I. SSI Cash-Out (CalFresh Expansion for SSI/SSP)

Rashon Seldon, Program Specialist and Jacqueline Baechler, Program Specialist, Workforce & Benefits Administration, Social Services Agency presented a PowerPoint presentation on the SSI Cash-Out – CalFresh Expansion for SSI/SSP.

Cal Fresh Expansion

Assembly Bill (AB) 1811 reverses the CalFresh eligibility policy known as “cash-out” under which individuals receiving SSI/SSP are ineligible for CalFresh. AB 1811 also creates two state funded programs, 1) Supplemental Nutrition Benefit Program and 2) Transitional Nutrition Benefit Program (TNB).

Policy Change

Effective June 1, 2019 individuals receiving SSI/SSP will be eligible for CalFresh, provided all other criteria are met. Eligible SSI/SSP recipients may receive CalFresh benefits for the first time in 40 years. Many SSI/SSP individuals will be newly eligible for CalFresh, if approved they will receive an EBT card loaded with their benefit allotment each month. In Alameda County the average benefit allotment for a household of one is approximately $140 per month.

Purpose:

☑ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents Update

Rashon Seldon, Program Specialist and Jacqueline Baechler, Program Specialist, Workforce & Benefits Administration, Social Services Agency presented a PowerPoint presentation on the SSI Cash-Out – CalFresh Expansion for SSI/SSP.
Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA). Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) are limited to 3-months of CalFresh benefits in any 36-month period.

Policy Change

Effective September 1, 2019 some CalFresh recipients in Alameda County will be required to meet federal work requirements. The rules apply to anyone receiving CalFresh between the ages of 18-49 who does not have a child living in the home. These individuals will need to work or be exempt from working to receive benefits without a time limit.

The Social Services Agency has been planning for these changes by creating internal and external ABAWDS Workgroups. The Agency has sent ABAWDS information notice to CalFresh households in October 2018 and set-up dedicated phone line for individuals to call with questions regarding the mailer. The Agency sent a second ABAWDS Informational notice to identified households in April 2019.

Policy guidance has been published for staff and Eligibility Services Technicians have received Series I & II of a three-part training. Series III training will begin in July 2019.

Purpose:
☑ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

III. Workforce Development Board Update

Attachment

Latoya Reed, Management Analyst, and Tamia Brown, Program Financial Specialist, Alameda County Workforce Development Board presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Workforce Development Board update.

The presentation included information on the Workforce Development Board’s Two-Year Modified Local Plan, other projects and partnerships and their re-entry initiatives.

Purpose:
☑ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Social Services Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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