EXPLORING OPTIONS TO ESTABLISH A SAFETY NET BRIDGE PROGRAM TO ADDRESS ANTICIPATED GAPS IN SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS DISENROLLED FROM BENEFIT PROGRAMS

SANDIEGOCOUNTY.GOV

Presentation for Health Services Advisory Board (HSAB)

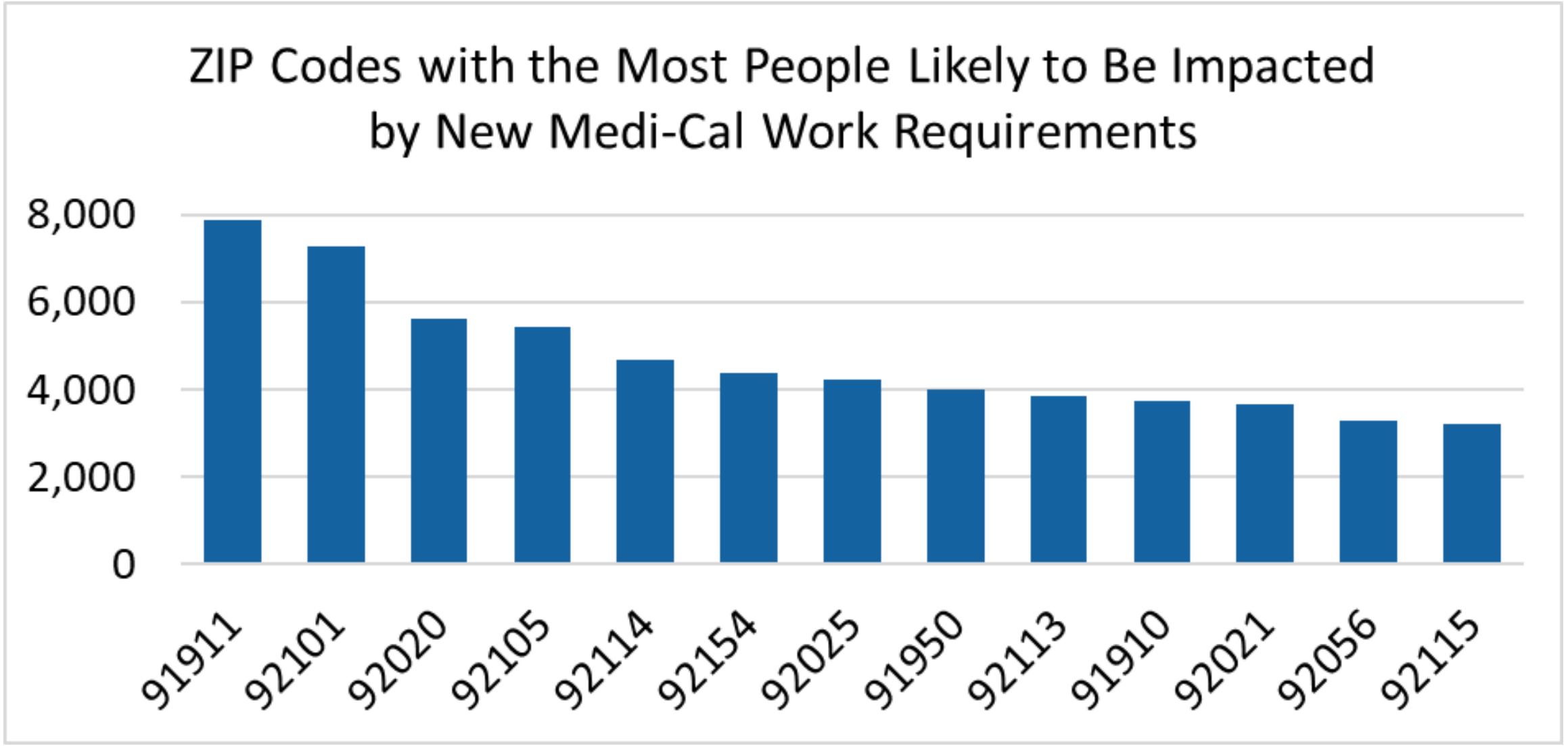
March 10, 2026

BOARD DIRECTION

Explore opportunities to establish a Safety Net Bridge Program to address anticipated gaps in services due to barriers created by shifts in federal policy, specifically, implementation of work requirements.

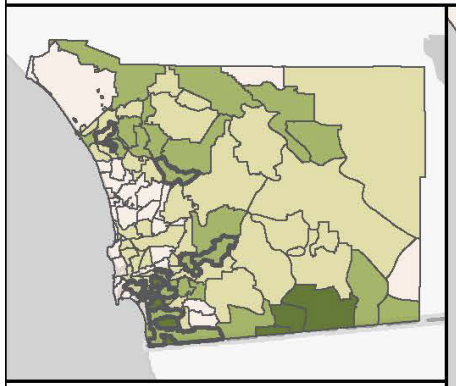
The Program would provide the following services at no cost to persons who experience a temporary gap in Medi-Cal benefits:

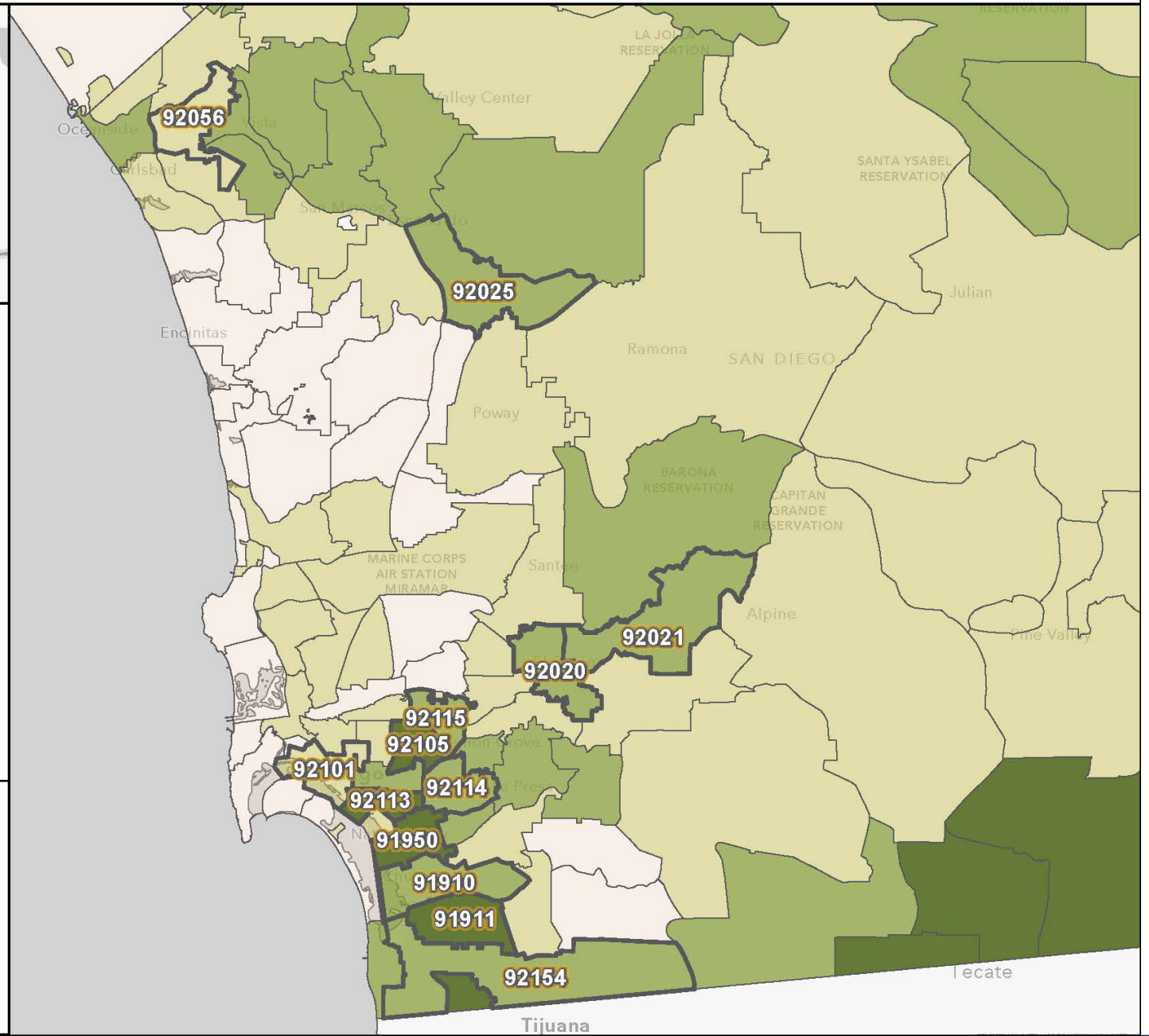
- Primary care medical services
- Prescription medication
- Access to fresh food



Note: Count of people per ZIP code used the following criteria: Aid Code = M1, between 40-64 years old, and ZIP code is recipient's provided physical address. Recipients using a Family Resource Center (FRC) as their address (primarily people experiencing homelessness) were combined with the associated physical ZIP code of that FRC. Medi-Cal recipients active January 2026.
Source: County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Self Sufficiency Services. CalSAWS. February 27, 2026.

ZIP Codes with the Most People Likely to Be Impacted by New Medi-Cal Work Requirements





- High level of vulnerability
- Medium to high level of vulnerability
- Low to medium level of vulnerability
- Low level of vulnerability
- 3,000 or more individuals impacted *

* Count of people per ZIP Code used the following criteria: Aid Code = M1, between 40-64 years old, ZIP Code is recipient's provided physical address, physical addresses with a PO Box ZIP Code were combined with the associated physical ZIP Code, and Medi-Cal recipients active January 2026.

Map created 3/6/2026 by HHSA-OBI

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

SUMMARY OF PRIMARY CARE TRANSITIONAL ACCESS CLINIC OPTIONS

Transitional Access Clinic Option	Description
1. Telehealth Transitional Access Clinic	A low-barrier, scalable virtual model leveraging County volunteers or Community Health Centers with minimal facility requirements but requires investment in telehealth platforms and pharmacy strategies.
2. Expand Capacity at Existing Free Clinics	Builds on two existing free clinic networks to add clinic sites, medication support, and eligibility assistance.
3. Mobile Medical Units at Live Well Centers	Deploys mobile clinics at County Live Well Centers. Timelines are shorter than brick-and-mortar clinics but require pharmacy solutions and staffing.
4. County-Operated Clinics at Live Well Centers	Establishes permanent primary care clinics within existing County facilities. Requires the most significant infrastructure, licensing, and IT investments.
5. Mobile Medical Units at Community Health Fairs	Can be deployed quickly and provides flexible, geographically targeted services through mobile medical units in partnership with community health centers to “meet people where they are.”
6. Contract with Community Health Centers for Medical Care and Linkage to Social Services	Subsidizes visits, medication, and food through existing clinic contracts (similar to CMS model), enabling residents to remain with their established primary care providers.

1. TELEHEALTH TRANSITIONAL ACCESS CLINIC

A low-barrier, scalable virtual model that leverages County volunteers or Community Health Centers

Provide care via telehealth with County volunteer providers	Provide care via telehealth with Community Health Center(s)
Primary Care Services • Operated by volunteer providers Medication • Purchase and mail medications to patients via next day delivery at County's wholesale pricing and pharmacy staffing Eligibility Services • Warm handoff to Self Sufficiency Services Case Management • Community health workers or patient navigators	Primary Care Services • Operated by Community Health Centers Medication • Purchase and mail medications to patients via next day delivery leveraging Section 340-B drug pricing discounts Eligibility Services • Connect with County SSS staff through CBO line Case Management • Community health workers or patient navigators

2. EXPAND CAPACITY AT EXISTING FREE CLINICS

- Build on two existing free clinic networks to add clinic sites for primary care, medication support, eligibility assistance, and case management
- Currently, five free clinic sites provide primary care, medication, and behavioral health services, as well as limited specialty services, including dental.

Volunteers in Medicine SAN DIEGO

Modular clinic located in East region

UC San Diego SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Four sites located in churches and schools in Central and East regions

3. MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS AT LIVE WELL CENTERS

Deploy mobile clinics at County Live Well Centers to expand services offered onsite

Partner with a Community Health Center to Operate a Mobile Clinic at Live Well Center(s)	Operate a County-operated mobile clinic at Live Well Center(s)
Primary Care Services • Partner CHC with mobile unit to provide services outside a Live Well Center Medication • Partner with a CHC for Section 340-B pricing • Utilize LiveWOW as a mobile pharmacy with limited formulary • County Pharmacy to mail medications to patients Eligibility Services • On site at Live Well Centers Case Management • Community health workers or patient navigators	Primary Care Services • County LiveWOW mobile unit to provide primary care services at Live Well Center Medication • Utilize LiveWOW as a mobile pharmacy with limited formulary • County Pharmacy to mail medications to patients Eligibility Services • On site at Live Well Centers Case Management • Community health workers or patient navigators

4. COUNTY-OPERATED CLINICS AT LIVE WELL CENTERS

Establish permanent primary care clinics within existing County Live Well Centers to operate a primary care clinic, pharmacy, and food distribution site.

Requires the most significant infrastructure, licensing, and IT investments.

Service Areas:

- Primary Care Services
  - Establish primary care clinic within PHC at Live Well Center operated by County staff and volunteers
- Medication
  - Build out and license a retail pharmacy and provide medications onsite
- Eligibility Services
  - Currently onsite
- Case Management
  - Provide CHWs or patient navigators to assist with linkage and follow up

5. MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS AT COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIRS

Provides flexible, geographically targeted services through mobile medical units in partnership with community health centers to “meet people where they are.”

Partner with a Community Health Center to Operate a Mobile Clinic at community sites	Operate a County-operated mobile clinic at community sites
Primary Care Services • Add capacity to existing community-based free clinics Medication • Partner with a CHC for Section 340-B pricing • Utilize LiveWOW as a mobile pharmacy with limited formulary • County Pharmacy to mail medications to patients Eligibility Services • Utilize a LiveWOW for onsite eligibility staff Case Management • Community health workers or patient navigators	Primary Care Services • County LiveWOW mobile unit to provide primary care services at community sites Medication • Utilize LiveWOW as a mobile pharmacy with limited formulary • County Pharmacy to mail medications to patients Eligibility Services • Utilize a LiveWOW for onsite eligibility staff Case Management • Community health workers or patient navigators

6. CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS FOR MEDICAL CARE AND LINKAGE TO SOCIAL SERVICES

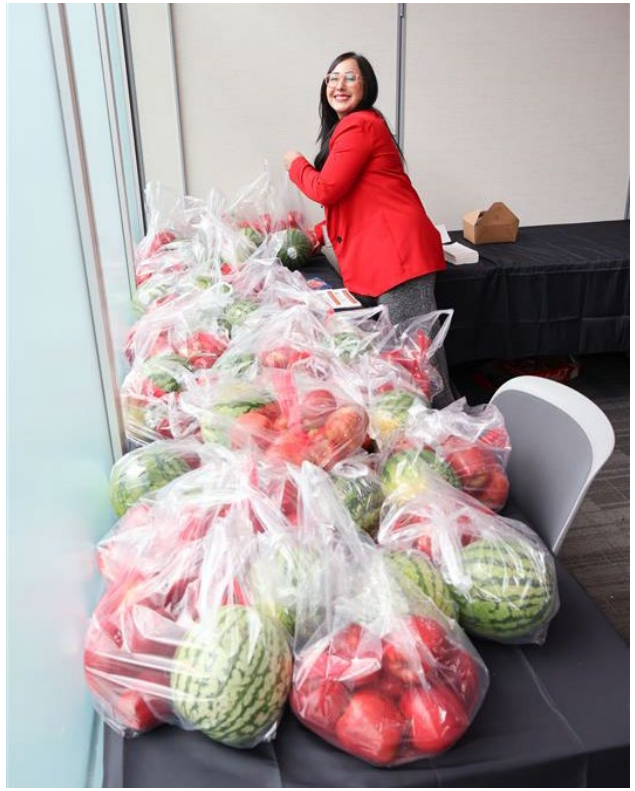
Subsidizes visits, medication, and food through existing clinic contracts, enabling residents to maintain continuity of care and remain with their established primary care providers.

Service Areas:

- Primary Care Services
  - Contract with existing primary care providers to cover the cost of medical visits, medication, and food
- Medication
  - Provider reimbursed for costs
- Eligibility Services
  - Dedicated CBO telephone line for direct access to Self Sufficiency Services
- Case Management
  - County or contracted community health worker or patient navigator

FOOD ACCESS OPTIONS

- Add purchased or leased cold storage capacity at a County owned facility, either within the facility or with a refrigerated container immediately outside the facility
- Purchase or lease a refrigerated truck for County mobile use
- Support local food bank/pantry/hub with purchase of a new refrigerated truck
- Support local food distribution organizations to increase cold food storage capacity
- Support local food distribution organizations to expand the number of households served through increased number of events/sites
- Support local food distribution organizations through increased storage of non-perishable food options



QUESTIONS?

SANDIEGOCOUNTY.GOV