

Early Childhood Education Program Update



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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES

Outline

Topic	Federal Head Start	State Child Care
Federal Environment Updates	To date	
Child Care Center Services	✓	
Policy Council Actions	No meeting scheduled	
Budget	June 2025	June 2025
Monitoring	✓	
Official Funder Communication	July 2025	July 2025
Recommendation	✓	
Appendices	For information	

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Federal Environment Updates

Sources of Information

1. Project 2025
2. Executive Orders
3. Federal Department Actions
4. Congressional Actions

Categories of Impact

1. Potential Funding Reduction
2. Potential Funding Increase
3. Changes to Program Regulations
4. Change that may Impact Customers
5. Change that may Impact Contracts with Partners

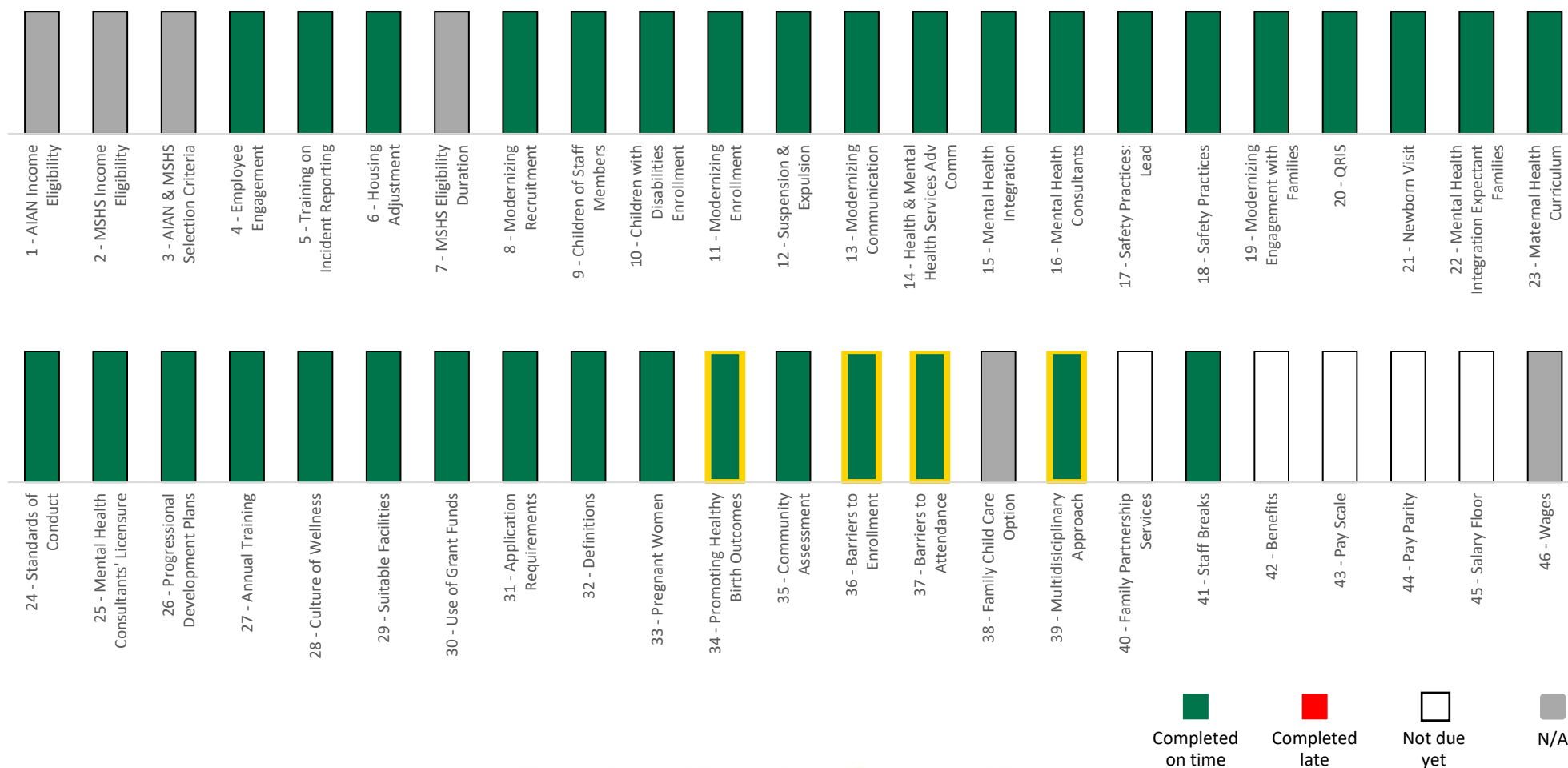
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HSPPS Compliance Timeline Progress Chart



1. New HSPPS Compliance Timeline and Analysis

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Promoting Healthy Birth Outcomes

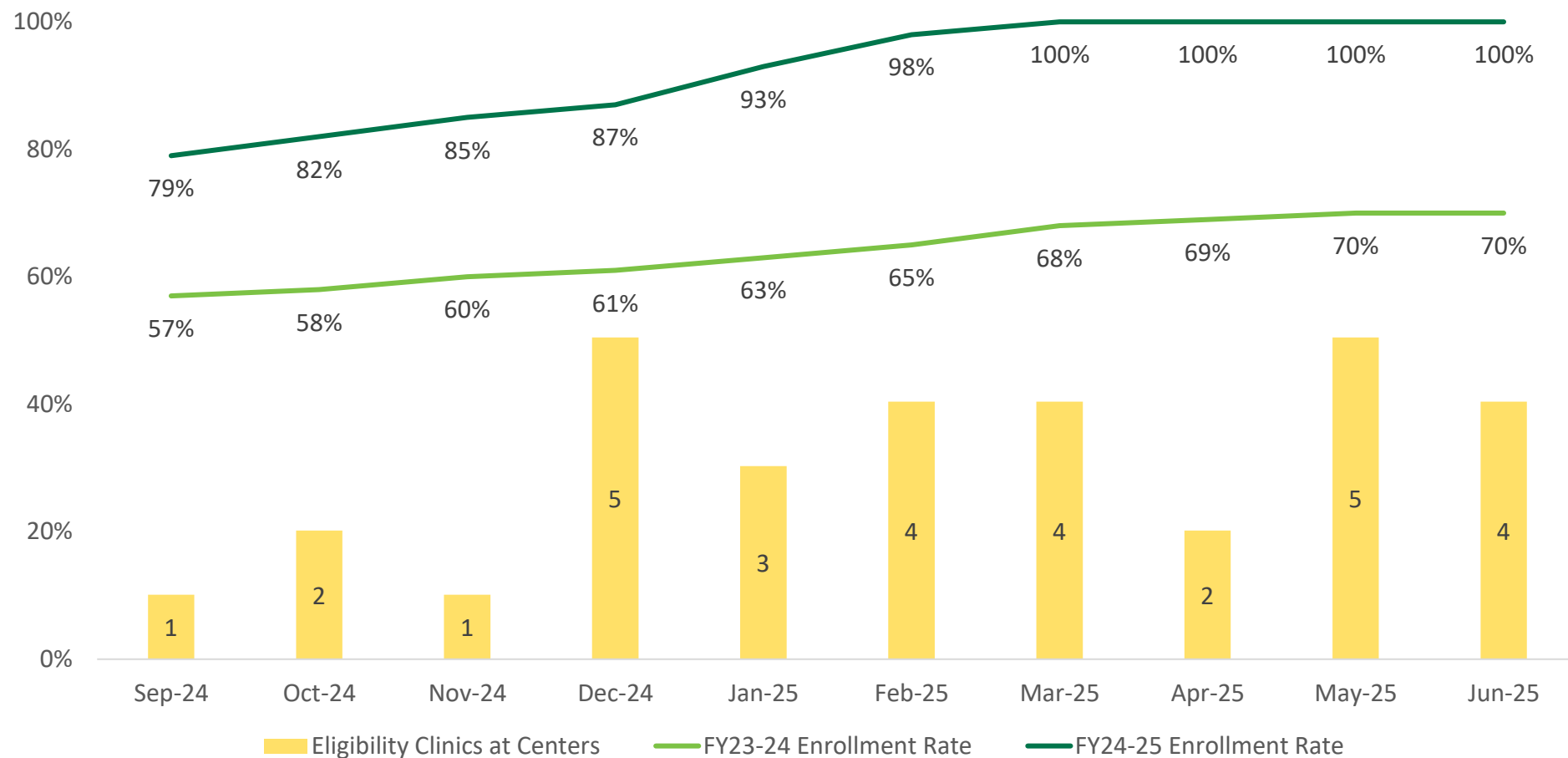
	Aspiranet	Crossroads
Slots	149	20
Population Served	Pregnant women, infants, and toddlers	Pregnant teens and their infants
Model	Home-based program through 90-minute weekly home visits, socializations, and parent cafés	On-site child care and child development services for teens attending high school

Referrals and services for both include:

- WIC for nutrition services and breastfeeding preparation
- Prenatal and post-partum health care
- Professional oral health assessment and treatment
- Medical insurance enrollment
- Education on fetal development, breastfeeding benefits, nutrition importance, infant care, safe sleep practices, and risks of alcohol, drugs, and smoking

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Addressing Enrollment Barriers



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Addressing Attendance Barriers

Finding: Attendance rates are lower than federal benchmark. Similar to trends in K-12 schools, where chronic absenteeism rates have increased in recent years.

Strategies:

- (1) Reframing program as early childhood education instead of child care with families.
- (2) Following up with families about absences to identify any specific barriers they may have.
- (3) Publicly addressing questions/concerns about centers being open due to current federal administration.

Future Concerns: New federal policy regarding citizenship eligibility requirements and increased ICE presence could keep families away.

Measure X Mental Health Funding

Current Activities

1. 3 Mental Health Consultants
2. Annual teacher trainings, parent workshops, and site supervisor meetings (bi-weekly)
3. Support up to 100 children who qualified per their medical insurance

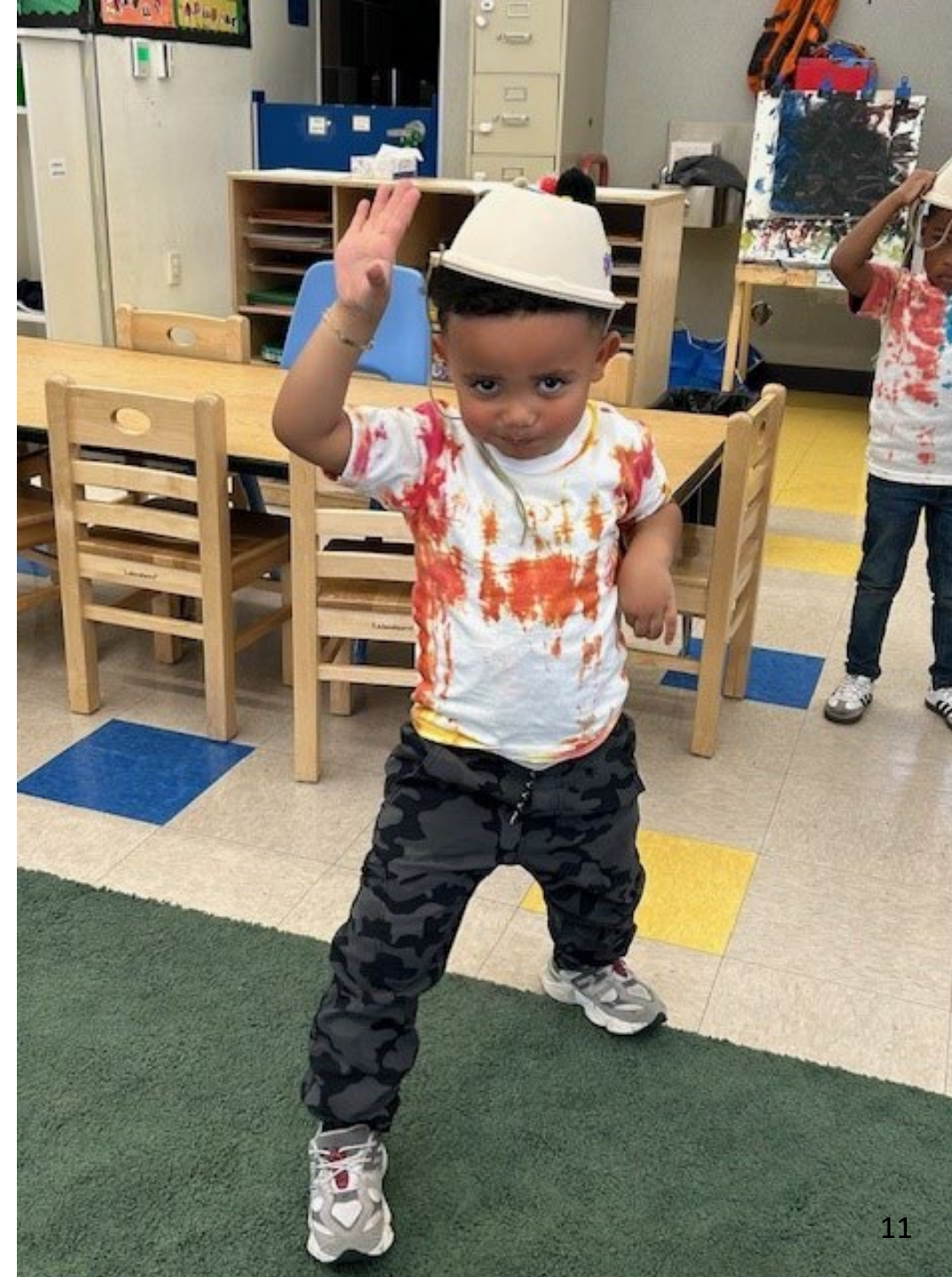
Planned Activities

1. Expand to 10 Consultants (4 Mental Health Consultants, 1 Behavior Support Consultant, 4 Therapeutic Teachers, and 1 Wellness Consultant)
2. Expand supports for teachers, parents, and site supervisors to include daily and weekly supports for all staff through classroom observations, modeling behavior support strategies, and facilitating support groups
3. Expand services to all enrolled children, regardless of their medical insurance, and their parents through at least 6 annual Parent Café sessions

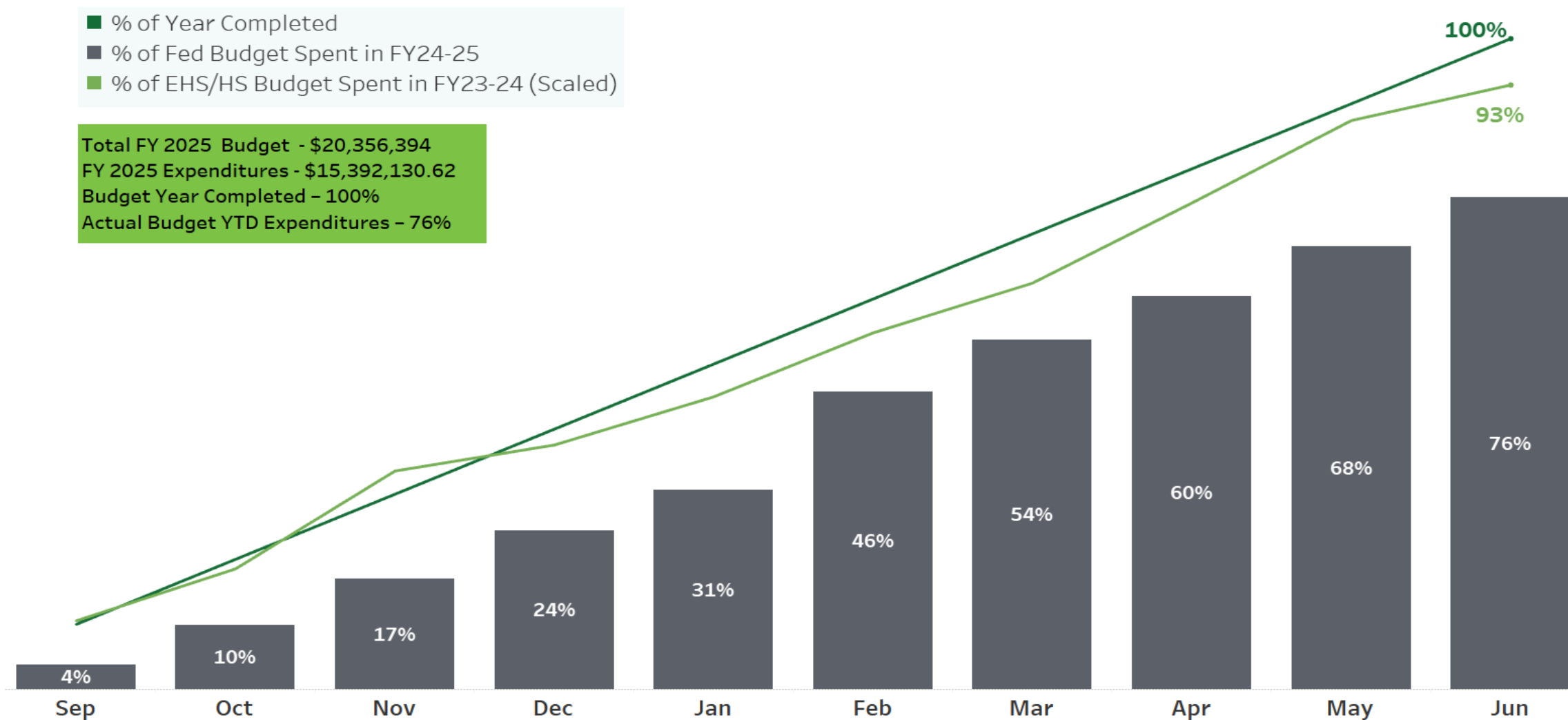
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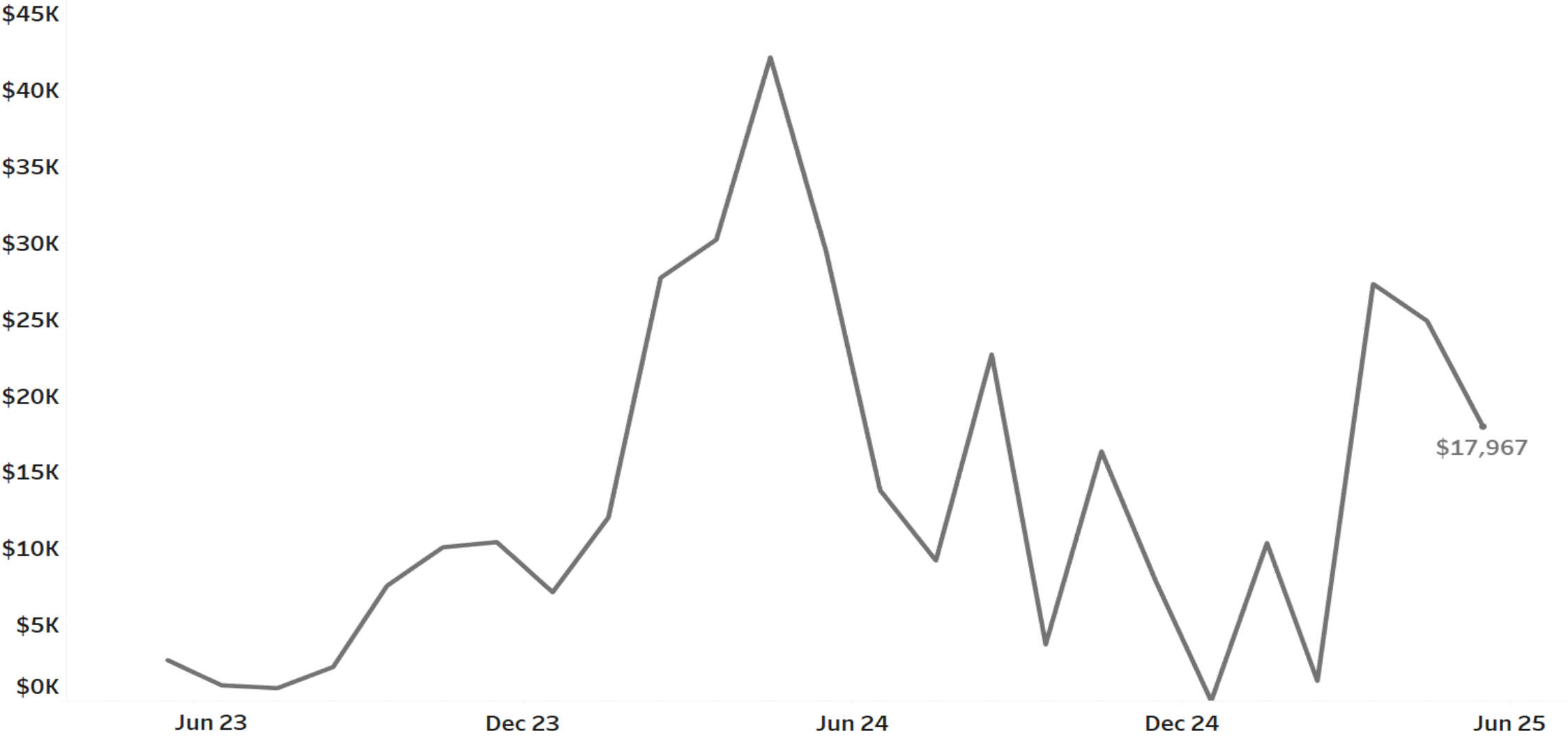


Head Start Budget Expenditures



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Head Start Credit Card Expenditures



All credit card expenditures are made by authorized staff for budgeted purchases to support reasonable program expenditures.

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Upcoming OHS FY26 Monitoring Review

Notified on July 22, 2025 that receiving a monitoring review in FY26.

Expected a review during years 2 or 3 of Head Start grant (currently in year 2).

OHS announced a new monitoring review (the Program Systems Review) will be replacing the current review but has not released information or protocol for the new review.

Review date will be announced 45 days in advance.

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OHS Program Instruction

Program Instruction ACF-OHS-PI-25-02 issued: July 29, 2025

Subject: One-time Supplemental Funds for Nutrition and Healthy Eating for Head Start Children and Families

Information: Outlines the process for Head Start grant recipients to request supplemental funds to promote nutrition services and healthy eating for enrolled children and families. OHS' response to feedback from some Head Start programs that a lack of funding can be a barrier to improving or expanding their nutrition services and support for healthy eating to align with ACF-OHS-IM-25-03 issued earlier this year.

Action: Staff are reviewing the new funding opportunity.



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Recommendation

CONSIDER accepting the monthly update on the activities and oversight of the County's Head Start Program and provide guidance, as recommended by the Employment and Human Services Director.

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2025 Head Start Governance Updates Calendar

	Federal Requirement*	1/21/25	2/25/25	3/25/25	4/15/25	5/20/25	6/24/25	7/22/25	8/12/25	9/16/25	10/21/25	11/18/25	12/16/25
1. Monthly Program Updates	HSA 642(d)(2) HSPPS 1301.2(b)(2)	Nov-Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	None	Mar-Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	None	Jul '25	Aug-Sep '25	None	Oct '25
2. Monthly Financial Updates	HSA 642(d)(2) HSPPS 1301.2(b)(2)	Nov '24	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25
3. Funder Communications	HSA 642(d)(2) HSPPS 1301.2(b)(2)	Dec '24	Jan '25	Feb '25	Mar '25	Apr '25	May '25	Jun '25	Jul '25	Aug '25	Sep '25	Oct '25	Nov '25
4. Annual HS Governance and Eligibility Training	HSA 642(d)(3) HSPPS 1301.5, 1302.12(m)		Training										
5. Annual Goals and Objectives (included in Grant application)	HSPPS 1302.102(a)			Approval Item									
6. Annual Non-Competitive Grant Renewal Application	HSA 642(c)(1)(E) HSPSS 1301.2(b)(1)			Approval Item									
7. Annual Selection Criteria and Recruitment Plan	HSPSS 1302.13, 1302.14(a)				Approval Item								
8. Annual Community Needs Assessment	HSA 640(g)(1)(C) HSPPS 1302.11(b), 1302.102(d)(2)									Approval Item			
9. FY25-26 Planning Calendar	HSA 640(g)(1)(D) HSPPS 1302.11(b), 1302.102(d)(2)									Approval Item			
10. Annual Self-Assessment	HSA 642(d)(2) HSPPS 1302.102(b)(2)									Approval Item			
11. Annual County Single Financial Audit	HSA 642(d)(2) HSPPS 1301.2(b)(2)									Approval Item			
12. Annual Program Information Report	45 CFR Part 75										Share Results		
13. CSB Agency Policies & Procedures	HSA 642(c)(1)(E)	As needed											

Contra Costa County Resolution 2023/274 includes all of these requirements.

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Planned



Completed