

Early Childhood Education Program Update



April 15, 2025

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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES

Outline

Topic	Federal Head Start	State Child Care
Prior Meeting Updates		
Federal Environment Updates	To date	
Child Care Center Services	✓	✓
Policy Council Actions	Mar 2025	
Budget	Feb 2025	Feb 2025
Monitoring		
Official Funder Communication	Mar 2025	Mar 2025
Recommendations	✓	
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



1. Federal Funding Restrictions for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives

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Admissions Priorities & Selection Criteria

Infants and Toddlers (Ages 0-2)

1. Recipients of Child Protective Services (CPS) | At risk for CPS | In Foster Care
2. Lowest income (tie breaker criteria)

Pre-School (Ages 3-5)

1. Recipients of Child Protective Services (CPS) | At risk for CPS | In Foster Care
2. With disabilities
3. 4-year-olds not in Transitional Kindergarten (tie breaker criteria)
4. 3-year-olds with lowest income (tie breaker criteria)
5. Income no more than 15% above income guidelines (tie breaker criteria)



Child Recruitment Goals

Desired Outcome: To inform the public about services available through the Contra Costa County Community Services Bureau, particularly those populations identified in our Community Assessment, to recruit and enroll eligible children and their families into the Head Start, Early Head Start and Early Education and Support Programs, and maintain 97% enrollment. Recruitment activities as outlined in this plan will result in maintenance of an active waitlist of eligible children and families to ensure slots are filled promptly after vacancy.

Goal 1: Recruit eligible pregnant women, infants, toddlers, and children

Goal 2: Recruit children with disabilities

Goal 3: Recruit special populations as per our Community Assessment and Selection Criteria

Goal 4: To maintain 97% enrollment.

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March 2025 Policy Council Actions

The Head Start Policy Council convened on March 19, 2025. Key actions included:

- Approval of 2025-2026 Early Head Start and Head Start Program Continuation Grant, approved by Board on 3/25/25
- Approval of Head Start Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Revision, approved by Board on 3/25/25
- Approval of 2025-2026 Admissions Priorities & Selection Criteria and 2025-2026 Recruitment & Enrollment Plan, submitted to the Board today

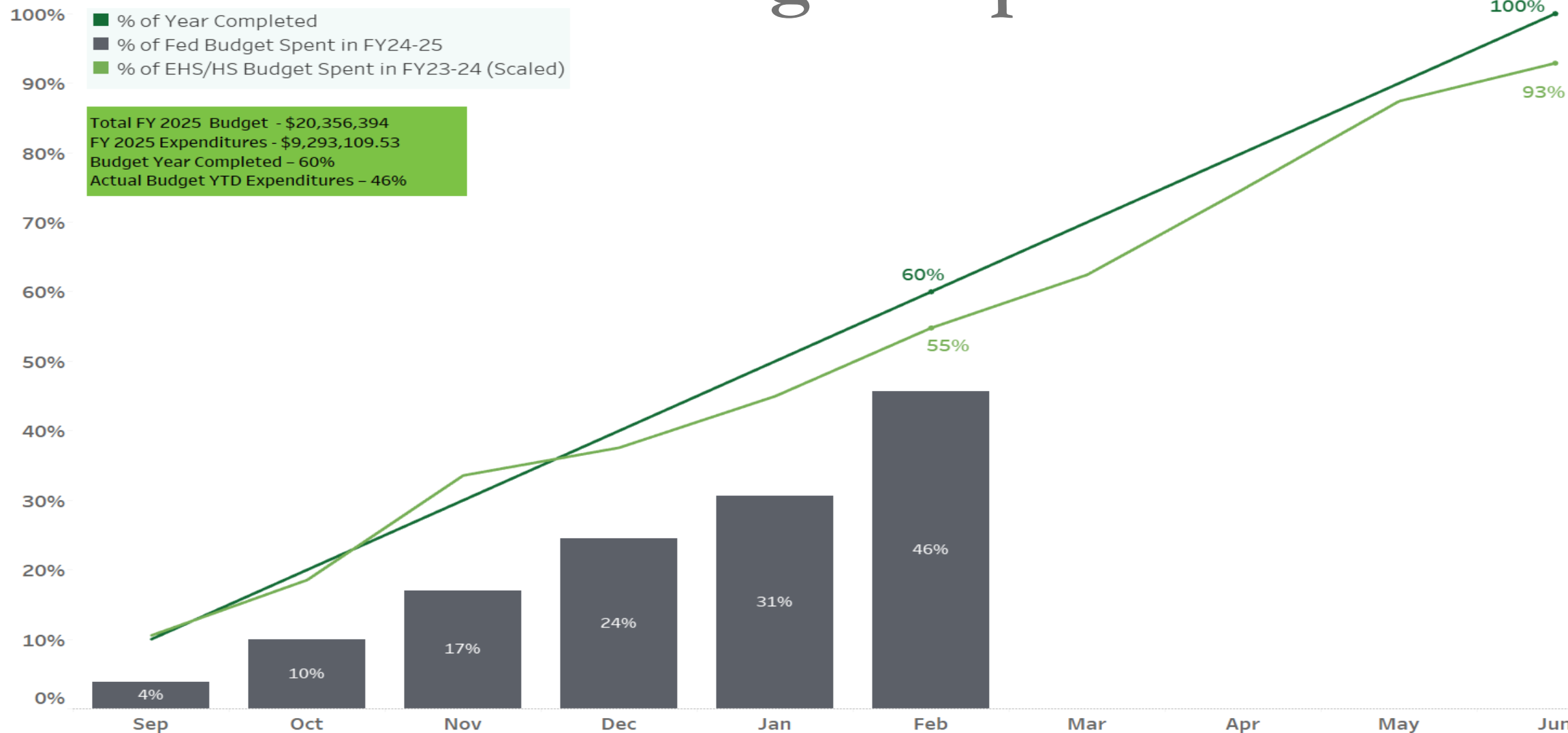
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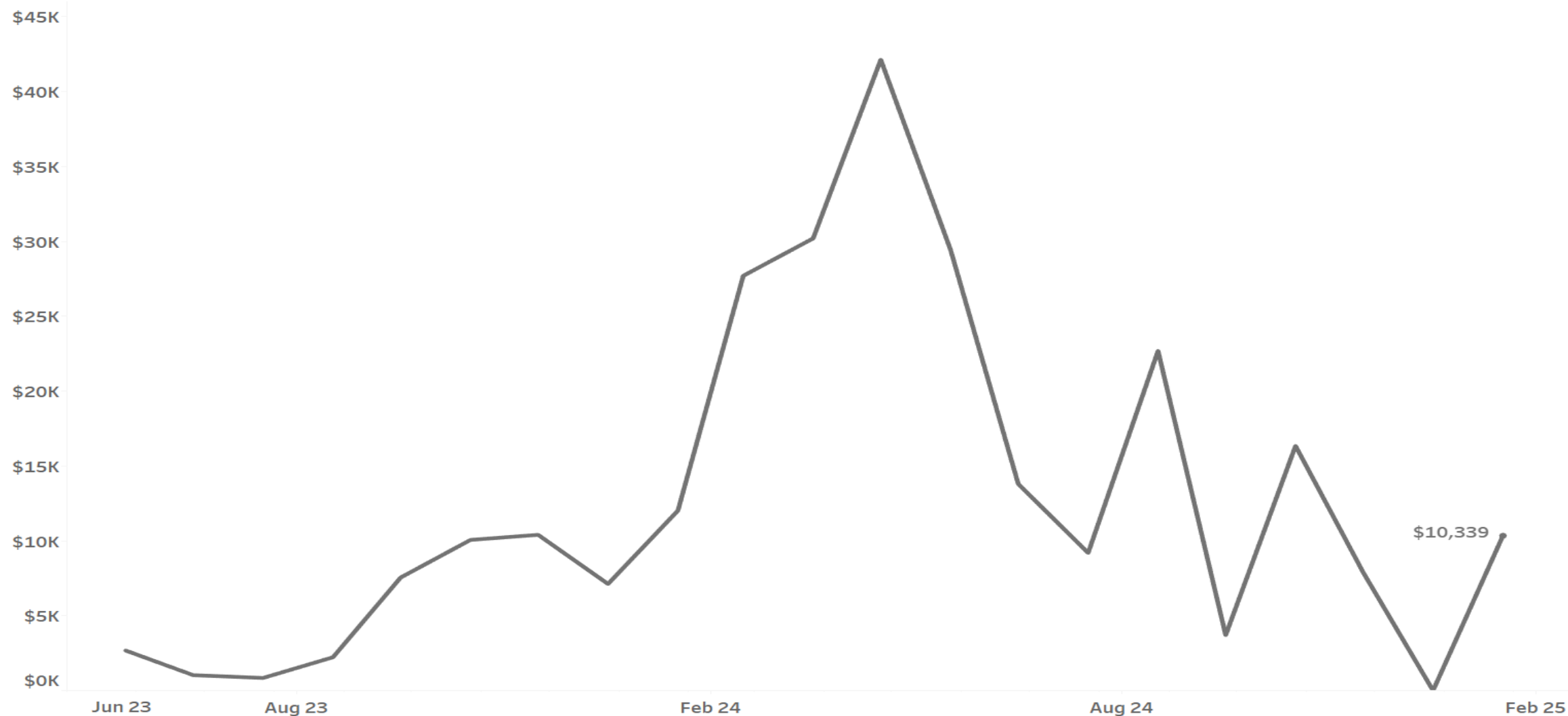


Head Start Budget Expenditures



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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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OHS Information Memorandum

Information Memorandum ACF-OHS-IM-25-03 issued: March 19, 2025

Subject: Promoting Healthy Eating and Nutrition for Head Start Children and Families

Information: Affirms the critical role of Head Start programs in ensuring children and families have access to healthy food and comprehensive nutrition services. Includes an overview of relevant statutory and regulatory requirements and reminds programs of the resources and partnerships available to support robust nutrition services for children and families.

Action: Our current procedures have been, and remain, compliant with this guidance.



CDSS Child Care Bulletin

Child Care Bulletin 25-04 issued: March 14, 2025

Subject: Program Self-Evaluation for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Information: Describes the requirements for the Program Self-Evaluation process for child care and development contractors. Guidance is provided on the submission requirements as well as all the required documents to be maintained onsite by contract type.

Action: Staff reviewed the guidance to prepare for our Program Self-Evaluation. It will be completed by the June 1, 2025 deadline.



CDE Management Bulletin

Child Care Bulletin 25-02 issued: March 19, 2025

Subject: Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Program Self-Evaluation for California State Preschool Program Contractors

Information: Provides guidance to California State Preschool Program contractors of the requirements and instructions for submitting the Program Self-Evaluation.

Action: Staff reviewed the guidance to prepare for our Program Self-Evaluation. It will be completed by the June 2, 2025 deadline.



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Recommendations

CONSIDER accepting the monthly update on the activities and oversight of the County's Head Start Program,

APPROVE the Head Start Program's 2025-2026 Admission Priorities and Selection Criteria and Recruitment and Enrollment Plan,

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 '26	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)							Review Plan				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

HSPPS Compliance Timeline Progress Chart

