provides advice and assistance to the Board of Supervisors and to IHSS Public Authority staff regarding the IHSS program and Public Authority policies. The Public Authority recruits and screens home care providers, maintains a registry of providers, refers them to consumers and enrolls all IHSS providers on the State Payroll.

Individuals who reside or work in Contra Costa County can request an application for these volunteer vacancies by contacting **Monique Rodriguez** at **(925) 363-6670** or drodriguez-Redd@ehsd.cccounty.us. To learn more about the committee member criteria, see the [recruitment announcement](#) on the IHSS Public Authority website.

It's In the STARS

In case you missed any important staff communications recently published on STARS, EHSD's intranet, here are a few key announcements to help keep you in the know:

[Updates to COVID-19 Prevention Program dated February 22, 2022](#)

[The CalSAWS Scoop – Wave 1 Newsletter \(February\)](#)

[COVID-19 Reminders & Resources](#)

[SMART Tips](#)

[EHSD Welcomes Refugees, Immigrants & All Community Members](#)

To access all STARS communications, go to [EHSD's intranet](#) and click the STARS/Search tab.



Pride in Food Service Week

By Amanda Cleveland, ASA III, Community Services Bureau

During the week of February 7th, CSB celebrated **Pride in Food Service Week**. We took some time to celebrate the amazing **Child Nutrition Unit** staff members, who have always exhibited passion and dedication while providing delicious and nutritious food to the children at our directly-operated Head Start and Early Head Start sites.



Edgar Moreno
Round Table Pizza



Gover Thompson
Cheez-It

To acknowledge and help get to know each of them a little better, we asked the team members a simple question:

What was your favorite food when you were little?



Sophia Talbot
Cantaloupe and watermelon (my mom taught me to sprinkle salt on watermelon to bring out the flavor)



Greg Bacigalupi
Chocolate pudding



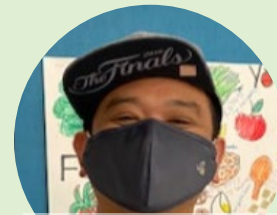
Janet Buttrick
Spaghetti, pizza and fried chicken



Joel Dela Cruz
Brownies and French fries



Leticia (Letty) Navarro
Happy meal (because I got a toy!)



Rhuel Alejandro
tofu and bean sprouts



Louis Sonico
Hamburger and fried chicken



Rebecca Galloway
chocolate chip cookies and pasta



Rosa Santoyo
Pasta



Carmen Castaneda
Tamales



Los Arboles children thank Gover Thompson



Balboa children thank Greg Bacigalupi

Youth Hall of Fame Nominations

Do you know of an outstanding young person who deserves countywide recognition? The Board of Supervisors is accepting nominations **through Friday, March 4th**, for the 2022 Contra Costa County Youth Hall of Fame Awards. The annual awards go to County residents between the ages of 12 and 18 who demonstrate exemplary behavior in one of five categories:

- **Good Samaritan** – Goes out of their way to do for others without seeking recognition
- **Volunteerism** – Lends a helping hand for the good of the community; gives time and energy to a worthy cause or organization
- **Teamwork** – Works unselfishly for the good of the team
- **Leadership and Civic Engagement** – A natural leader who inspires others and works to make a difference in school and the community
- **Perseverance** – Has worked hard to overcome obstacles and achieve success

For more information and an application form to nominate a youth in our community, visit www.contracosta.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/74105. Submit the nomination form with your letter of recommendation to Lia Bristol at Youth.Nomination@dcd.cccounty.us or mail to her attention at Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, 2151 Salvio Street, Ste. R, Concord, CA 94520. Nominations must be received or postmarked by March 4, 2022.

Recognition of Youth Hall of Fame recipients will take place at the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors' Cesar E. Chavez Celebration on Tuesday, March 29th at 11 am.

EHSD Pushes Out CDSS Tip Sheet

By Tish Gallegos, Community Relations/Media Manager



EHSD is helping get information out so parents can make informed decisions when choosing a licensed child care facility. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has published and translated a tip sheet “Parent’s Guide to Choosing Child Care.” It is available on ehsd.org in several languages on Children & Family Services (CFS) and Community Services Bureau (CSB) pages:

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Chinese](#)

[Farsi/Dari](#)

[Russian](#)

EHSD is sharing this tips sheet with Contra Costa County parents, particularly those who are

fostering children. In addition to posting to our website, we are including links to the tip sheet in our social media outreach, plus sending to our partners throughout the county, and including information in EHSD publications such as the *Resource Family Newsletter* and *CSB Family Newsletter*.

CDSS’ Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) Child Care Program oversees the health and safety of children in licensed childcare settings, and provides resources to educate and empower parents and the public about childcare. CCLD licenses approximately 44,000 family childcare homes and childcare centers throughout California.

Additional childcare information and resources are available on the CDSS website at <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-care-licensing/resources-for-parents>.

Don't Get Hooked — Avoid Phishing



What is “phishing”?

Phishing emails look like they came from a person or organization you trust, but in reality they're sent by hackers to get you to click on or open something that will give the hackers access to your information.

Why are you at risk?

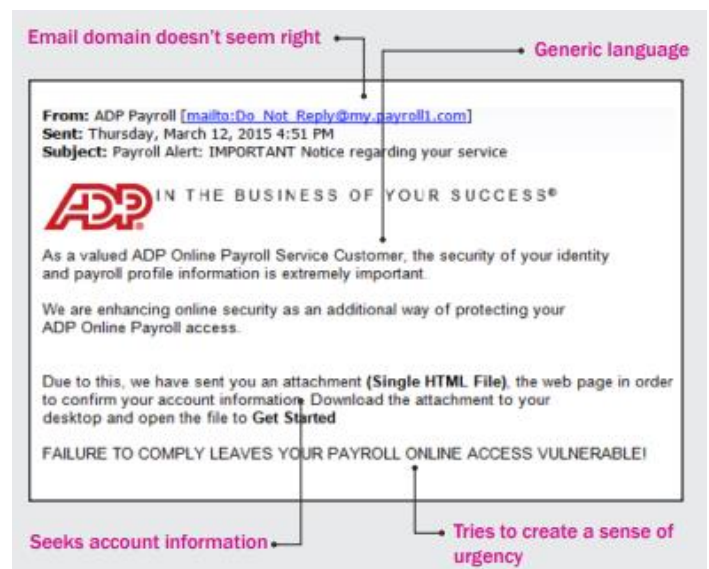
As a result of escalating international tensions, local governments are increasingly at risk of phishing attacks. Hackers are actively targeting Contra Costa County because we have information that is valuable to them. Specifically, they may be interested in our citizen, employee, patient, and financial information. Hackers may also be interested in disrupting County operations.

How to spot a phishing email

Hackers have gotten clever in how they design the emails they send out to make them look legitimate. But phishing emails often have the following characteristics:

- Ask you for sensitive information such as your username and password
- Look like they come from the HR or IT department
- Contain email addresses that don't match between the header and the body, are misspelled (like @gmaill.com), or have unusual formats (@company-othersite.com)
- Have links or email addresses that show a different destination if you hover over them
- Try to create a sense of urgency about responding

Here is an example of a phishing email:



What you should do if you get a suspicious email

If you suspect that an email is a phishing email:

- **Do not open any links or attachments in the email**
- **Trust your intuition**
- **Ask for assistance – EHSD call (925) 521-7200**
- **Follow any relevant departmental guidance**

Being Social Media Savvy

Magellan Ascend

UPCOMING WEBINAR:

Our Program: Retirement Planning: Getting Started and Sticking to Your Goal in Times of Uncertainty – March 9

Register for this webinar to:

- Explaining the algorithm and why you see specific content.
- Recognizing how to identify reliable, verified information.
- Knowing when it's time to take a break from social media.

Missed the live webinar?

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."

Contributed by Personnel Services

By now, most people understand the benefits and risks of social media use. While staying connected and informed is quite convenient today, staying safe remains very important.

- Set your social media profiles to private to limit who can view your information.
- Before posting information or photos online, think twice about whether you'd be comfortable with anyone seeing that content—even if you believe the content will be protected by security settings.
- If someone harasses or threatens you online, remove them from your friends list, block them and report them to the site administrator.
- Don't post any personal data online, as this could enable others to use that information to steal your identity, access your data or commit other crimes such as stalking. Also, never reveal where you're vacationing, shopping or traveling.
- When accepting friends online, choose people who you already know and trust.
- Recognize that taking breaks from social media can be healthy.

Browse more articles at www.magellanascent.com.

YOUR EMPLOYEE DISCOUNTS – Save on Major Brands & Everyday Essentials

Save with your Employee Discounts on LifeMart, your online members-only discount center, where you can save big on major purchases like travel, tickets, attractions, electronics, cars vacations, or on day-to-day essentials like groceries and child care. And best of all, access is free!

[Click here to access the LifeMart Discount Center in your web browser.](#)

Take the CalSAWS Survey!

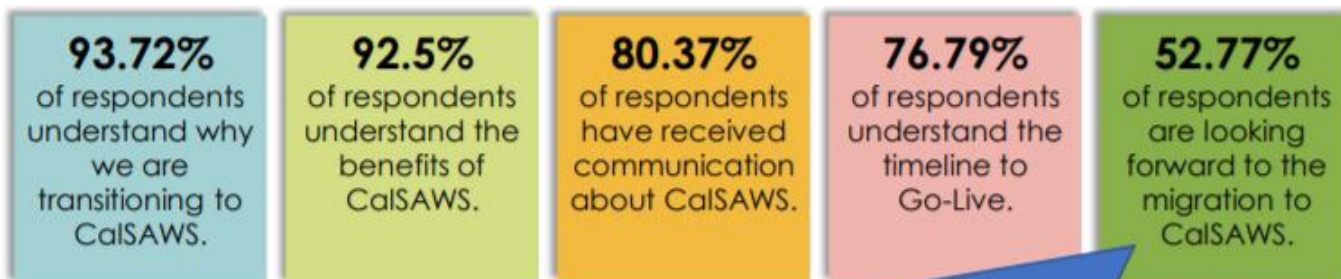
CalSAWS wants to know what you think! The second in a series of CalSAWS change readiness surveys is live, and your input as a current CalWIN user will help the team assess how EHSD is preparing for Go-Live this coming October.

CalWIN users, including Eligibility Workers, Social Workers, Supervisors, Managers, Clerks, Fiscal and Executive staff, should have seen the second survey link in their email inboxes from Joe Little at DeLoitte. Be sure to take the survey by end of day on **Tuesday, March 8th**. Your feedback is extremely valuable to the CalSAWS team.



To learn more about participating in the survey, AND to see an overview of the first survey results for Contra Costa County, you can view the recent CalSAWS Survey #2 Announcement at: <https://ehsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/CalSAWS-Survey-2.pdf> posted on STARS.

Key Takeaways - Wave 1 Change Readiness Survey



Wave 1 includes Contra Costa, Placer and Yolo Counties. The above responses represent 49 percent of Wave 1 CalSAWS users who took the survey between November 15 and December 3, 2021.



We Care...You Care

We Care...You Care is how we recognize our peers, emphasizing internal customer service. **We Care...You Care** nominations tie directly to one or more of our six Core Values. The program gives you the opportunity to show your coworkers how much you appreciate them. If you work with someone who deserves special recognition for internal customer service, check out the We Care...You Care link to the guidelines, then fill out a nomination form and submit it to the supervisor of the person you are nominating.

Guidelines: http://ehsdhome/Community-Relations/Documents/WeCareThatYouCare%20Guidelines_FINAL.pdf

Nomination Form: http://ehsdhome/Community-Relations/Documents/WeCareThatYouCare%20Nomination%20Form_FINAL.pdf

Harriet Tubman: *A Woman of Courage and Vision*

Equity and Inclusion Core Group collaboration based on online sources

Harriet Tubman was an American abolitionist and political activist who freed herself and led many others from the bonds of slavery. She faced many challenges throughout her life; nevertheless, she was determined to change the world with her courage and her constant fight for equity and inclusion.

To honor her, **EHSD's Equity and Inclusion Core Group** joins the nation in celebrating Harriet Tubman Day on March 10th, remembering the great work she did for our country during her lifetime.

Born into slavery, Harriet escaped and subsequently made some 13 missions to rescue approximately 70 enslaved people, including family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad.

Harriet grew up on Maryland's Eastern Shore, where the lines between slavery and freedom were often blurred. It was not unusual for families in this area to include both free and enslaved members. Harriet would remain enslaved until she fled to Pennsylvania in 1849.

In Philadelphia, Harriet joined the Abolitionist Movement and became a conductor on the Underground Railroad, earning her the nickname of "Moses" after the prophet in The Bible who led his people to freedom. In all her journeys, Harriet never lost a passenger.

Harriet's early years in slavery, her escape to freedom and her time as a conductor on the Underground Railroad demonstrate how she was a woman of true courage and vision.

The Underground Railroad was a lifeline for slaves escaping to freedom, and Harriet Tubman was

undoubtedly one of its most famous conductors.

After the Civil War, Tubman continued the struggle for freedom as a leader in the suffrage movement. She died from pneumonia on March 10, 1913 in Auburn, New York, and was buried with military honors.



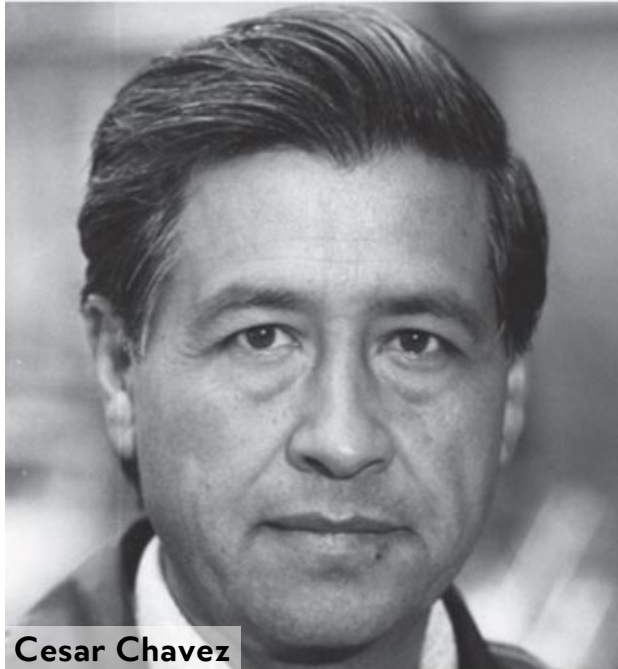
Cesar Chavez Day

Contra Costa County will celebrate Cesar Chavez on Tuesday, March 29th, at 11 a.m. during the Board of Supervisors meeting, commemorating the legacy of the American labor leader and civil rights activist.

Chavez launched the farmworker movement 60 years ago on his 35th birthday, March 31st. On that date, he and Dolores Huerta co-founded the National Farm Workers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers of America.

Chavez was born in Yuma, Arizona, and his family lost their small farm near there during the Great Depression. They became migrant farmworkers and Chavez finished his formal education after eighth grade to labor in the fields, orchards and vineyards to help support his family. He experienced the hardships and injustices of farm worker life. He later served in the U.S. Navy in the aftermath of World War II.

Chavez began his career in community organizing in 1952 in the Sal Si Puedes (leave if you can) area in East San Jose. He spent 10 years coordinating voter registration drives and organizing Community Service Organization chapters there and across California. He then followed his dream to organize a union that would protect and serve the farm workers whose poverty and powerlessness he had shared. His years of leading the struggle for better rights for farm workers, using aggressive but nonviolent tactics for



Cesar Chavez

a moral cause, gained wide support.

Cesar Chavez died in 1993. His motto “Si se puede!” (“Yes, it can be done!”) embodies the uncommon legacy he left for people around the world. Cesar Chavez stood for equality, justice and dignity for all Americans. His universal principles remain as relevant and inspiring today as they were when he first began his movement.

(Source: [ChavezFoundation.org](https://www.chavezfoundation.org))

A decorative banner with five colorful flags (pink, green, red, yellow, pink) with white floral patterns, set against a white background with a green border.

Your Favorite Cinco de Mayo Traditions

The Equity and Inclusion Core Team is excited to learn about your favorite Cinco de Mayo traditions. We will select a variety of entries and share them in the May issue of *Headlines*.

Thank you in advance for emailing your favorite dishes and/or traditions (describe in 2–3 sentences) to the E and I Core Team Mailbox at EquityandInclusion@ehsd.cccounty.us. Please submit your entries by April 10th, 2022.

Celebrating Government Communicators

By Maurice Chaney, CAPIO President (California Association of Public Information Officials)

Our role as government communications professionals is to inform, educate, and engage our communities.

Because, in the end, robust communication in government creates trust and inspires customers to take action and be involved.

We are in the fortunate role of being able to craft a narrative that showcases different perspectives on various topics – from community development and health and safety to education, infrastructure, and general government operations.

- We create relationships and calls to action.
- We build awareness and understanding through storytelling.
- We engage and foster engagement on civic issues.
- We use all channels and include everyone in critical decisions.



It's essential to have strong communications in government because it is a foundational element of living in a democracy where citizens have the freedom to make their voices heard.

Because of the role of the government communicator, we honor the incredible men and

women who've dedicated their careers to ensure local, state, and federal government agencies have effective, impactful, and successful communication strategies that resonate and are relevant.

Your Team

EHSD's communications team includes **Tish Gallegos, Alan Wang, and Deb Johnson**. We receive additional support from IT's **Kevin Balderston** (ehsd.org) and contract graphic designer **Dede Guest**. It is our privilege to serve EHSD staff and customers.

We are also proud to collaborate with several other "County PIO Team" members to be part of a group of government communicators from various departments representing Contra Costa County.



EHSD Communication team includes (L-R) – Alan, Tish, Deb from the Community Relations/Media Unit within the Office of the Director

Do you have a story or a coworker that you'd like Headlines to feature? Email your ideas to Headlines@ehsd.cccounty.us.

For project requests, complete the Request for Community Relations Assistance form and email it to Tish Gallegos at tgallegos@ehsd.cccounty.us.



FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
SAFETY | HEALING | COMMUNITY

Building Safety Through Community

Concert in the Park
to benefit the Family Justice Center

Saturday, May 14, 2022 • 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Rankin Park Martinez, CA



Dan Ashley will provide live music at the FJC benefit event on May 14th at Rankin Park

For tickets, visit [Eventbrite](#) or point your phone camera at this scan code:



Tacos, Tunes & Treats – Bring your family, lawn chairs, blanket and be ready for a great time!



SERVICE AWARDS | RETIREES | NEW EMPLOYEES

SERVICE AWARDS

35 YEARS

Linda Linnell, Staff Development Supervisor, Admin

30 YEARS

Sandra Figueroa, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS
Tomi Smith, Workforce Svcs Specialist, CFS
Candace Yates, Clerical Supervisor, CFS

25 YEARS

Vanessa Alejandre, Associate Teacher-Project, CSB
Sabrina Young, Clerical Supervisor, CFS

20 YEARS

Monica Khanchalern, Infant Toddler Associate Teacher-Project, CSB
Gaova Vu, Social Worker, WFS

10 YEARS

Charlotte Alvarez, Clerk-Senior Level, WFS
Sheryl Beckett, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Roxanne Cabriaes, Social Worker, AAS
Carlos Lopes Ribeiro, Admin Svcs Assistant II, CSB
Antonio Malacas, Account Clerk-Experienced Level, AAS
Mariah Marabuto, Eligibility Work Supervisor, WFS
Jacquie Parrish, Clerk-Specialist Level, CFS
Barbara Ryan, Clerk-Senior Level, CFS
Jo Schliesman, Accountant III, Admin
Kendra Williams-Soares, Social Worker, AAS

RETIREES

Adelma Anicete, Clerk-Senior Level, WFS
Elaine Brown, Clerical Supervisor, CFS
Sandy Bustillo, EHS Division Manager, WFS
Vicki Carr-Trotter, Site Supervisor-Project, CSB
Nancy Comstock, Clerk-Senior Level, WFS
Chrishenda Cooper, Clerk-Senior Level, CFS
Betty Garcia, Eligibility Worker III, WFS
Alana Hogan, Sr Soc Svc Info Sys Analyst, Admin
Shirley Iman, Account Clerk-Advanced Level, Admin
Kathleen Knoll, Soc Svc Program Assistant, CFS

Diane Mallo, Sr Soc Svc Info Sys Analyst, WFS
Tinamarie Mariscal, Teacher-Project, CSB
Linda Mills, Social Worker III, CFS
Theresa Nash, Clerk-Senior Level, CFS
Antoinette Nestore, Social Work Supervisor II, CFS
Maria Ocegüera, Translator, CFS
Jacqueline Pearson, Social Case Work Assistant, CFS
Felipe Roxas, Business System Analyst, CSB
Linda Wright, EHS Program Integrity Asst., WFS

New Employees listed on next page



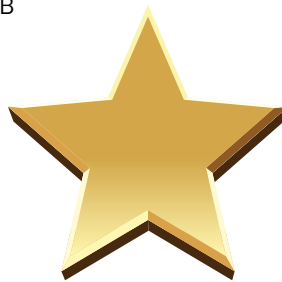
SERVICE AWARDS | RETIREES | NEW EMPLOYEES

NEW EMPLOYEES

Sephina Afu, Student Intern II, CSB
Janasha Alhark, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Karlisa Benitez, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Evelin Bernal, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Jalilah Blutt, Social Services Program Assistant, WFS
*Carol Bokelman, Social Work Supervisor II, CFS
Janelle Bonifacio, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Gabrielle Bouzon, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Easter Calvit, EHS Deputy Bureau Director, CSB
Glenis Colina, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Asia Connor, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
*Ernestine Cook, Soc Svc Fiscal Comp Accountant, Admin
Jennifer Diego, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Ashley Dixon, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Meghan Domeney, Social Worker, AAS
Matthew Domnick, Social Worker III, AAS
Daisy Gallegos, Senior Staff Assistant, AAS
Jocelyn Garcia, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
*David Gomez, Clerical Supervisor, WFS
Nawshaba Hafiz, Teacher Assistant Trainee, CSB

Lorraine Harris - Ortega, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
*Veronica Heath, Clerk-Experienced Level, Admin
Vanessa A. Henning, Account Clerk-Advanced Level, Admin
Rosario Lloclla Manrique, Teacher Assistant Trainee, CSB
Stephanie Lopez, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Karen Malmberg, Clerk-Experienced Level, CFS
Victoria Mayes, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
*Sameh Mohamed, Teacher Assistant Trainee, CSB
Brianna Morris, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Lisa Marie Pinson, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Arice Pittman, Intermediate Clerk-Project. CSB
Sethavy Poh-Danh, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Diana Rodriguez, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Jordan Sengsouvang, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Stacey Smith, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Lajanee Turner, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Lynette Watts, AAS Senior Staff Assistant, AAS

** Issue 59 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

March 2022

- NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH
- NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH
- MARCH 2 – Ash Wednesday
- MARCH 8 – International Women's Day
- MARCH 10 – Harriet Tubman Day
- MARCH 13 – Daylight Savings Time
- MARCH 14 – Pi Day
- MARCH 16 (PM) – 17 – Purim
- MARCH 17 – St. Patrick's Day
- MARCH 20 – Spring Equinox
- MARCH 27–APRIL 4 – Passover
- MARCH 29 – Contra Costa County César Chavez Celebration
- MARCH 31 – César Chavez Day

April 2022

- SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH
- CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
- NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH
- APRIL 1 – April Fool's Day
- APRIL 1 – National Walk to Work Day
- APRIL 2 (PM)–MAY 2 – Ramadan
- APRIL 15 – Passover (sunset)
- APRIL 17 – Easter
- APRIL 18 – Tax Day
- APRIL 22 – Earth Day
- APRIL 23 – Passover ends at nightfall
- APRIL 27 – Administrative Professional's Day

Is there room in your home for one more?

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

March 3 or 17 • 4 to 6 p.m.
April 7 or 21 • 4 to 6 p.m.
May 5 or 19 • 4 to 6 p.m.

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

We Care... You Care

<http://ehsdhome/Pages/Service-Champions.aspx>
and see page 18



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