



COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

12860 CROSSROADS PARKWAY SOUTH, CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91746
(562) 908-8669

[PSS Commission Webpage](#)



COMMISSIONERS

Chairperson

SUMMER MCBRIDE

Vice Chairperson

SUE ELHESSEN, Ed.D.

ADELE ANDRADE-STADLER

ANDREW YAM

BOOKER PEARSON

DYNASTY TAYLOR

GENEVIEVE RUITORT

JONI BYUN

JUAN P. LEAÑOS

MIHRAN KALAYDJIAN

POLLYANNA LEE

SAM JOO

VERONICA LEWIS

YVONNE CHAN, Ed.D.

COMMISSION STAFF

Executive Director

LA FRANCE TOLIVER

Commission Secretary

MICHELLE NGO UNG

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Location #1: Exposition Park District
3833 South Vermont Avenue, 3rd Floor, Conference Room B,
Los Angeles, CA 90037

Location #2: ElHessen Home/Office
9433 Ives Street,
Bellflower, CA 90706

Location #3: Porter Ranch Library
11371 Tampa Avenue,
Porter Ranch, CA 91326

Location #4: Manhattan Beach Library
1320 Highland Avenue, Room B,
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Location #5: Adele Andrade-Stadler Home/Office
2956 West Shorb Street,
Alhambra, CA 91803

Please note this is a summary of the meeting, not a "verbatim" transcription.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ ESTABLISH A QUORUM/COUNTYWIDE LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Summer McBride, Chairperson

The meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m. A quorum was established. The Chair read the countywide land acknowledgement.

Roll Call/Commissioners Present:

Summer McBride (Chair)

Sue ElHessen, Ed.D. (Vice Chair)

Adele Andrade-Stadler

Andrew Yam

Booker Pearson

Dynasty Taylor

Genevieve Riutort

Joni Byun

Juan Leaños

Mihran Kalaydjian
Pollyanna Lee
Sam Joo
Veronica Lewis
Yvonne Chan, Ed. D.

Commissioners Absent:

None

Commission Staff:

La France Toliver
Michelle Ung

Introduction of Guests

Jackie Contreras, Ph. D., Director, Department of Public Social Services (DPSS)
Nick Ippolito, DPSS
D'Artagnan Scorza, Ph. D., Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative
Julia Almanzan, County Counsel
Shawn Luna, County Counsel

2.0 REVIEW AND APPROVE OCTOBER 16, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

Summer McBride, Chairperson

The Chair called for a vote by roll call, and the minutes were approved by majority vote, two abstentions as follows:

Summer McBride (Chair) – Aye
Sue ElHessen, Ed.D. (Vice Chair) – Aye
Adele Andrade-Stadler – Abstained
Andrew Yam – Aye
Booker Pearson – Aye
Genevieve Riutort – Aye
Joni Byun – Aye
Juan Leños – Aye
Mihran Kalaydjian – Aye
Sam Joo – Abstained
Veronica Lewis – Aye

Chairperson McBride added I do want to take the time to acknowledge that in our roll call, you might have noticed that Commissioner Michael Flood was not included. As of 10/16/2025, following our last meeting, he has resigned from his position. For him, the Commission term has expired, and he informed Supervisor Solis's office that he's not seeking another term due to his schedule and time

constraints, and we can all understand that because he is literally out feeding Los Angeles (L.A.) County. He said he appreciated the nine years that he served on the Commission, and the decision is not related to the continued important work of the Commission. It's unfortunately difficult to attend the meetings due to other work commitments, and he will continue to be available to help the Commission if he can be of any assistance. I did reach out to him and shared my appreciation, so I encourage you all to do the same if you feel so moved. I'm really grateful for the work that Commissioner Flood has done in the time that I've served while he was on the Commission. I've learned a lot from his questions and the contributions he's made to our conversations. Truly, I appreciate the work that he's done through the L.A. Regional Food Bank, and there'll be some opportunities that we'll talk about more later during some of our action items.

Commissioner Pearson stated I served with Michael since he was on the Commission and he spearheaded the effort to completely revamp and revise our effort to increase the number of people that get CalFresh (CF) from something like lowest rating in the state to a very high rating and it was not like turning the radio on, it was a struggle and a lot of work done by the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to get there. He stayed with it. He was very tenacious with people meeting that goal. His absence will be felt; his presence and the work he's done are lasting for our community at large.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agenda Items) / (Agenda Items)

Summer McBride, Chairperson

Jacqueline Chavez is the Executive Director of Community Bridge Housing. There is an unofficial policy limiting two people per bedroom, according to assessor records. This occupancy limit is well-intended, but it is causing an unfair denial of housing for people who need it the most. We ask for an accommodation to allow occupancy according to our public health permits licensed by the County of L.A. We have asked the DPSS policy team. They received our request in September but have not yet responded. We have had many individuals who were told verbally that they do not qualify for the pilot program due to these limitations. Unfortunately, they never received a written denial from DPSS.

4.0 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jackie Contreras, Ph. D, Director

Director Contreras provided the following updates:

Director Contreras shared her appreciation for Commissioner Flood. It feels a little anticlimactic after nine years of involvement. But we'll definitely look in some way to express our appreciation for everything that he's done.

As you are aware, this month was very fluid concerning the federal government shutdown and the issuance of CF benefits. In early November, the federal court ordered the Trump Administration to issue CF benefits, and then halted after a temporary stay was issued by the Supreme Court. Then on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, the longest-ever federal government shutdown ended after 43 days. As of today, all CF benefits have been issued to L.A. County households for the month of November, and Nick Ippolito has joined me today to provide you with more details on this and provide a legislative update.

L.A. County took swift action to address food insecurity as the federal shutdown left more than 1.5 million residents at risk of delayed CF benefits. Through the coordination of the CEO's office, officials allocated \$10 million to the L.A. Regional Food Bank, expanding purchasing capacity and opening new pop-up and drive-through pantry sites across the county. The L.A. Care Health Plan also committed up to \$5.4 million, partnering with local organizations to distribute grocery gift cards and fresh food to those in need.

DPSS and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) provided an additional \$2 million each, while Parks and Recreation and the Department of Mental Health (DMH) rolled out temporary food programs, and it was the combined support from everyone that truly made the difference. All departments, Board offices, stakeholders, and the L.A. Regional Food Bank helped by spreading the word, organizing donations, and directly assisting individuals and families receiving benefits.

We very much appreciate everyone's efforts, as they strengthened our ability to safely support our customers during a very challenging time. During the shutdown, we emphasized that CF recipients continue to meet reporting requirements to expedite benefits once funding resumes. Households in need of immediate food assistance were also referred to visit one of the 940 food pantries coordinated by the L.A. County Regional Food Bank.

The Board made the following Proclamations for the month of November 2025: "National Family Caregivers Month", "Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Awareness Month", "Chinese American Film Festival and Chinese American Television Festival Month", "Native American Heritage Month", "Adoption Awareness Month", and "TGEI2S+ Dignity and Recognition Month".

In addition, the Board has also proclaimed: November 11, 2025, as "Veterans Day", November 13-19, 2025, as "Transgender Awareness Week", November 20, 2025, as "Transgender Day of Remembrance", November 16-22, 2025, as "Fraud Awareness Week", November 20, 2025, as "Children's Grief Awareness Day" and November 22, 2025, as "National Adoption Day".

In honor of Operation Green Light for Veterans, DPSS joined hundreds of counties across the nation in lighting government buildings green from Nov. 4-11. This symbolic gesture represents the ongoing commitment of DPSS and other local agencies in raising awareness of resources to help active-duty military veterans and their families make the transition to civilian life.

On Wednesday, Oct. 29, this office, Exposition Park, was lit green, and on Wednesday, Nov. 5, we lit our City of Industry headquarters entrance green to officially launch the campaign. By shining a green light, we let our veterans know they are seen, appreciated, and supported".

DPSS representatives Shawn Amiel, Division Chief of the General Relief & CF Program Division, and Angelica Minton, HSA II from the Medi-Cal (MC) Program Section, joined L.A. County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell to discuss the federal government shutdown's local impact, as well as helpful resources for L.A. County residents during this time.

Supervisor Mitchell hosted her monthly Sippin' My Tea livestream discussion on Sunday, October 26. The conversation highlighted how the shutdown and the H.R.1 bill affect essential programs, especially CF and MC households. The discussion covered upcoming H.R. 1-related MC changes, including the reinstatement of asset limits and stricter eligibility rules, effective January 2026. To watch the full recorded discussion, please visit Supervisor Mitchell's X, Facebook, and YouTube pages.

Commissioner Lewis stated that he echoes the thanks for all that you did, the \$2,000,000. I'm curious to know where that came from. I think you said that from the department, but more importantly, what is the administrative impact to DPSS on the delay, because even though you did the separate efforts to try to address food insecurity while the shutdown was happening, obviously, with the delay, there may be some implications. So, what are the impacts on the organization and the people who work in CF?

Director Contreras responded, we had customers in line, I think on that Monday, and so we went out and talked to them, and they all knew that the CF benefits were delayed. So that was like, kudos to everybody for getting that word out. We've stabilized at this point in relation to our larger impact, and you'll hear more about this from Nick on H.R. 1 and the pending changes that are coming. We are also assessing our budgetary situation right now; at our next meeting, I can provide, as part of my update, a little bit more in terms of the impacts. We've taken the 8.5% cut; we're continuing to see additional cuts as other departments get cut. As we learn more about it, we are adjusting and pulling all that information together, so we have a clear picture in terms of the resources. It wasn't that we had \$2,000,000 lying around; the same thing for the DCFS and others that came up with resources.

It was more so that we had funding available that we could use to address this immediate concern, and then we still must figure out how to plug those holes.

Dr. ElHessen asked if there is an emergency fund for DPSS and other crisis issues like this, or as things come up? Director Contreras responded that it is one of the questions that I asked because I know other departments do have a sort of realignment fund that they navigate their deficits with the CEO's office. We do not have that available to us. It would be a policy issue for DPSS. Conversations that have happened at the Board are about making sure that when we're taking cuts, they're happening equitably. Not all cuts are the same. There have been some exceptions, but right now, for the most part, the cuts we've taken have been across the county. I'm hoping that we can continue to have those conversations, so we can think about the safety net differently in terms of looking at any future cuts.

5.0 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Nick Ippolito, Chief of Staff, DPSS

On the federal shutdown and reopening, which just gives you a brief, brief update, I'll touch on that a little bit. It is all H.R. 1, all the time. I think that there's a lot of concern here. Locally, not just in our department but also our community partners, our Board, this Commission also states leadership about how H.R. 1 is going to be implemented, not just for obviously for MC and for CF. I think what we're doing with our partners at the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) is working with all the counties and the legislature on things that bottom line the state can do to sort of make it easier for our staff; to work with our customers and incorporating these changes and implementing these changes a lot of our work has to do with processing information and processing documents. H.R. 1 will increase administrative responsibilities without additional administrative support. And so, we're going to need to work.

We are, and we will continue to work closely with the state on things they can do. To put it in the simplest terms, to make our eligibility staff's lives a bit easier in terms of processing information. So that's our main legislative strategy and our main focus, and all of that has been our intense focus since the bill was signed into law on July 4th. Then the government shutdown happened, and we kept our eye on the ball with H.R. 1, making sure that our CF recipients were informed as to what was going on. The potential delay of their benefits was something that was front and center.

This is sort of a shutdown recap. As you see, you can go through it at your leisure, but you'll also see that the one thing I did want to point out is that the shutdown was averted. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), also known as CF here in California, federal funding for that was extended through the end of this

federal fiscal year, which is September 30th, 2026. This is good news. Beyond that, there may be another situation like this. We'll have to see what happens.

There are also some things that we'll be watching closely, other programs that we administer, CalWORKs, which is known federally as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). In several of our other programs, we're just continuing because of the Continuing Resolution that was signed by the President, which will continue through January 30, 2026. We're going to have to keep an eye on that as well. So, while it's good news that there will seem to be much potential disruption in benefits, at least for CF through the end of the federal fiscal year, we're going to have to stay mindful and stay vigilant about that ongoing in the coming year.

In the document shared with you, you can also see some of the communications that we've done to our customers either by text via social media, or by our community partners throughout the last two weeks of October, keeping them updated about benefits potentially being delayed, as Dr. Contreras indicated. It seems like a lot of the messaging, the early and often messaging seem to have the right effect in terms of people being aware of the potential delay. We did not see increased calls to our office, to our call centers, or increased visits to our district offices, not even more than the regular high volume that we have. Please review the shared document. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Commissioner Lewis stated that the reference to page three, people identified as having unsatisfactory immigration status who apply before the end of this calendar year will have full scope MC coverage. Does that mean just for the following year or continuing if they complete their redetermination? Mr. Ippolito responded, yes, whoever's on that account right now or whoever will get on to MC between now and the end of the year will receive what's called full scope MC, and you know, obviously, they have to do a redetermination. There's one crinkle to that. For those who have what they're calling unsatisfactory immigration status, they will continue to receive full scope MC through July, and then, in July, coverage for dental will be removed. That was a state decision that was made. Redeterminations will be every 6 months starting in 2027. Commissioner Lewis asked if they are bumped off MC, where they cannot reestablish eligibility after 90 days, who's going to have to manage all of that? Is DPSS doing it? Dr. Contreras responded, the state has said that they're going to contract out for the management of all of that. So, we don't know exactly what that's going to look like, but that's their plan.

I wanted to just make sure Nick was probably going to go here next to highlight, there is a change in the cure period, the 90 days. So, there are some changes that we have to be mindful of, and then I also wanted to highlight that we do have some folks that aren't going to fall off until I believe it's October 1st of next year for unsatisfactory immigration status, because the definition is changing. The

population keeps increasing of those who are considered to have unsatisfactory immigration status, so the state will pick up those people as well. Even though that's happening after January 1st, the state at this point has said that they plan to kind of convert those over to the state plan.

Commissioner Pearson asked about the MC and CF work requirements. Mr. Ippolito responded that many of the individuals who are receiving CF now have to participate in are now subject to work requirements. Our department is actively creating accessible, clear opportunities for people to fill their work requirements as easily as they can. One aspect that we talked about it in the in the update to the Board a bit is around workfare, which is kind of an old concept universally utilized. Workfare is almost like a volunteer type of thing where somebody could go to a government office, Community-Based Organization (CBO), or any of those participating groups, and spend a couple of hours a week, depending on the grant they have and the hours that they are supposed to get, and basically fulfill their obligation to meet the work requirement. While they're going through the process of looking for, you know, employment or training taking care of their kids or they have challenges, like housing challenges and those kinds of things we're trying to create opportunities where we can refer someone to Agency XYZ to file paperwork a couple of days a week or two, to work in the lobby or things like that. So, we're expanding that capacity, that ability to be able to refer our recipients if they struggle with finding ways of meeting those requirements. It's a viable way to help people continue to validate their requirements and continue to receive.

The positive aspect of H.R. 1 is the fact that there is some connectivity between meeting MC work requirements and CF total requirements. So, if somebody is working and they need to prove that to MC, that would be transferable easily to CF for us, but it's those types of administrative things that will make our recipients' lives easier that we're working with the state on to make sure it's allowable that we have the appropriate technology to be able to do that.

Commissioner Joo stated that his questions are on workfare. What is the current mechanism? Is it something that already exists, and is it going to be expanded? Mr. Ippolito responded that it is going to be expanded, and I don't mean to exaggerate. It's going to be expanded to a level we have never had before. Right now, it's very it's kind of small and limited, but it's going to be scaled up significantly. We're talking about creating a database for different organizations that may want to offer workfare opportunities. We're working with our partners all over the county to be able to define that for companies, groups, agencies, and organizations that might want to be involved. What we're hoping is that those agencies will also be able to plug and build into people who need to also perform work and do work experience for the community engagement requirement for MC, and that allows for volunteering.

Follow-up Item: Chairperson McBride thanked Mr. Ippolito for the legislative update and asked if it was possible for Mr. Ippolito to provide a written H.R. 1 update in December that could be emailed to commissioners. Further stating she appreciates the work that DPSS is doing in spite of the challenges with H.R. 1 policy changes.

Chairperson McBride stated that we will have a presentation on the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC). I want to welcome Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, who's the Executive Director of the county's Anti Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI) Initiative, and I will turn it over to Dr. Contreras. Thank you so much. I just want to say a few words. I get the opportunity to work with Dr. Scorza on an ongoing basis, so I'm super excited about him being here today to be able to interact with all of you. So, he will take the lead on the presentation. There are things happening in real time that are changing our work, and so we will be able to highlight some of those things.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

Presentation: County of L.A. Prevention and Promotion System Governing Committee Update to Commission by D'Artagnan Scorza, Ph.D., Executive Director of ARDI

Thank you so much for having me here. It's so good to see all of you, including very familiar faces, and I am excited to be joining you all. This is an incredible department, an incredible Commission. You all are doing, dare I say, the Lord's work, right? Because it's really the foundation of our social safety net here in L.A. County. I am D'Artagnan Scorza, the lead of the county's ARDI Initiative. ARDI is committed to advancing the Board's anti racism policy agenda. Those are forbidden words in some circles, but clearly not here in L.A. County. Our Board is deeply committed to making sure that we provide access and opportunity to everyone, that we prevent discrimination, that we advance equality, and certainly strengthen equity within our institutions. One of the efforts that we have had the pleasure to engage in is supporting work to advance countrywide systems coordination that center the need to prevent negative life outcomes and to promote positive life outcomes.

So, a couple of years ago. Supervisors Han and Mitchell got together and said, hey, we want to figure out, frankly, how we can do some audits in DPSS, DCFS, and DMH, and a whole host of departments, to understand how we can transition our system to be more prevention-focused. Since the 80's, we have talked about prevention, but it's really been very difficult to advance a prevention framework. They enlisted my office to help launch a taskforce with about 17 Departments to come up with a set of recommendations to advance countrywide efforts for prevention and promotion and when we talk about prevention, by the way, we're not just talking about, stopping poor health outcomes from occurring or making

sure kids aren't being pushed out of school or dropping out of school, but what we're really talking about is intervening in, or sometimes not intervening in systems, processes and or practices that lead to those negative outcomes. But on the flip side, we're also talking about advancing and promoting the same thing that would be available to anyone else in our country.

For example, we want to prevent young folk from experiencing homelessness and living on our streets in L.A. County. The thing we have to do to promote their livelihood is to ensure they have stable housing, right? You don't just orient yourself towards the thing you're trying to stop. I want to stop homelessness, but instead of just focusing on what I want to stop, I also want to advance stable housing, and those two things go together. As a prevention and promotion framework, our task force put forward a set of recommendations to the Board to really advance those principles. There may also be things the county should not be doing, like, hey, let's not, you know, widen the net and involve young folk in our current role systems, right? Or, you know, you all were just talking about fraud to assume that's just because someone is of a certain racial, ethnic, or cultural background that they are attempting to defraud a system. Frankly, we wouldn't need a lot of these social benefits if we had fair wages, and a lot of high income wasn't concentrated in the hands of trillionaires. I think the reality is that, ultimately, the government's role is to be generative to help advance and promote positive outcomes. You might be asking, well, why is that the government's role? Because the government has done it historically through home ownership and mortgage-backed securities. We made sure people had subsidies. We built public parks in certain neighborhoods. We've invested in certain communities. Over time, the government has played an incredible role in making sure that some people thrive. In fact, Sugar Hill, which was not too far from this area, was a predominantly black community that was to be paved over by the freeway. There were freeway protests in the 50s and 60s where those neighborhoods got on the freeway, shut down those bulldozers, almost like the people in Black Lives Matter, to ensure that ultimately, freeways would not go through those neighborhoods. In the same fashion as they did in South L.A., in black neighborhoods historically. The reason why I'm lifting that up is that all of those things are in this document. So, when we talk about prevention and promotion, if you want to learn a little bit more about that history, please do so and read the document because the document lays that history out. It also helps us understand why we're seeing the life outcomes we see in L.A. County.

We came up with this framework based upon four different provisions of promotion models which really articulate the levels of support that communities need across different levels of risk, starting with the familiar terms that we always talk about with prevention promotion which are primary, secondary and tertiary levels of risk as well as the associated levels of support similar to universal selected and indicated in our public health models. But in the far-right bubble, where it says remedy, that's

really about providing services and resources to people who have already experienced negative outcomes. If you've experienced homelessness, we want to prevent you from dying on the streets. It's not just about preventing you from experiencing death; it's also about reversing the likelihood that that would occur. So, the remedy is about remediating that harm, about restoring people to the point where they can thrive. This is the country-wide model for prevention and promotion that has been adopted by our Board.

The Board heard those recommendations and said, great. Go ahead, let's launch a new infrastructure for guiding and governing the county's commitment to advancing prevention and promotion. They launched a body, an oversight body called the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee, which requires the Department Heads, including your very own Dr. Contreras, who chairs this body to participate in the 10, along with initiative directors and First 5 L.A. County agency, our county-supported county-partnered agency to come together and identify a common set of outcomes that all of our county departments can work towards to achieve and identify those common set of outcomes, also make sure they're aligned with the life course framework meaning we're trying to achieve certain milestones over time: Inter school ready to learn, become proficient by grades four and eight, graduate high school, go to college, get a good paying job, and buy a house. These are part of the life course and also make sure that we have metrics to track our outcomes, develop a set of strategies, spending plans, and program plans, as well as staffing plans to help us get there. The PPSGC was designed to help set policy direction, and then the Board also directed that we create the prevention, promotion, coordination, and implementation team, which is housed in my office, to help support coordination across the county departments that are engaged in this work, which are roughly 24 departments.

On the PPSGC, the governing committee, there are 9 serving entities. The governing committee, as I mentioned, was created by the Board, and there are three focus areas including a focus on homelessness and housing specifically for transition age youth, a focus on child welfare and family well-being with the intent to make sure children are not entering into the child welfare system at disproportionate rates or ideally making sure that they are safe as well. if they need to, that they're protected. Then, finally, in the area of behavioral health and across all three, we're looking at adults, families with children between the ages of 0 and 5, Transition Age Youth, older adults, as I mentioned earlier, and then disconnected youth in the area of behavioral health.

We're looking across the board, these various populations working to make sure that we prevent those negative outcomes and promote positive ones. These are the governing committee members. As I mentioned, Dr. Contreras, along with the

Vice Chair, Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director of Public Health, Brandon Nichols, Director of DCFS, Sheree Todoroff, Homeless Initiative Executive Director, and that position will swap out to be the new Homeless Department Director, Dr. Lisa Wong, who's over DMH, Karla Pleitéz Howell, who leads the First Five. David J. Carroll, who's new to our team, is the Director of the Department of Youth Development, and Maral V. Karaccusian, Interim Director for the Department of Aging and Disabilities. We previously had our Chief Information Officer and our CEO on the PPSGC, but have now transitioned them off.

As I mentioned, it is a body that comes together to support coordination implementation. Nick Ippolito serves on this body with a group of folks who are the subject matter experts who come together and know about all the various systems within the county. Whatever they don't know, they know where to get the right answers across county departments, and if they don't know it, they can go and get the right people in their department. It's really intended to be an operational body across county departments to be a cross-departmental coordinating entity.

Now, as an entire system, you have the governing committee, and we also have the PPCIT. We also have consulting support, we have different work groups, and we have coordinating bodies. Coordinating bodies are these county-wide work groups that come together around those outcomes at home. Assisted housing for Transition Age youth for older adults. That includes One Roof, which focuses on transitioning-age youth, the Regional Coordination Council, which is supported by the Department of Aging and Abilities, and that's for older adults. You have community pathways that team supports women and families with children between the ages of 0 and 5, and then our Transition Age Youth table, which is supported predominantly by DCFS and now the Department of Youth Development. All work as a part of this ecosystem of efforts that support prevention, promotion systems, and infrastructure. If you want to read up on it, you're welcome to do so.

For just a second, if you know how L.A. County is structured, you will know that the department has reported directly to the Board. And you know, as I've had many folks tell me, we are a democratic institution. The department has to agree to coordinate and to work together, and that's a great thing when they do. But ultimately, they're really focused on their day-to-day needs and what their departments are responsible for doing. They came together and said, collectively, we're all going to work on this together, and because of the way we're structured, that can be an incredibly difficult thing to do. In some ways, this body is a forcing function that enables departments to agree upon common principles, agree upon common outcomes, and determine how best they want to proceed as it relates to those common outcomes, metrics and or programs or services or strategies they'd like to employ and engage in and so again, we've got to come

an agreement on these outcomes. What this allows us to do is it allows us to really think strategically.

Let's say I have funds for DPSS for food resources, and the new department is trying to take care of transition-age youth who are hungry. We can figure out how to pool those funds to serve that population. And if LACOE is working to get their education taken care of with their local school districts, now we can work on that education, and then the Department of Health Services can help work on their healthcare. If they're touched by the foster care system, DCFS can provide referrals to get them to these other programs and services. It's really a matter of us thinking through what the various roles are. The departments can play a role in helping to support those young folks, so we can close those strategic gaps. We can also look at what's working and strengthen that. We can see how we can better leverage and braid funding. I'll talk a little bit about that later on, as well as leverage existing resources and pursue new funding opportunities. Overall, what this governing work allows us to do is be far more coordinated in terms of how we deploy our resources and activities to achieve certain strategies and outcomes.

We have done a program and funding inventory of roughly 180 programs across the county that touch across those 3 domains: homelessness and housing, behavioral health, and child and family well-being. The programs allow us to see what departments are doing, at least in the last fiscal year. There's some modernizing and updating. We're going to be doing for this fiscal year, but they allow us to see what departments are doing and they also allow us to resource maps and look at where we can potentially provide referrals of programs and services across the board, and finally, they really help us identify funding sources and potential opportunities to integrate those fundings into the various strategies that the PPSGC and the coordinating bodies themselves have identified.

Over 20 Departments were engaged to produce that program inventory. It's huge, and we're really grateful. It really centers on services and programs that are available to customers, to clients, and participants, and it aligns us, allowing us to look at those funding streams to better determine how they can meet the needs of those clients, customers, participants, and residents.

The programs that came in this allow you to see exactly where the funding levels are in relationship to the identified levels of risk, and so you can see which programs we have that are in the primary prevention category in each of those domains. In child welfare and family well-being, behavioral health, or housing homelessness, which ones are in secondary, tertiary, or in the remedy level? As you can see, for homelessness, for housing, and homelessness, for example, there are quite a few primary, secondary, tertiary, and remedies. We actually run a lot of programs for different populations at varying levels of risk. This analysis allows us to

then think that if you walk into one of our hospitals, they should be able to tell you based on their screening.

Let's say you know you're a victim of domestic violence because we have this data. I want that caseworker, that social worker, or that nurse to be able to know how they can get you connected to our domestic violence program. That's the point of this. I want that person to have the information they need to make that referral to get you connected to another program in one of our departments based on the likelihood that you're going to either be homeless or face additional violence as a domestic victim.

The funding inventory was mostly tagged to that prevention in front of the primary prevention resources, which looked at federal and state resources. We know, because of the federal and state funding environment currently, that there are shifts in that funding environment. There's more work that we have to do to really look at the potential to better braid and leverage funding across those resources. But what this tells us, at least, is that there are 10 SNAP and ARPA dollars that will be done by the end of next fiscal year.

There were federal funding sources that could be used to support these programs at different levels of risk or irrespective of their level of risk and this also allows us to see where there are other funding sources we can tap into, like AB 109, the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act, the Mental Health Services Act, and the state General Fund H. Have you no other resources? Allow us to see. This allows us to see the relationship between potential funding sources and how they can be used to advance the outcomes that we've identified.

Yesterday we had an incredible meeting. We brought together our consulting team as well as a number of community partners and individuals to lead experience to talk about their journeys. For those of us who are not familiar with journey maps, these allow us to see how different we call them, users or different personas. These are archetypes of individuals who go through different experiences with our system, or maybe not with our system. In looking at these archetypes, we can identify how our system or their connection to our system or lack of connection to our system is affecting their outcomes, helping to either keep them on a successful path or knock them off a successful path.

These journey maps center the user's experience, and they allow us to see, and I wish I had Josh here from yesterday. He's one of our Youth Commissioners because he did an incredible job explaining it. Commissioners were able to say, you can see the connections between our systems, the outcomes people are experiencing, and the resources and support that they're receiving, or not receiving, to illustrate where there may be pain points or a relationship between their interaction with our system, and or their lack of interaction.

These journey maps were done across those domains, as I mentioned. So now we kind of have a road map for what is getting in the way of a mother with a child from getting stable housing. That was the intent of these maps, and I don't know if we have one on a mother where the child has stable housing, but that's just an example, or a young person, a transition, a youth, for example. So, we have one on tape for sure. I know that someone who is in foster care in the juvenile justice system is struggling to get stable housing. What has gotten in the way of getting stable housing? What parts of the system have failed them, and or what parts of the system are succeeding? One of the key takeaways was that their relationships with community-based organizations were essential.

There's a hierarchy of organizations in our departments and the county that they trust or don't trust. If you're a young person with DCFS, they're like, I don't want to talk to you, DCFS. Leave me alone. I had a really bad experience. I don't know you. You know it's traumatic. But if you are connected to DMH, they may have a relationship with you. So, understanding that is really important.

This is an example of the map. I know it's a little bit hard to read, but what you can see at the very top is what the clients or what the individuals have said. You'll see what the relative staff members have said, or related staff members, or see the appropriate tools, or what sort of tool was used at that point, with an assessment. Was it? I know it's a little bit hard to see, so apologies for the fine print.

Was it, you know, a transition independent living plan? Was there a case management system that was involved? Or what was the pain point? So, they were planning for their basic needs at that point, and it became a challenge because of X. These maps are large, so we put them out. One of our Commissioners, one of our departments, has asked us to turn it into a what, what the department has, and Dr. Wong asked us to turn it into a book. So, we're going to do that at some point.

There are now some changes that are happening in our system. This past Tuesday, our Board adopted a new motion calling for us to reach to, like, consolidate the way we're approaching this to look at the resources we have and to think strategically about them in advancing this prevention and promotion system governing systems effort, they want us to consolidate our structure so to combine our implementation team with the governing committee with an entity that's been around since the death of Gabriel Fernandez called the Office of Child Protection (OCP), which will become the new Office of County Wide Prevention. Basically, they will become our new centralized unit for facilitating coordination of prevention throughout the entire county to create clear leadership and accountability.

They want us to have a county-wide prevention strategic plan. We kind of already have a strategic plan. So, we're going to do that, and it shouldn't be too hard to do. They also want to make sure that there's executive-level participation that aligns around joint work plans, and so this new motion will streamline some of the work that we're doing as well, and they want us to make sure there are clear departmental roles, clear outcomes, and there is public reporting on it.

Our PPSGC will sunset as a Brown Act body. Once we adopt the strategic plan, and the Board adopts the strategic plan, we will have a cross-departmental work group led by the OCP. Soon to be the Office of Prevention to continue that coordination.

The motion will align us around those fragmented systems, which is the next step. So, there was always an intent to get to this place. We're now finally getting there. Ideally, it's going to help us accelerate our prevention efforts, and we'll build upon previous work, going to focus specifically on children, youth, and families. Some of the work around older adults may continue, but really the primary focus will be on children, youth, and families, and we're intent, we're trying to move from this sort of reaction to what's happening.

I'll close out with this: when you think about what this looks like in practice, let me give you a concrete example. If we want to, for example, decrease homelessness and increase housing stability for our young population across the system for youth transition-age use.

The journey maps, the strategies, the funding sources in practice, what it attempts to help us do is improve transition services for young people when their housing plans fail or invest in data systems that allow us predictably intervention or mitigate funding risk by looking at cuts from federal funding and then trying to backfill that with mental health services AG dollars or looking at the reduction of ARPA dollars, COVID funding and looking at potential funding so we can, scale down programs and make sure that those programs help us, the ones that are really working, the ones that are invested in or draw down medical transition dollars. When you think about the relationship between all of these efforts really is enabling us to be more strategic as a county, and as this information gets brought into decision-making, frameworks will enable our board to make more effective funding decisions. With that being said, I want to thank you all for your time, although there is a lot we have presented.

7.0 COMMISSION BUSINESS

Summer McBride, Chairperson

Commission Annual Report Final Draft – Commissioners approved the final draft for the 2024-25 Commission Annual Report by unanimous vote.

Commission Day of Service - I had a conversation about our December meeting, and it is up to me and the commission body if we meet in December. But in lieu of a December meeting and instead of an end of the year gathering, I would like to propose that we make it a Commission Day of Service, where we schedule, and I'll work with La France to schedule a day where we can actually go and support Michael Flood at the L.A. Regional Food Bank. And I've already talked to him about some days when he's available for us to come, and then we would put out the date and time to you. If you're able to join us, we would love for that to be in lieu of our December meeting and any kind of celebration. Commissioner Pearson also recommended Commissioner Riutort' s Westside Food Bank as a location, too.

I felt like this would be a great way for us to spend time outside of this space, getting to know each other even more, building our relationships while also giving back in another way.

2025-27 Work Plan Committee - will convene in January 2026.

8.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

Summer McBride, Chairperson

Commissioner Taylor announced she will be on leave due to medical reasons. She will inform Ms. Toliver of her return to commission work. Chairperson McBride wished Commissioner Taylor all the best for a healthy and happy delivery.

Chairperson McBride expressed her gratitude to our DPSS team, to La France, Michelle, the IT team, Director Contreras, and Mr. Ippolito, and all of the other presenters this year, and also to you, my colleagues in this space. I learned so much from you all. I'm really grateful for everyone who's here in the room and online, and my appreciation even for the people who check us in downstairs and get us on the elevator to come up here. I just want to wish everyone a happy holiday.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Summer McBride, Chairperson

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson at 1:05 p.m.