

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES



Contra Costa Thrives

Guaranteed Basic Income Program Proposal

Marla Stuart, MSW PhD, Director
Aisha Teal, Workforce Services Specialist

June 24, 2025

EHSDInfo@ehsd.cccounty.us | (925) 608-4800

Presentation Order



1. Prior Board Actions
2. Contributors
3. Literature Review
4. Program Design

5. Budget
6. Implementation
7. Recommendation
8. Attached Documents





Prior Board Actions

Prior Board Actions

Aug 15
2023

Board workshop on Guaranteed Income (GI) pilots
Directed EHSD to seek income waivers for public assistance

Apr 22
2024

During budget hearing, MX CAB recommended a GI pilot
Board directed EHSD to provide a plan for a \$5M GI pilot

Oct 22
2024

Board allocated \$1M in AB109 funds and \$3.25M in MX funds for a GI program for 1) Youth transitioning out of foster care, 2) Unhoused and unstably housed, 3) Families with young children experiencing financial hardship, 4) Low-income seniors, 5) Re-entry population



Contributors

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Contra Costa County GI Collaborative *for proposed plan and review of EHSD plan*

VESTIA *for non-governmental contribution of \$16,200*

County Team *for program design*

- Transitioning Youth: Roslyn Gentry, Beth Bottorff
- Young Families: Rebecca Darnell, Ann Barrett
- Re-Entry: Patrice Guillory, Tina Reyes, Michael Venegas
- Older Adults: Tracy Murray, Alice Dietrich, Debbie Toth

GI: Maura Connell, Tamina Alon

Finance: Anita Luu, Adrian Araza

Coordination: Jennie Ann Mendoza

UC Davis *for Literature Review and Design Expertise*

- Ahna Ballonoff Suleiman, MPH PhD
- Rose Kagawa, MPH PhD

Community Meetings Participants *for draft program review and feedback*

Community Meetings

Target Population	Committee	#	Date
Youth transitioning out of foster care	Family & Children’s Trust Committee	12	May 5
	Regional Community Partnership (Central)	18	May 9
	Regional Community Partnership (East)	22	May 13
Families with young children experiencing financial hardship	Economic Opportunity Committee	19	May 8
	Workforce Development Board	40	May 13
	Head Start Policy Council	34	May 21
Individuals returning to the community after incarceration	AB 109 Realignment CAB	19	May 8
Housing insecure older adults	Advisory Council on Aging	55	Apr 16
All	CC Guaranteed Income Coalition	7	Dec 19
		2	Apr 17
		2	Jun 11
Total		230	

Common Community Themes

Questions

- Funding?
 - Eligibility criteria?
- Impact to other benefits?
 - Rolling enrollment?
- Payment discontinuation?

Feedback

- Implement fair referral and selection processes
- Offer accessible orientation
- Provide financial literacy
- Ensure flexible payment options



See Attachment E for full list of all input



Literature Review



Literature Review Key Findings

Category	Research Findings
Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GI reduces recidivism among formerly incarcerated (p. 6)• Growing interest in serving seniors (p. 7)
Payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lump sum payments effective poverty alleviation strategy internationally (p. 11)
Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case management support essential (p. 8)• Cash payments may or may not be conditioned on attending financial literacy courses. (p. 3)
Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benefits economic well-being while enrolled; lack of studies in US on long-term effects (pp 2, 7-8)• Measures of economic stability are common (pp 4-5)



See Attachment B for complete literature review



Program Design



Goals and Populations

1. Provide consistent, unconditional cash payments to reduce financial volatility and improve participant's ability to meet basic needs.
2. Assist ***youth transitioning from foster care, families with young children, and individuals reentering the community post-incarceration*** in navigating major life transitions with financial stability as a foundation.
3. Help ***housing-insecure older adults*** remain stably housed and/or maintain their homes by assisting with repairs.
4. Leverage existing county programs by selecting participants enrolled in services, increasing engagement with case managers, and reducing barriers to successful outcomes.

General Eligibility Criteria

- Active participant in one of the following County-sponsored programs
 - CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work or Cal-Learn
 - Independent Living Skills Program
 - Adult Protective Services
 - Probation
- Cannot be enrolled in another Guaranteed Income program
- Must not have participated in a prior Guaranteed Income program
- Has legal control of finances

1
month

Referrals

Specific Eligibility Criteria



Youth Transitioning from Foster Care

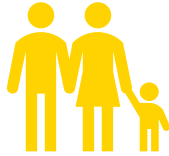
Engaged Non-minor dependents with CCC

Ages 19-21

Actively participating in Independent Living Skills Program

1
month

Referrals



Families with Young Children

Engaged Welfare-to-Work and Cal-Learn families

Ages 18-26

At least one child ages 0-6

At least 18 months remaining on CalWORKs



Probation Clients

Engaged Probation clients
Released within last 6 months

Ages 18+

Ohio Risk Assessment System results and participation in an activity



Older Adults

Engaged Adult Protective Services (APS) clients

60+ years of age

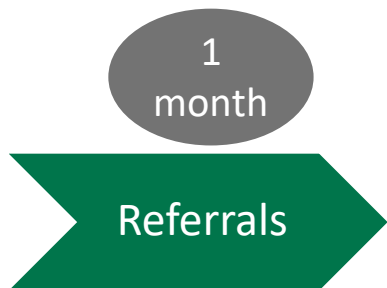
Identified housing instability

Overview and Timeline



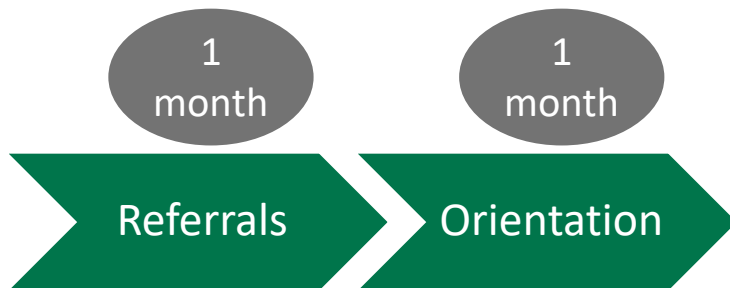
Referral Process

1. **County caseworkers** identify all eligible candidates
2. **County caseworkers** submit all eligible candidates to **Manager** for review and approval
3. **Manager** refers all eligible candidates to **EHSD GI Program Manager**
4. **EHSD GI Manager** invites all eligible candidates to mandatory orientation
5. **EHSD GI Manager** refers all consenting candidates to UC Davis for random assignment to participant or control group

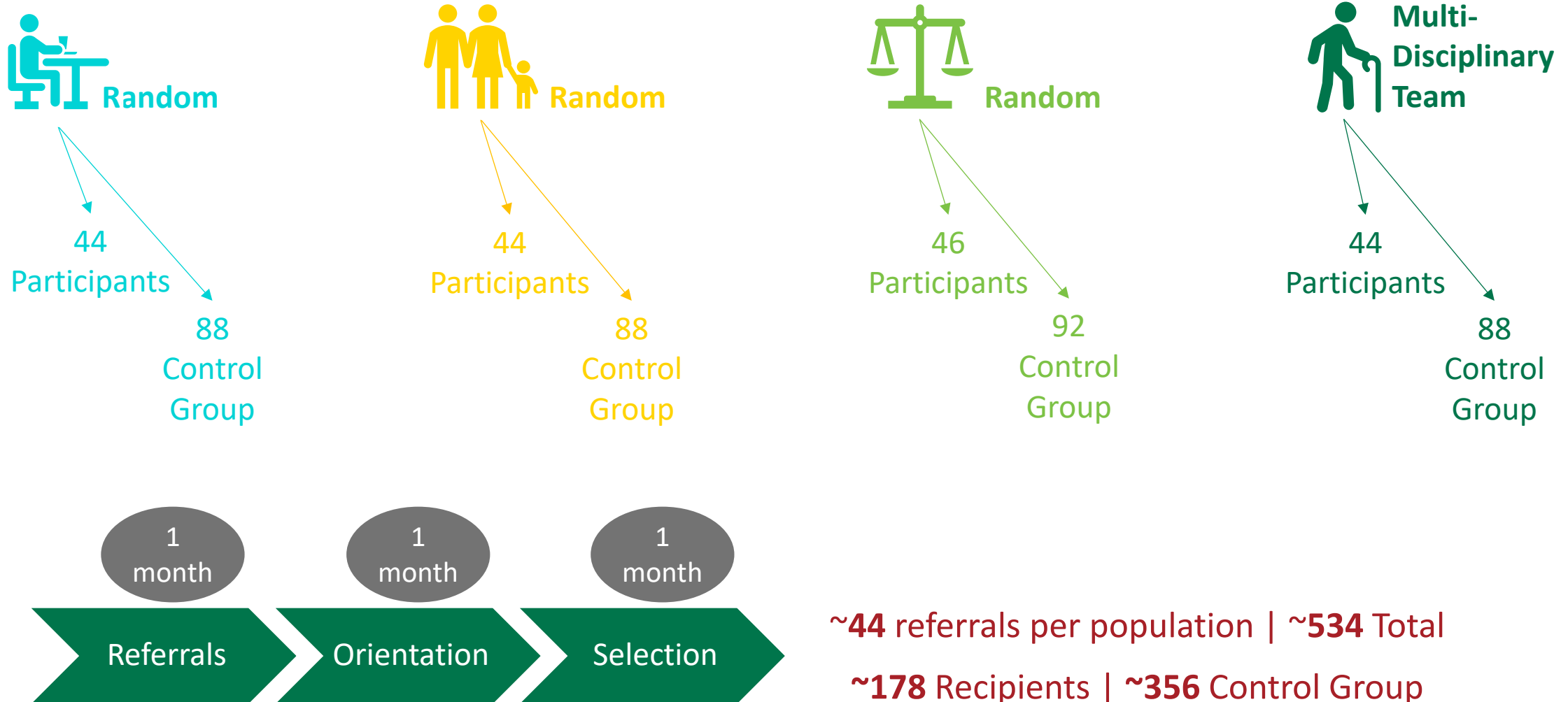


Mandatory Orientation

- **Benefits Counseling** which explains potential GBI impacts to benefits programs including but not limited to: CalFresh, EITC, LIHEAP, SSI, WIC, CFAP, FERA, HDAP, SDI, UI, THP+, transportation discounts, housing subsidies
- **Financial Counseling** which provides tools to manage income and supports goal-aligned financial decisions
- Complete **baseline evaluation** information
- **Consent** to participate

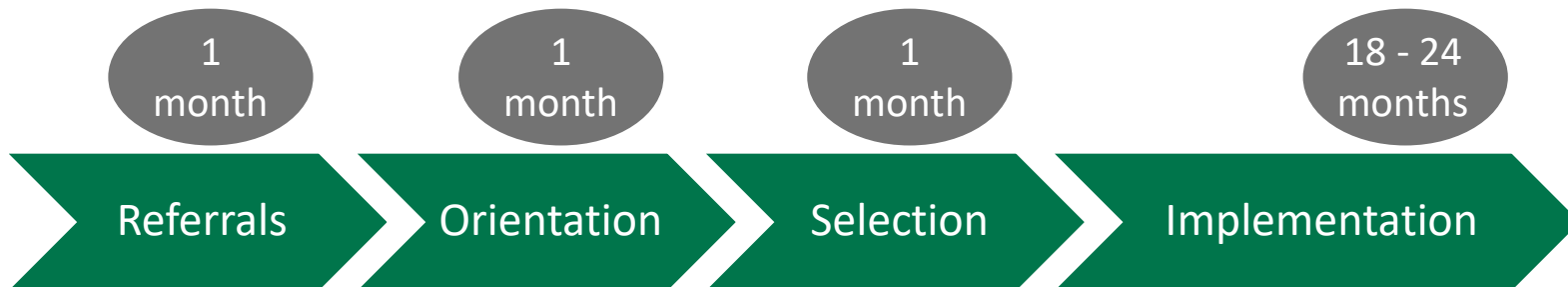


Assignment Process



Implementation

1. Notified of selection
2. Complete baseline evaluation information
3. Select payment option
4. Receive Mastercard debit card and begin receiving payments
5. Receive regular (~monthly) support from case worker
6. Receive optional continued financial support



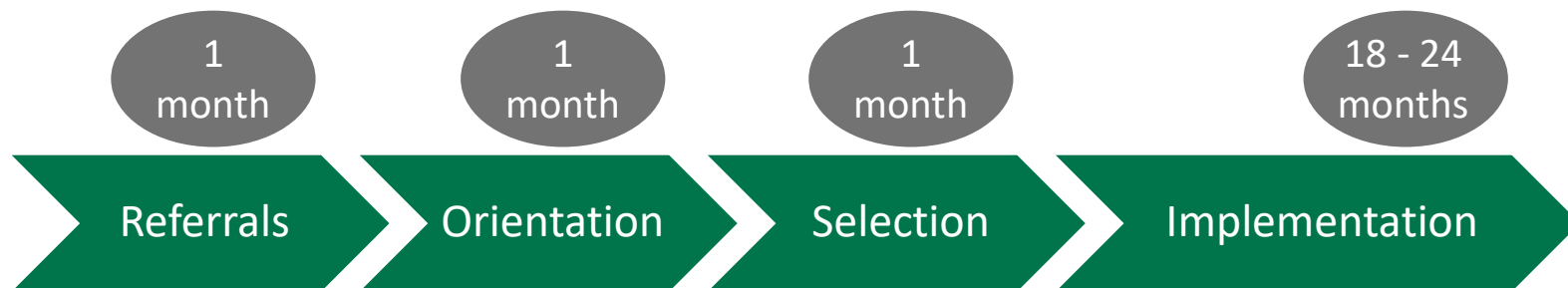
Payment Options

	Months								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Option 1	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250
	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$950	\$750	\$550	\$350	\$250	\$150
Option 2	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$750	\$750	\$500	\$500	\$250	\$250
Option 3	\$750	\$750	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



Discontinuance Reasons

1. Permanently moves out of the state or country and no longer receiving County supports
2. Becomes incarcerated for more than 90 days
3. Fails to address a Bench Warrant within 90 days
4. Passes away
5. Voluntarily chooses to discontinue



All individuals discontinued within the first 6 months will be replaced with an individual from the control group. After 6 months, no replacements will be selected. The total cash disbursement period will be 24 months.

Longitudinal Evaluation

1. Short term (during program) qualitative feedback to inform county services
2. Long term (annual) quantitative collection of sustainable income and recidivism data
3. Incentives for voluntary participation in research activities for participants and control groups
4. Annual reports to the Family & Human Services Committee and the Community Corrections Partnership with optional referral to the Board of Supervisors



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Budget

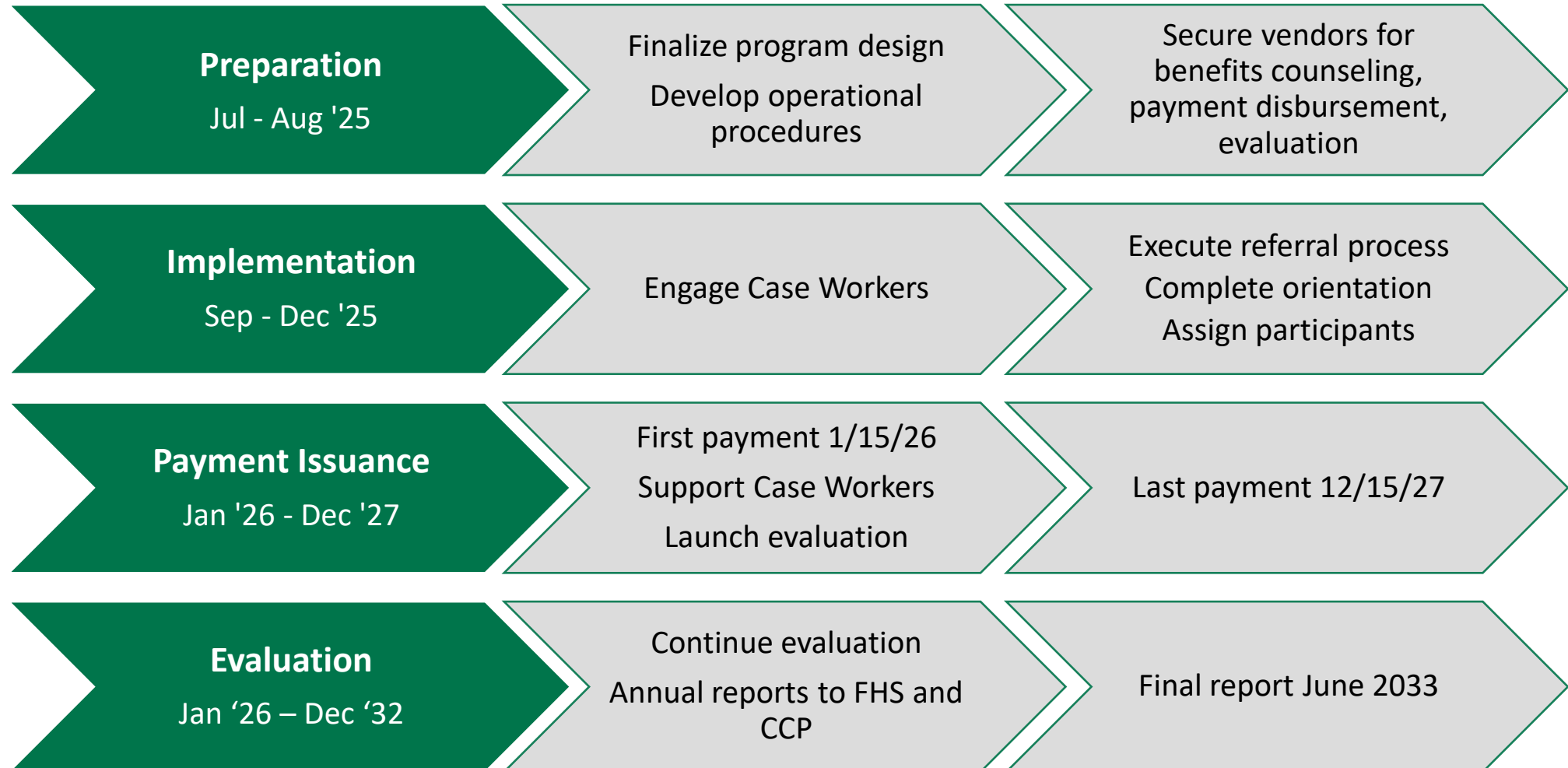
Budget

Expenditures	Measure X	AB 109	VESTIA	Total	%
Direct Payments	\$2,376,000	\$828,000	\$16,200	\$3,220,200	75%
Payment Disbursement Vendor	\$2,465	\$822	\$0	\$3,287	<1%
Benefits Counseling Vendor	\$31,424	\$13,744	\$0	\$45,168	1%
Evaluation Vendor	\$515,111	\$100,000	\$0	\$615,111	14%
County Administrative Costs	\$325,000	\$57,434	\$0	\$382,434	9%
Total	\$3,250,000	\$1,000,000	\$16,200	\$4,266,200	100%



Implementation

Implementation Activities and Timeline





Recommendation

APPROVE the Contra Costa THRIVES Guaranteed Basic Income Program for administration by the Employment & Human Services Department.

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Discussion

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Attached Documents

Contra Costa Thrives Guaranteed Basic Income Program Design

Attachment A: Guaranteed Income Program Design Comparison Chart

Attachment B: Cash Payments and Economic Outcomes in the United States and Globally:
A Narrative Review and Executive Summary by Rose Kagawa and Ahna Suleiman, UC
Davis

Attachment C: Existing Case Management Support

Attachment D: Summary of Known California Guaranteed Income Pilots by Jurisdiction
(City, County, State) 10/22/2024

Attachment E: Community Input

Attachment F: Contra Costa Thrives Pilot Implementation Plan by Rachel Rosekind
12/18/24

