

Headlines

**Lena Olaiya's
Homecoming—
A Season of
Sharing Gift**

**Combined Charities:
EHSD Gives Big**

***“Inspirational”
CFS’s Tamesha Shaw***

**Foster Youth
Experience
Farm to Table**





Your Generosity Made a Big Difference

The 2022 Combined Charities campaign is a wrap, and your generosity helped the County EXCEED its \$100,000 goal!

During the October campaign, Contra Costa County employees donated \$118,353 to support the nonprofits we care about most. This total includes online donations and monthly payroll contributions (pre-tax) that County staff pledged for 2023.

EHSD showed up in a big way, with our donations totaling \$22,558. This works out to be 19 percent of all County staff contributions, and second only to Public Works.

Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute to this effort! And congratulations to a couple of EHSD staff members who won prizes after they were entered into a drawing that included all donors: **Mega Gondsawanto** and **Aurora Aguayo**.



We appreciate every donor's generosity and support!

Homeless Advocate to Unhoused Person: How Lena Olaiya Got Back Home

By Alan Wang, Community Relations/Media Specialist

She was too embarrassed to accept a bed at the Dorothy Day homeless shelter. She was afraid to be seen picking out clothes from the donation closet. Sometimes she wouldn't even shower there because Lena Olaiya didn't want her unhoused clients to know that she, too, was without a home.

Often, a single event can send a gainfully employed person spiraling into the depths of homelessness. That's what happened to Lena.

"My apartment in Richmond was infested with these small white bugs," explains Lena. "So I moved into a hotel. Then I broke my foot there, and my work hours got reduced. I ran out of money for the hotel, so I started living in my car. It was hard because I was helping homeless people in the day and sleeping in my car at night."

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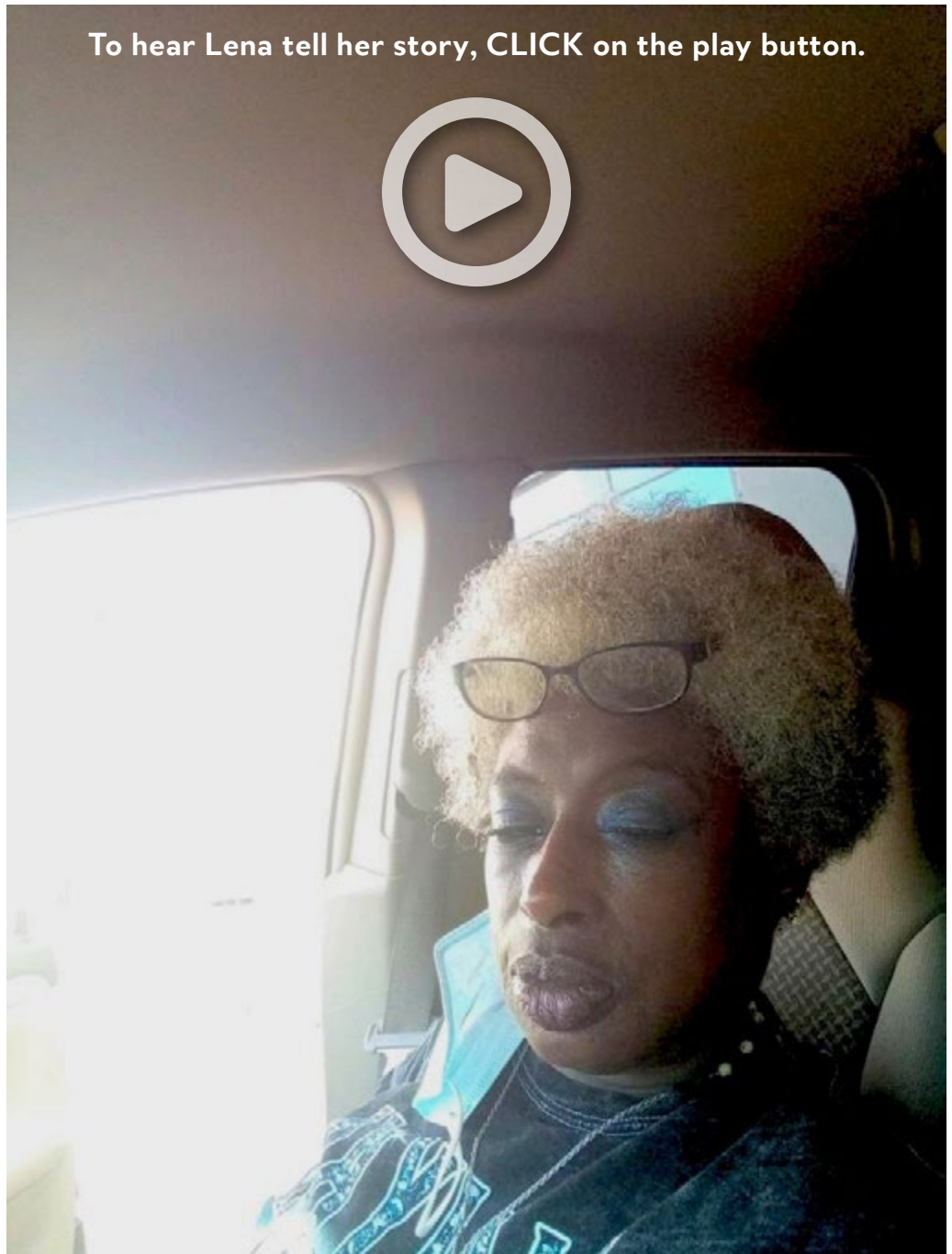
Homeless Advocate to Homeless Person; How Lena Olaiya Got Back Home

Continued from previous page

It was when the bank was threatening to repossess Lena's car that she got a call. EHSD's **Cindy Smith**, Program Coordinator for [Volunteer & Emergency Services](#), which oversees the nonprofit [Season of Sharing](#) fund, was calling to tell Lena that her application for emergency relief had been accepted, and she would be receiving help to pay for an apartment deposit and her first month rent. It was the break Lena needed, and today she is living in a new apartment with a few new furniture pieces also purchased with help from Season of Sharing funds.

EHSD intake and social workers and their supervisors can fill out SOS applications for EHSD clients. **To learn more or to request training, contact Alvaro Florez at (925) 655-1203 or aflorez@ehsd.cccounty.us. Or to find out how you can refer a client, go to the [Contra Costa Crisis Center website](#).**

To hear Lena tell her story, **CLICK** on the play button.



Lena Olaiya slept in her car at night, and worked as a homeless advocate during the day.

Holiday Food Fight is On! November 14–December 31, 2022

Our friendly competition between Contra Costa and Solano to raise money for our Food Bank that serves both counties is well underway!

At EHSD, our See's Candies sale raised \$142 and the proceeds will go toward our departmental contribution. But, there is still much more we can do before December 31st.

We can help Contra Costa win back the Big Apple trophy but, more importantly, our monetary donations will help thousands of families who struggle to put healthy food on their tables. Even though community members receive CalFresh, it is sobering to realize that purchasing nutritious, fresh food is so often a challenge for families.

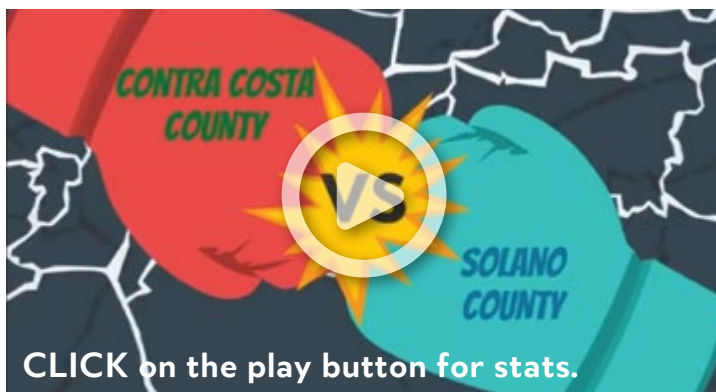
The Food Bank continues to respond to the overwhelming demand from our community members, many who are working through the financial challenges of being underemployed, jobless, and facing other adversities.

Our monetary donations help the Food Bank stretch every dollar so it can purchase fresh,

nutritious vegetables and fruits. If you donate just \$1, you can actually help the Food Bank buy two meals!

Making an online contribution is quick and easy at [Holiday Food Fight - Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano \(foodbankccs.org\)](https://www.foodbankccs.org). Be sure to click on the Employment & Human Services link under Contra Costa County Teams to donate on our department's page.

You can also toss your spare change in a collection can, or coordinate/participate in other fundraising activities in your building.



Thank you to our building champions who are helping promote the Holiday Food Fight at our various locations:

- 151 Linus Pauling, Hercules – Gina Phillips, Iris Rodriguez**
- 4545 Delta Fair, Antioch – Magda Picasso**
- 151 Sand Creek, Brentwood – Magda Picasso**
- 400 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill – Lisa Collado**
- 1305 MacDonald, Richmond – Jessica Monroy**
- 1650 Cavallo Road, Antioch – Jennifer Miller**
- 4071 Port Chicago Hwy, Concord – LaTosha Stockholm**

EHSD Holiday Food Fight coordinators are **Deb Johnson** and **Tish Gallegos** (40 Douglas). Email EventsCommittee@ehsd.cccounty.us if you have questions, or want to share your ideas about how EHSD can support the 2022 Holiday Food Fight!

COUNTIES CARE

HOLIDAY FOOD FIGHT

NOVEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 31, 2022

**EHSD Holiday Food
Fight Drawing
coming soon!**
Your chance to win
when you donate to
the Food Bank.



Solano County



WHO WILL WIN THE HOLIDAY FOOD FIGHT?

Contra Costa
County



The Food Fight is a friendly competition between Contra Costa and Solano County employees to raise funds for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano during the holiday season. Join our team to help fight hunger in our community.

Click on the link below to donate directly online:
<https://foodbankccs.org/holidayfoodfight>

The Best Decision We Ever Made – A Testimonial from the Magpoc Family

By Alan Wang,
Community Relations, Media Specialist



John and Jamie Magpoc fostered Judah, then adopted him.

One of the many new families formed through EHSD's foster and adoption programs stood before the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors in November to show the importance of finding permanent homes for children in foster care. Reunifying children with their own families is always our goal when it is safe and in the child's best interest. However, when that isn't possible, our Children & Family Services (CFS) social workers help children and youth through the adoption process.

John and Jamie Magpoc fostered and recently adopted their two-year-old son, Judah. They are also a resource family for an infant girl. Supervisors expressed their gratitude to all resource families during the touching presentation that commemorated National Adoption Month.

In Contra Costa County, there were 91 adoptions during the 2021–22 fiscal year and, along with community partners, CFS provided adoption assistance and post-adoption support to 1,796 families. Still, there is an urgent need for families to adopt children and youth in foster care.

CLICK on the play button above to see the Magpoc family's story. To attend a foster parent orientation class, CLICK [here](#) to find the schedule in English and Spanish

Building Brighter Futures Together

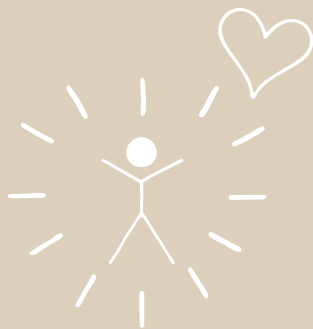
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The Best Decision We Ever Made – A Testimonial from the Magpoc Family

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CFS Social Worker **Chau Nguyen** (left) was instrumental throughout the Magpoc family's adoption process.



Back row, L-R: EHSD Director **Marla Stuart**, John Magpoc, CFS Adoptions Supervisor **Holliday Hertweck**, CFS Director **Kathy Marsh**, CFS Division Manager **Priya Moorkoth-Phelps**, SW **Chau Nguyen**; Front: Jamie Magpoc holding Judah

Supervisor Spotlight: Tamesha Shaw

By Elizabeth Chambers,
CFS Social Casework Assistant, East County



Tamesha Shaw
CFS East County ER Supervisor

Tamesha Shaw has been an inspirational Supervisor. She joined the Children and Family Services (CFS) bureau, East County Emergency Response (ER) Unit and quickly made her mark as a Supervisor.

Since Tamesha's start, we have had an incredible amount of referrals even though we have been short on staff and Supervisors for our three-unit team. During these shortages, I have not seen Tamesha run from the challenge, but excel. I have watched her try her best and be equitable to staff. She has been there not only for her unit, but for the units without Supervisors. She makes herself available to her workers, not only with questions about the job at hand, but also to discuss personal challenges and ambitions. She is inclusive and I appreciate her for it.

Thank You Tamesha!

Cooking Toward Independence

By Larena Baldazo, Community Relations, Web Producer

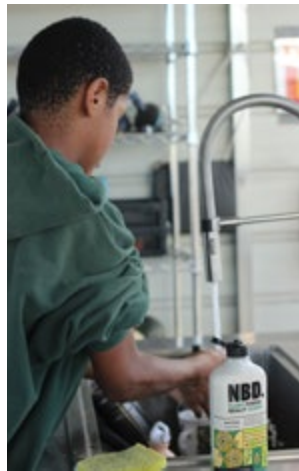
On Wednesday, October 26th, the Independent Living Skills Program (ILSP) hosted a foster youth cooking class at Family Harvest Farm (FHF) in Pittsburg. While ILSP’s partnership with Family Harvest Farm creates access to jobs for youth, the main goal is to prepare them for the next step toward self-sufficiency while providing a safety net to meet their emotional needs.

The teenage foster youth received printed instructions about the do’s and don’ts of cooking, while learning food safety and hygiene tips from Farmer Mary. In no time, the outdoor kitchen was buzzing with hand washing, chopping and questions. Over the two-hour workshop, one thing was for certain – the youth were sharing a sense of community in that moment. Not only did they collaborate to bring a fresh meal to the table, they caught up with one another and vented.

“From a self-sufficiency perspective, imparting cooking skills and knowledge to our participants so they can lead successful independent lives is important,” said ILSP Program Coordinator, Don Graves. “It’s cost effective, it promotes a healthy lifestyle and, at Family Harvest Farm, they can see how the food is grown and learn about the nutritional value of whole foods and how it can impact their health. We are in the business of planting seeds. Seeds of hope, inspiration and

a future. Our collaboration with FHF embodies all of those seeds and more.”

As the sunset illuminated the farm, the group enjoyed a vegan squash salad with steamed Basmati rice, and those who finished a little early explored the open area together. ILSP hosted another cooking class in November as well. **You can view their events on ILSP’s beautifully redesigned website [here](#).**



Rule number one when cooking in the kitchen: wash your hands.



Farmer Mary coaches the youth on food safety and how to cut vegetables properly.

Click [here](#) or on the image below to view video coverage on this event.



Zombie Social Workers Unite

By Elizabeth Chambers, Social Casework Assistant

Shortly after the Children and Family Services Halloween decorating contest announcement, the East County Emergency Response Team was abuzz with planning. All of the supervisors pitched in to get the canvas ready and the spooky spider webs hung. Some of the team purchased or brought in decorations while **Janice Corrales** and **Elizabeth Chambers** came up with the decorating concept, with input from others. Our theme featured social work Zombies

who have gotten too many referrals. When the judges walked through, the doctor and staff administered medicine in the form of candy, juice syringes and even juice blood transfusion packs. I was the ugliest Zombie attempting to bite the judges and scared other staff members who walked through. It was fun, festive, and delightfully frightening. The Halloween project brought together all three of the ER units and reminded us that we are stronger as a team.



Janice Corrales, CFS Social Worker III. **CLICK on the play button** to enter The Zombie Zone.



Zulma Garcia, Custodian and **Janice Corrales**



Haley Winston, CFS Social Worker III



Janice Corrales and **Renee Resendez**, CFS Social Worker III

New Member Portal for Employee Assistance Program

Contributed by Personnel Services

Start your wellbeing journey with Magellan Healthcare, the County's Employee Assistance Program. Access articles, webinars, and the discount center through the new member portal: <https://member.magellanhealthcare.com/>.



Magellan Ascend

How to Reduce Stress

In addition to meditation, progressive muscle relaxation, and breathing exercises, you might try these other ways to relieve stress.

Ways to relax your mind

- Mindfulness-based stress reduction can calm your mind and body to help you cope with illness, pain, and stress.
- Music therapy can relax your body, improve your mood, and change the pace of your day.
- Humor may reduce stress and boost your immune system.

Ways to relax your body

- Massage, such as a shoulder and neck massage, uses touch to relieve tension. You can see a massage therapist or have a friend or family member give you a massage. You can even give yourself a massage.
- Yoga uses breathing, meditation, and exercises, called postures or poses that stretch the body. You can do yoga to help you relax.
- Biofeedback teaches you how to use your mind to control skin temperature, muscle tension, heart rate, or blood pressure. All of these things can be affected by stress.

Source: Healthwise



Browse more articles at <https://member.magellanhealthcare.com/>

The Power of Purpose December 14

This webinar will cover:

- The importance of purpose for resilience and thriving.
- Benefits of purpose.
- Strategies to live with intention and realize your meaning.

Missed the live webinar?

Webinars are listed in your Dashboard under "Upcoming". If you haven't signed up to use the County Employee Assistance Program yet, follow these two easy steps:

Step 1: Go to <https://member.magellanhealthcare.com/> and click on "Sign up."

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

See next page for Employee Discounts

WANTED: Future EHSD Leaders in Need of Free Graduate Degree



Children and Family Services Social Work Supervisor **Krystle Stinger** admits the Master of Social Work Title IV-E program could possibly have a snappier name. But, if you learn more about it, the benefits toward advancing your career are pretty snappy alone. To find out how you can obtain a free graduate degree that could open doors and increase your salary, **CLICK on the play button.** Then contact Krystle at ehsdinternship@ehsd.cccounty.us and watch your career take off.

Building Brighter Futures Together

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.](#)

EHSD and Survey Science in the New Year

Contributed by EHSD Policy & Planning

A show of hands or a list of questions may help check the pulse of a group, but a meaningful survey has science behind it.

As EHSD continues to expand the integration of data into its operations and planning, a more sophisticated approach to surveys will be part of the mix. The science to effective surveys includes best practices for the creation of questions and the analysis of results. For example, the team behind the popular Survey Monkey tool advises that the number, length and type of questions—and the wording—all influence the ultimate degree of success that's achieved in gathering meaningful insights.

During the past year, EHSD employed surveys and focus groups on a number of key projects. A notable one was the Gateways for Growth initiative, in which we partnered with Contra Costa Health Services to gather community input about the immigrant experience in Contra Costa County and how to enhance it.

Several EHSD staff and community surveys are already planned for the New Year. First up will be the Staff Engagement survey that EHSD Director

Marla Stuart has referenced in the EHSD Live! sessions. Other topics include CSB Compassion; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI); and feedback about ehsd.org, EHSD's public website.

We know that the bureaus also conduct a number of surveys for various program-related purposes during the year. The Policy & Planning (P&P) team has supported many of

these, both in the development of questions and in analysis and result-visualization.

Beginning January 2023, P&P will be the central point of coordination for any surveys to be conducted by—or within—EHSD. The idea is to provide bureaus with a consistent best practices approach, and to lend support in presenting the data in a way that creates a rich picture of our customers, staff and community members, and how we are serving them, with areas to enhance in the future.

Please contact **Erick Untal** (euntal@ehsd.cccounty.us) to discuss your survey or focus group plans during 2023, and P&P will support you in the process.



EHSD Live! #5



P&P Assistant Director **Tamina Alon** delivers her thanks on the set of EHSD Live!

EHSD guests and bureau directors on set, ready to express their gratitude to our military veterans and staff members.

We are thankful that the November episode of EHSD Live! was full of gratitude! Our EHSD directors were live in studio to share their thanks for the excellence work you do each day. It was especially touching to honor our military veterans on staff, and to see all the video shout outs that many of you sent in to thank your coworkers.



To see the November EHSD Live! webinar, **CLICK** on bit.ly/EHSDLive5_Nov22

Tune into the next EHSD Live! on **Wednesday, December 21st, at 3 p.m.**

TRIVIA CHALLENGE–November

Question: What was the name of the day celebrated on November 11th before President Eisenhower signed legislation to change it to Veterans Day in 1954?

Answer: Armistice Day

All who responded correctly were entered into a drawing for a \$25 gas card and an EHSD Live! mug. We received 29 correct responses and the November winner is **Amrita Kaur**, Administrative Svcs. Asst. III at 1470 Civic Court in Concord. Congratulations, Amrita!

MISSION POSSIBLE: Addressing Interpersonal Violence

By Oravanh Thammasen, Alliance to End Abuse Program Coordinator



In February 2020, the Alliance to End Abuse published [Contra Costa County's Call to Action: Preventing Interpersonal Violence](#) (Call to Action) after a two-year process of planning and analysis in partnership with County Departments and community-based organizations. We launched the Call to Action in the midst of the COVID crisis. This shed a brighter spotlight on the need for prevention work, not only against the spread of COVID, but also for preventing interpersonal violence (domestic violence, human trafficking, stalking, child abuse, and elder abuse). The Call to Action outlines four goals to prevent violence:

- 1) Build sustainable infrastructure**
- 2) Foster early childhood development**
- 3) Encourage community connectedness**
- 4) Improve economic opportunity.**

When the community was able to gather again, the Alliance and its project partners held a conference on November 9th to introduce the Call to Action and its goals of violence prevention.

The Alliance to End Abuse, in partnership with the Contra Costa Health Services, the Family Justice Center, and First 5 Contra Costa, held an in-person, hybrid online conference called, "Mission Possible: Prevent Violence in our Community." Experts in anti-violence, racial equity and interpersonal work reflected on the public



Tamina Alon, Interim Assistant Director, Policy and Planning Division, Alliance to End Abuse, welcomed participants to the Mission Possible: Prevent Violence in our Community conference at the Pleasant Hill Community Center.

health lens perspective of violence prevention. They examined the four goals of the Call to Action along with protective and risk factors that contribute to violence in the home and in the community. The event featured speakers from the community with lived experience and professionals in the field, including Children and Family Services' **Corinna Espino** and **Taylor Morgan**.

Ninety individuals attended in person at the Pleasant Hill Community Center and more than



Oravanh Thammasen, Program Coordinator, managing the camera for the virtual audience.

Continued on next page

MISSION POSSIBLE: Addressing Interpersonal Violence

Continued from previous page

60 participated virtually, representing 30 agencies.

For more information, contact Oravanh Thammassen, Alliance to End Abuse Program Coordinator, at othammassen@ehsd.cccounty.us.



“Connecting the Dots” panel discussion: **Corinna Espino** of CFS (center), addresses how interpersonal violence is connected to community violence and how racial equity plays a role. **Ron Beverly** (STAND! For Families Free of Violence (left) and **Taylor Morgan** of CFS (right).



Panel Speakers: **Taylor Morgan** of CFS (right) takes the mic. **Ron Beverly** of STAND! (left) and **Corinna Espino** of CFS (center).



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

CSEC: Collaborating to Support Youth

By Corinna Espino, MSW, CFS CSEC Program Coordinator

Supporting our youth who are at risk or actively experiencing commercial sexual exploitation ([CSEC](#)) is an interdisciplinary effort. In order to ensure that we are offering best practices and the most effective support, our interagency collaboration is critical. Our CSEC Program currently coordinates care with various agencies including:

- CFS
- Community Violence Solutions
- Catholic Charities
- Probation
- Behavioral Health
- District Attorney's Office
- Law Enforcement
- Public Health
- Bay Area Legal Aid
- County Office of Education

These community agencies and partners come together for multidisciplinary team meetings to coordinate and collaborate care for CSEC impacted youth. These meetings include a care review, brainstorming and confirming action steps. The MDT meetings happen bi-monthly, and emergency care reviews and MDT meetings can be requested as needed.

If you suspect a youth to be at risk or actively experiencing exploitation, please send a CSEC 04 form to our CSEC program email at cfcsec@ehsd.cccounty.us. To schedule an MDT, submit form CSEC 05 (MDT Nomination Form) to **Natalie Oleas** at natalie@cocofamilyjustice.org or call (925) 521-6366 for information.



Outreach & Education Roundup

Even during the cooler fall months, EHSD Outreach and Education activities continue!

EHSD's 4 Our Families Navigator **Susan Padan** from Workforce Services was at the **Bethel Island Safety Fair** at the Scout Hall and Community Park on October 1st. She joined several other providers and organizations such as the Contra Costa County Department of Child Support Services, Aging and Adult Services, HICAP and the Fire Protection District. Attendees could also find information and resources from National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Meals on Wheels (Diablo Region), La Clinica, Stoneman Village I & II (Housing for Seniors and Disabled), Contra Costa Senior Legal Services, Humana Health, CEI, Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), Mobility Matters and the American Red Cross.

The next week on the afternoon of October 8th, NAMI Contra Costa held a **Community Healing Event** during Mental Health Awareness Week at Todos Santos Park in Concord. Navigator **Sandra Zepeda-Lopez** was there to connect with community members and share details of the many programs offered in Contra Costa County.



From Aging and Adult Services Leah Macintosh and Nhang Luong

On October 15th, several EHSD staff members helped out at the **West Contra Costa Health & Wellness Resource Fair** at Nicholl Park in Richmond. Navigator **Susan Padan** from WFS CalWORKs, **Nhang Luong** with Area on Aging and Adult Protective Services, and HICAP's **Leah McIntosh** from Aging & Adult Services offered details about our various programs. "It was a good turnout of vendors and a great opportunity to network," said Nhang.

Susan Padan noted that the mood was upbeat and the weather was a bit "West County chilly." Hot coffee and fresh baked snacks helped attract local residents who received free hygiene kits, prizes, fresh produce and other goodies.

Susan was also out representing EHSD services at the **Bay Area Rescue Mission (BARM) Community Block Party** on October 29th. "Bay Area Rescue Mission Block Party in Richmond's Nevin Park was poppin'!," said Susan, who was there along with many other county agencies and organizations. Many turned out to enjoy hamburgers and hotdogs donated by Costco. Bounce houses, games, musicians and ongoing raffles provided entertainment for all ages.



Gena Kohl, Mike Olicer and Jamie Luna from DCSS

Outreach & Education Roundup



Rick Fortenberry and Alyssa Gomez from Reentry Success Center

On November 10th, **Operation Documentation III** was held at the Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder-Elections Office in Martinez. Navigators **Susan Padan** and **Maria R. Muñoz** were there to represent our programs and services. Fittingly, this Veterans event was held on the eve of Veteran's Day with many County agencies supporting Veterans, such as the Tax Assessor's Office, Contra Costa Health Services, Child Support Services and Human Resources. California DMV, the Bureau of Automotive Repair, Diablo Valley College, Contra Costa Community College, the Contra Costa Crisis Center and Delta Veterans we also there to help support our Veterans.



Abigail Sims-Evelyn from Literacy for Every Adult Program



From the County Assessor's Office: Alvin Salamanca and John Moral

Building Brighter Futures Together



SERVICE AWARDS | NEW EMPLOYEES | RETIREES

SERVICE AWARDS

30 YEARS

Angela Bullock-Hayes, EHS Division Manager, AAS

25 YEARS

Leilah Ahranjani, EHS Division Manager, AAS
Silvia Alvarez, Soc. Svc. Program Assistant, WFS
Kathy Ames, Clerical Supervisor, Admin
Nancy Hager, EHS Division Manager, Admin
Brigid Johnson, Eligibility Worker III, AAS
Patricia Richards, Clerical Supervisor, WFS
Dana Wargo, Soc. Svc. Program Analyst, WFS

20 YEARS

Elizabeth Dondi, Public Auth. Executive Director, AAS
Meuy Saechao, Inf/Tod Master Teacher-Project, CSB
Jolanta Ustaszewska, Soc. Svc. Program Assistant, Admin
Maria Velez, Clerical Supervisor, WFS



15 YEARS

Jenny Avelar, Social Worker, AAS
Cara Bennett, Clerk-Senior Level, WFS
Gabriela Derrer, Senior Clerk-Project, CFS
Kathleen Dumlao, Clerical Supervisor, WFS
Lorraine Hill, Clerk-Senior Level, Admin
Karen Labaniego, Soc. Svc. Staff Dev Specialist, Admin
Melissa Molina, Comprehensive Svcs. Asst. Mgr.-Pr., CSB
Rebecca Monteith, Clerk-Specialist Level, WFS
Alicia Prieto, Senior Clerk-Project, CSB
Blanca Rizo De Torres, Teacher-Project, CSB
Melody B. Short, Soc. Svc. Program Assistant, WFS
Linda Wright, EHS Program Integrity Asst., AAS
Gloria Untalan, Clerk-Specialist Level, WFS
Corrie Velasquez, Clerk-Specialist Level, WFS

10 YEARS

Michael Glass, Info Sys. Programmer/Analyst IV, Admin
Debbie Graham, Clerk-Specialist Level, Admin
Catherine Lucero, Comprehensive Svcs. Mgr.-Pr., CSB
Zenaída Manalo, Clerk-Specialist Level, Admin
Cassidy Morris, Comprehensive Svcs. Asst. Mgr.-Pr., CSB
Tonia Quinones, Eligibility Worker I, WFS
Ralph Ruiz, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Jody A. Silva, Clerical Supervisor, CFS

New Employees and Retirees listed on next page



SERVICE AWARDS | NEW EMPLOYEES | RETIREES

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NEW EMPLOYEES

Anna Adriano, Dept. H/R Analyst I, Admin
Imani Austin, Social Work Supervisor II, CFS
Anjelykha Beritzhoff, Administrative Analyst, Admin
Lori Brown, ASA III, Admin
Myles Burton, Social Worker II, CFS
Ayanna Cooper-Belton, Intermediate Clerk-Project, CSB
Hazel Davila, Clerk-Experienced Level, CFS
Heavenly Delgadillo, Social Worker II, CFS
Gagandeep Dhaliwal, Administrative Analyst, Admin
Sebastian Gomez, Administrative Analyst, Admin
Alejandra Gonzalez, Social Worker III, CFS
Dmitrii Govorukhin, Administrative Analyst, Admin
Rodrika Lacy, Social Worker II, CFS

Mildred Linares, Clerk-Experienced Level, Admin
Cynthia Mallory, Personnel Technician, Admin
Andrea Mendieta, Clerk-Experienced Level, CFS
Jaqueta Miller, Social Worker II, CFS
Malu Palma, Translator, CFS
Cheng Ren, Student Intern IV, Admin
Araceli Sanchez, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Judy Sivilay, Teacher Assistant Trainee, CSB
Stacey Smith, Clerk-Experienced Level, WFS
Donna Souza, Info System Tech II, Admin
Ana Stewart, Social Worker II, CFS
Claudia Trost, Social Worker II, CFS
Adam Yacovetti, Info System Assistant II, Admin

RETIREES

Mayette Daria, Social Svc. Program Assistant, WFS
Rebecca Fisher, Eligibility Work Supervisor, WFS
Sharon Gabriel, Social Svc. Program Assistant, WFS
Heidi Salvosa, Clerk-Specialist Level, WFS
Griselda Sepulveda, Clerk-Specialist level, WFS
Dana White, Clerk-Senior Level, WFS



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

December 2022

- **COUNTIES CARE HOLIDAY FOOD FIGHT TO BENEFIT FOOD BANK OF CONTRA COSTA & SOLANO**
- **DECEMBER 1 – Rosa Parks Day**
- **DECEMBER 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day**
- **DECEMBER 15 – Bill of Rights Day**
- **DECEMBER 18 – Hanukkah Begins at Sundown**
- **DECEMBER 21 – Winter Solstice (shortest day of the year)**
- **DECEMBER 23 – Festivus**
- **DECEMBER 25 – Christmas Day**
- **DECEMBER 26 – Day After Christmas (Holiday)**
- **DECEMBER 26- Kwanzaa Begins**
- **DECEMBER 31 – Counties Care Holiday Food Fight ends**
- **DECEMBER 31 – New Year’s Eve**

January 2023

- **HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH**
- **ELIGIBILITY WORKER MONTH**
- **JANUARY 1 – New Year’s Day**
- **JANUARY 2 – Day After New Year’s (Holiday)**
- **JANUARY 11 – # WearBlueDay**
- **JANUARY 16 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Holiday)**
- **JANUARY 22 – Lunar New Year (Year of the Rabbit)**
- **JANUARY 27 – Holocaust Remembrance 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 needs your support to provide care for children 0–18 years of age. Please join us for a virtual orientation and learn more about becoming a caregiver.



FREE VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS

December 1 or 15 • 4 to 6 p.m.
 January 5 or 19 • 4 to 6 p.m.
 February 2 or 16 • 4 to 6 p.m.

For more information about becoming a Resource Parent visit us at www.ehsd.org. If you belong to an organization or community group interested in learning more about Resource Family Approval/ foster parenting, we can schedule an individual session for your group, in English or Spanish. To register for a class, please call (925) 655-4230 or email ResourceFamilies@ehsd.cccounty.us

We Care... You Care

[Guidelines](#)
[Nomination Form](#)

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The next issue of *Headlines* will publish in early January. Contact us at our EHSD Headlines email, headlines@ehsd.cccounty.us, by **December 20th** if you have an upcoming event, article, or idea you would like to submit.