Evaluation of the Recovery Action Fund for Tomorrow Program

Technical Appendices

April 2026

County of San Diego Office of Evaluation, Performance, and Analytics

Better Government Lab, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University

Table of Appendices

Appendix A: Program Logic and Recruitment

Theory of Change/Logic Model

The RAFT program was designed to provide eligible households with a one-time cash payment of $4,000 to families with children, older adults, and people at risk of experiencing homelessness. Participants were free to spend the money as they wanted, for instance to pay off debt, cover medical and other bills, increase time spent at home, or invest in their future through education. The expected short- and medium-term program outcomes included helping families feel more financially stable and prepared for emergencies, strengthen family relationships (protective factors), reduce housing and food insecurity, and improve mental health and confidence. Over the longer term, the program was expected to help lessen families' need for public assistance programs such as CalFresh, CalWORKs, and homeless services by helping them build a stronger and more independent financial foundation.

RAFT Logic Model

Inputs	Activities/ Output	Short/Medium-Term Outcomes	Long-Term Outcomes
Receive $4,000 one-time payment	**Pay Debts**	More prepared for emergencies	Reduce need for/use of welfare benefits (CalFresh, CalWORKs, etc.)
	Save (long term, for emergencies, etc.)	Strengthen family relationship (protective factors)	
	Invest (education, etc.)	Decrease housing/food insecurity	
	Relief for ongoing expenses (rent, bills, etc.)	Improved mental health, self-efficacy	

Recruitment and Application Screening Process

The RAFT program recruited applicants through a mix of public outreach and community engagement. The County promoted the program through press releases, conference presentations, and media interviews. Jewish Family Service (JFS) reached out to residents through community conversations, meetings with other local organizations, presentations at standing community events, and focus groups.

When people applied to the program, they reported household income, household composition, and zip code through an automated pre-screening tool. They also submitted

documentation verifying reported income. Then, they completed a full application and baseline survey through a secure, multilingual online platform. JFS screened applicants for eligibility in phases: first, an initial screening for basic eligibility, removal of duplicate applications and applications from the same household; second a more comprehensive screening before a selected applicant received cash. Of the more than 20,000 individuals who applied, 9,546 passed initial eligibility screening, applied, and were entered into the lottery for the cash transfer program. After randomization, 29 additional duplicate records were found, and the duplicate records were removed from the program, resulting in 9,517 in the overall pool of eligible applicants.

Applicants selected to receive payments underwent a second rigorous verification phase to provide further documentation to reconfirm basic eligibility and verify income, residency, and identity. Applicants who were identified as "at risk of homelessness" provided a notice of late rent payments for two or more months over the past year, a filed eviction notice, a written notice of intent to evict or a threat to vacate by landlord or property manager at any time within the last three months due to nonpayment of rent, or proof of living in a hotel or motel. If applicants were unable to provide any of those documents, they could submit a letter of support from a recognized community organization or agency. At this stage, applicants could elect to participate in optional program components, including supplemental care services and individual benefits counseling sessions with a JFS Enrollment Specialist.

Cash Payment Distribution

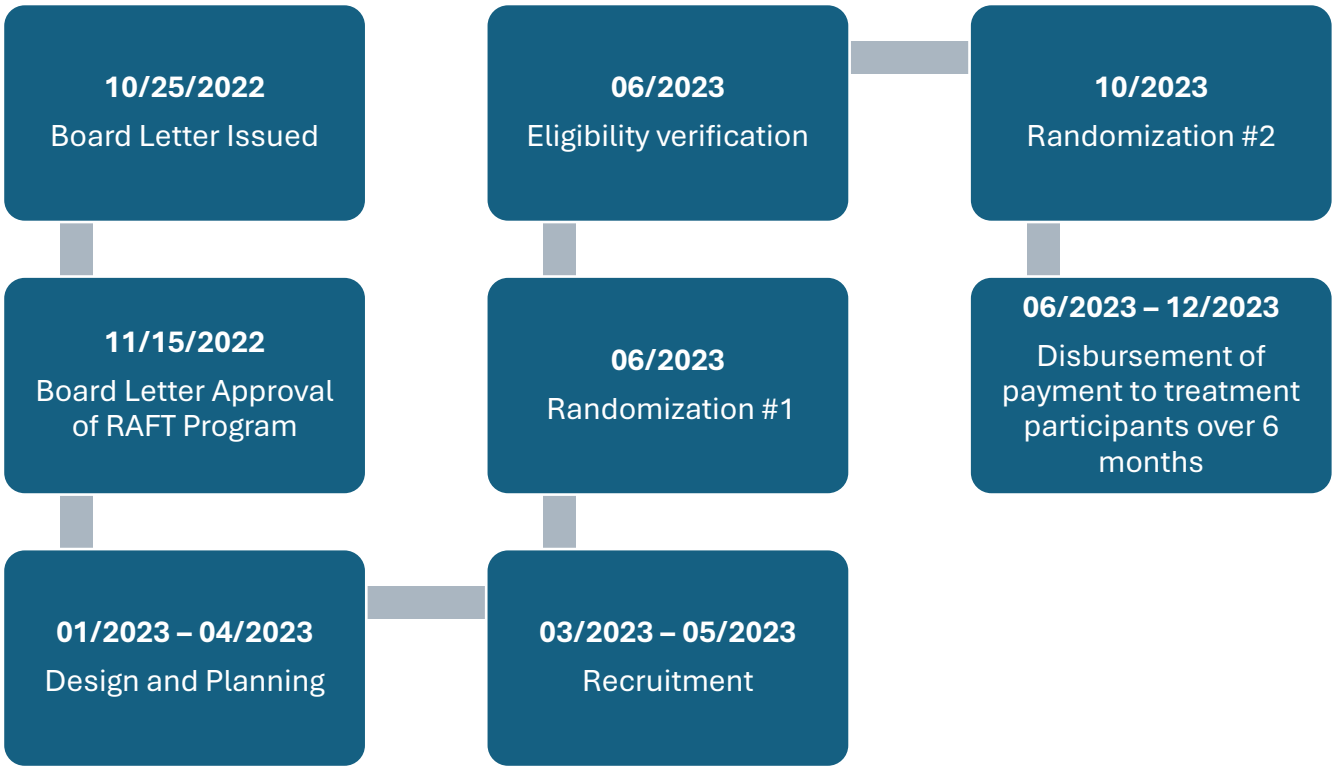
2,243 eligible, selected participants received the one-time payment of $4,000 through a pre-loaded, ATM-enabled debit card. The debit card was reloadable with no Social Security Number required. JFS sent the debit cards to participants via mail or arranged for the participant to pick it up at designated locations. The intention for distribution payments via debit cards was to not disrupt participant's eligibility and enrollment to public benefits. After randomization, the implementing organization did not have capacity to distribute the cash at the same time, so participants were given the disbursement in cohorts over the course of 6 months, from June 2023 – December 2023, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Cash Payment Distribution

Cohort (Month received cash)	Count
June 2023	113
July 2023	5
August 2023	996
September 2023	491
October 2023	52
November 2023	313
December 2023/February 2024*	273
Total	**2,243**

* One participant received payment in February 2024; for analysis purposes, this individual is grouped with the cohort who received payment in December 2023.

Program Timeline



Appendix B: RAFT Applicant Characteristics

Evaluation Sample at Baseline

Table 2 presents the baseline characteristics for individuals in the three priority groups: at-risk of homelessness, families, and seniors with no dependents.

Table 2: Demographics by Priority Group

Demographics	At risk of homelessness n (%)	Families n (%)	Seniors n (%)
Total	**506 (100%)**	**7,369 (100%)**	**1,642 (100%)**
Living Situation			
Unsheltered	43 (8%)	146 (2%)	111 (7%)
Sheltered	100 (20%)	984 (13%)	216 (13%)
Permanent Housing	363 (72%)	6,239 (85%)	1,315 (80%)
Age Category			
18-24	15 (3%)	304 (4%)	0 (0%)
25-34	155 (31%)	2,486 (34%)	0 (0%)
35-44	177 (35%)	2,556 (35%)	0 (0%)
45-54	65 (13%)	1,032 (14%)	8 (1%)
55 or older	94 (19%)	991 (13%)	1,634 (100%)
Number of children under 18*	2 (1, 3)	2 (1, 3)	0 (0, 0)
Household Size*	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	1 (1, 1)
Gender			
Female	389 (77%)	5,503 (75%)	1,125 (69%)
Male	114 (23%)	1,804 (24%)	496 (30%)
Other / Prefer not to say	3 (0.6%)	62 (0.8%)	21 (1.3%)
Hispanic	215 (42%)	3,842 (52%)	518 (32%)
Race **			
Native American / Alaska Native	16 (3.2%)	178 (2.4%)	43 (2.6%)
Asian	20 (4.0%)	495 (6.7%)	100 (6.1%)
Black / African	174 (34%)	1,674 (23%)	446 (27%)
Middle Eastern	10 (2.0%)	468 (6.4%)	76 (4.6%)
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	16 (3.2%)	118 (1.6%)	27 (1.6%)
White	99 (20%)	1,055 (14%)	473 (29%)
Other Race	19 (3.8%)	253 (3.4%)	52 (3.2%)
Home Language			
English	438 (87%)	5,081 (69%)	1,162 (71%)
Spanish	49 (9.7%)	1,436 (19%)	285 (17%)
Other	19 (3.8%)	852 (12%)	195 (12%)

* Median (Q1, Q3)

** Not mutually exclusive, participants were allowed to pick more than one race.

Demographics	At risk of homelessness n(%)	Families n(%)	Seniors n(%)
Highest Education			
Primary education	80 (16%)	1,748 (24%)	516 (31%)
High school diploma or GED	151 (30%)	2,095 (28%)	406 (25%)
Post-secondary nondegree	193 (38%)	2,431 (33%)	466 (28%)
Post-secondary degree	82 (16%)	1,095 (15%)	254 (15%)
Monthly Income ($)*	1,130 (114, 2,290)	1,667 (267, 2,667)	1,079 (117, 1,475)

* Median (Q1, Q3)

Appendix C: Data Sources

The evaluation used the initial program application, surveys, and existing County administrative benefits databases. Data spanned from as early as December 2022 to as late as July 2024, covering 6 months prior to the earliest cash offer date and 6 months following the latest cash distribution date.

Some categorical variables were consolidated as indicated below.

Application Data

- *Program Administration*
    - Randomization results and treatment assignment status
    - Date of offer when selected individuals were emailed to request additional eligibility verification prior to receiving cash
    - Date of receipt of the cash transfer
- *Demographic and Household*: Individual and household level data was collected through the program application and used as covariates in the statistical analysis.
    - Living situation – consolidated into 3 categories from the original question of "Where do you live right now?"
        - Unsheltered: Living in a car, tent, or outside
        - Sheltered: Living in a hotel or motel, couch surfing, shelter or transitional housing or halfway house
        - Permanently housing: Rent a house, apartment or room, or own a house, apartment, or condominium
    - Age – presented in five categories
        - 18-24
        - 25-34
        - 35-44
        - 45-54
        - 55 or older
    - Hispanic Ethnicity
    - Race –consolidated into seven categories from choose all that apply for race.
        - Native American / Alaskan Native
        - Asian
        - Black / African: includes Black and African
        - Middle Eastern
        - Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
        - White
        - Other Race

- Gender – consolidate into three categories
  - Female
  - Male
  - Other / Prefer not to say: includes gender non-conforming/non-binary and prefer not to say
- Education level - consolidated into four categories from the original question of "What is your highest level of education?"
  - Primary education: No formal education, elementary, junior high school, or some high school
  - High school diploma or GED: High school diploma or GED
  - Post-secondary nondegree: Trade/vocational training or some college
  - Post-secondary degree: 2-year college degree (Associate's), 4-year college degree (Bachelor's), or advanced degree
- Household monthly income – presented as a median, with the 25th and 75th percentile, consolidated into four categorized for the outcome regressions
  - 25th percentile
  - 50th percentile
  - 75th percentile
  - 100th percentile
- Household size - presented as a median, with the 25th and 75th percentile
- Number of children and dependent adults - presented as a median, with the 25th and 75th percentile
- Household language – consolidated into three categories
  - English
  - Spanish
  - Other

Survey Well-Being Outcomes

Three existing, validated survey scales were administered, Flourishing, Protective factors (divided into subscales for Family Functioning and Social Support), and Food Insecurity. The survey scales are included in full below:

Flourishing Scale[1]

Flourishing Survey Questions
Overall, how satisfied are you with life as a whole these days?

[1] VanderWeele, T.J. (2017). On the promotion of human flourishing. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A., 31:8148-8156.https://hfh.fas.harvard.edu/measuring-flourishing

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Not Satisfied at All Completely Satisfied

In general, how happy or unhappy do you usually feel?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Extremely Unhappy Extremely Happy

In general, how would you rate your physical health?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Poor Excellent

How would you rate your overall mental health?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Poor Excellent

Overall, to what extent do you feel the things you do in your life are worthwhile?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Not at all Worthwhile Completely Worthwhile

I understand my purpose in life.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

I always act to promote good in all circumstances, even in difficult and challenging

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Not True of Me Completely True of Me

I am always able to give up some happiness now for greater happiness later

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Not True of Me Completely True of Me

I am content with my friendships and relationships.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

My relationships are as satisfying as I would want them to be.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

-

Protective Factors Scales[2]

- For the following questions, please mark the response that most closely matches how you feel.

Family Function Survey Questions				
The future looks good for our family.				
Not at all like my life (0)	Not much like my life (1)	Somewhat like my life (2)	Quite a lot like my life (3)	Just like my life (4)
In my family, we take time to listen to each other.				
Not at all like my life (0)	Not much like my life (1)	Somewhat like my life (2)	Quite a lot like my life (3)	Just like my life (4)
There are things we do as a family that are special just to us.				
Not at all like my life (0)	Not much like my life (1)	Somewhat like my life (2)	Quite a lot like my life (3)	Just like my life (4)

Social Support Survey Questions				
I have people who believe in me.				
Not at all like my life (0)	Not much like my life (1)	Somewhat like my life (2)	Quite a lot like my life (3)	Just like my life (4)
I have someone in my life who gives me advice, even when it's hard to hear.				
Not at all like my life (0)	Not much like my life (1)	Somewhat like my life (2)	Quite a lot like my life (3)	Just like my life (4)
When I am trying to work on achieving a goal, I have friends who will support me.				
Not at all like my life (0)	Not much like my life (1)	Somewhat like my life (2)	Quite a lot like my life (3)	Just like my life (4)
I have people I trust to ask for advice about (check all that apply):				
Money/bills/budgeting (+1)	Relationships and/or my love life (+1)	Food/nutrition (+1)	Parenting/my kids (+1)	Stress, anxiety, and/or depression (+1)	None of the above

[2] FRIENDS National Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (2021). Protective Factors Survey (PFS-2). Ohio Children's Trust Fund. Source link https://octf.ohio.gov/resources-for-professionals/reporting-tools/protective-factors-survey-retrospective

Food Insecurity Scale[3]

Food Insecurity Survey Questions		
How often was the following statement true for your household in the last 12 months?		
Often true (1)	Sometimes true (1)	Never true (0)
The food that we bought just did not last, and we did not have money to get more.		
Often true (1)	Sometimes true (1)	Never true (0)
We could not afford to eat balanced meals.		
Often true (1)	Sometimes true (1)	Never true (0)
In the last 12 months, did you or other adults in your household ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there was not enough money for food?		
Yes (1)	No (0)	
You selected "Yes" above. How often did this happen?		
Almost every month (1)	Some months, but not every month (1)	Only one or two months (0)
In the last 12 months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there was not enough money for food?		
Yes (1)	No (0)	
In the last 12 months, were you ever hungry but did not eat because there was not enough money for food?		
Yes (1)	No (0)	

Summary Scores

Summary scores were calculated for each validated instrument for the well-being outcomes (both at baseline and follow-up) based on scoring guidelines provided by the scale developers. Prior to calculating the scores, all item responses were recoded into numeric values per the respective scale instructions. Summary scores were treated as continuous variables for the estimation of program effects. Scores were calculated if there were two or fewer missing responses - see the Missing Data subsection below for full details.

[3] Economic Research Service, USDA (1995, updated 2012) U.S. Household Food Security Survey Module https://www.ers.usda.gov/media/8278/hh2012.doc

- Flourishing (Well-Being): Each of the 10 items was recoded on a 0–10 scale, with higher scores indicating greater self-reported well-being. The summary score was calculated as the mean of all 10 item ratings.[4]
- Protective Factors: This instrument includes two subscales—Family Functioning/Resilience and Social Supports. Each item was recoded on a scale from 0 to 4, with higher values representing stronger protective factors. Subscale scores were calculated as the mean of the relevant item ratings, resulting in scores ranging from 0 to 4.
- Food Insecurity: Items were recoded as binary (0 or 1), with 1 indicating higher food insecurity. Subscale scores were calculated as the mean of the relevant item ratings multiplied by 6 (representing 6 questions), resulting in scores ranging from 0 to 6. For consistency in interpretation, food insecurity was reverse coded to reflect food security, so that higher values uniformly represent more favorable outcomes across all scales

Both baseline and follow-up survey scales were standardized prior to analysis to facilitate comparability across outcome results. Scores were transformed by subtracting its mean and dividing by its standard deviation, resulting in standardized units where each regression coefficient can be interpreted as the estimated change in the outcome, measured in standard deviations, associated with treatment assignment.

Administrative Benefits Data

The analysis used linked administrative records to track participation in:

- Use of state-level CalFresh (SNAP) and CalWORKs (TANF) programs, tracked through the CalSAWS database managed by the County Office of Self-Sufficiency Services.
- Homelessness assistance, tracked through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and reported to the Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH)

Combining Data Sources

Benefits data:

Data spanned from as early as December 2022 to as late as July 2024, covering 6 months prior to and 6 months following each individual's cash offer date. Individual level data from the application, survey, and administrative data were combined using probabilistic

[4] https://hfh.fas.harvard.edu/measuring-flourishing

matching. The Office of Evaluation, Performance, and Analytics (OEPA) partnered with Self-Sufficiency Services (S-SS) to match RAFT participant data with CalSAWS benefits records. This process aimed to identify RAFT participants within the CalSAWS system using personally identifiable information (PII).

Prior to matching, non-standard characters (emojis, images, Arabic script) were removed or translated to resolve export errors and ensure compatibility with matching scripts.

S-SS used the software tool Apex to match program data using the following fields:

- Full Name
- Age Range (±3 years)
- Full/Partial Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address

Various combinations of the fields, using both deterministic and probabilistic methods, were applied to generate matches with varying levels of confidence. Duplicates were resolved by retaining the record with the highest confidence level. Automated and manual checks were conducted to assess match quality and validate matching accuracy.

HMIS data

OEPA partnered with the Regional Task Force on Homelessness (RTFH) to match RAFT program data from the HMIS system. RTFH performed a loose exact match using:

- Full/Partial Name
- Age Range (±3 years)
- Full/Partial Address
- Phone Number
- Email Address

RTFH provided OEPA with a wide range of potential matches along with demographic characteristics (gender, race). OEPA conducted a further probabilistic match on this data to determine the highest likelihood matches.

Appendix D: Randomization

Program Eligibility and Priority Groups

RAFT Participants were categorized into one of three priority groups:

Priority Group	Label	Definition
1	At risk of homelessness	Individuals verified as being at risk of or experiencing homelessness
2	Families	Individuals with children or adult dependents who were not at risk of homelessness
3	Seniors	Individuals aged 55 or older without any dependents who were not at risk of homelessness

The program aimed to ensure that 2,250 individuals received a cash transfer, while giving higher priority to applicants with greater need. To achieve this, individuals in Priority Group 1 were assigned a 50% higher probability of selection than individuals in Priority Group 2, who had a 50% higher probability than individuals in Priority Group 3. Final selection probabilities are displayed in Table 3:

Table 3: Selection Probabilities by Priority Group

Priority Group	Overall Selection Probability
At Risk of Homelessness	61%
Families	41%
Seniors	27%
Total	**40%**

Randomization Procedure

Applicants who passed the initial eligibility screening were randomly selected to be offered cash. Program staff reached out to selected applicants to conduct a secondary eligibility screening. Selected applicants who responded and were verified as eligible received a $4,000 cash payment via debit card.

For the analysis, treatment groups were defined as:

1. The “offered payment” group: individuals who were randomly selected to receive a cash transfer, regardless of whether they ultimately received it.
2. The “received payment” group: a subset of the offered group who actually received the cash transfer after completing eligibility verification.

3. The “no payment” or “control” group: individuals who were never offered the transfer.

First Randomization (Wave 1)

To minimize the risk of under-enrollment due to ineligibility, non-response, or refusal, the randomization included a waitlist group equal to 30% of the cash recipient group. In total, applicants in each priority group were randomly assigned to one of three conditions: offered cash (2,250 individuals), waitlist (675 individuals), or no cash (6,621 individuals).

These assignments constituted the first wave of randomization (“Wave 1”). All 675 applicants in the waitlist group were either eventually offered cash or found to be ineligible. As a result, there is no analytic distinction between the cash and waitlist groups for this wave.

Second Randomization (Wave 2)

Wave 1 did not yield enough enrolled recipients to meet the program’s minimum of 2,250 cash offers. In response, a second randomization (“Wave 2”) was conducted among the 6,621 individuals initially assigned to the no-payment group, resulting in 570 individuals selected to receive cash and 331 assigned to a new waitlist. 273 of 331 waitlisted individuals were offered payment. The remaining 58 individuals are considered equivalent to the no-cash group for analytic purposes.

After both rounds of randomization and offers,

- 2,243 individuals received cash
- 1,523 individuals were offered but did not receive cash
- 5,751 individuals were in the control group (not offered cash)

Overall, 40% of the 9,517 applicants were offered cash, and 23.4% ultimately received it.

Figure 1 summarizes the overall randomization process and Figure 2 and Figure 3 show the detailed randomization from each wave.

Figure 1: RAFT Randomization Process Summary

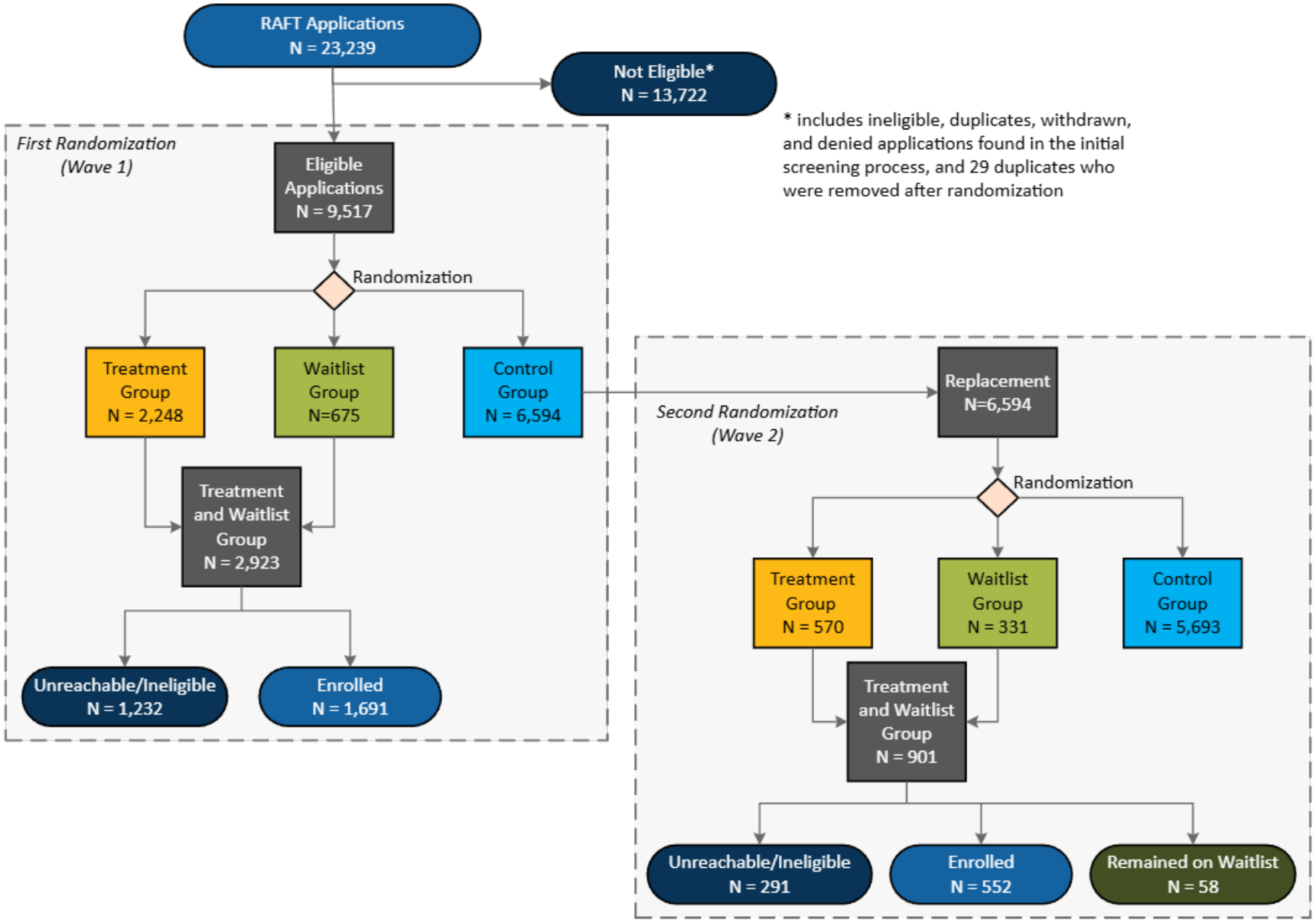


Figure 2: Wave 1 Randomization Process with Priority Groups

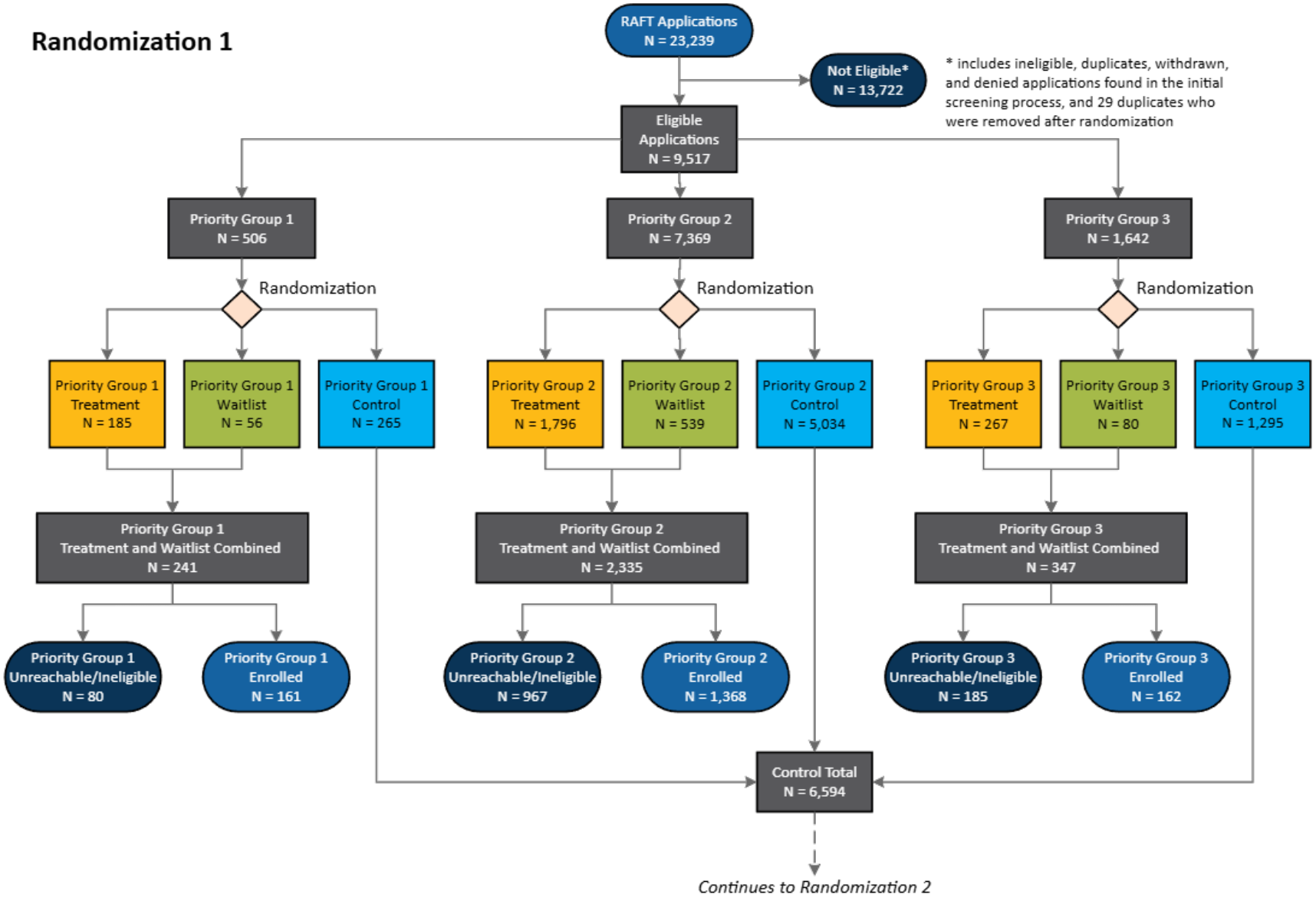
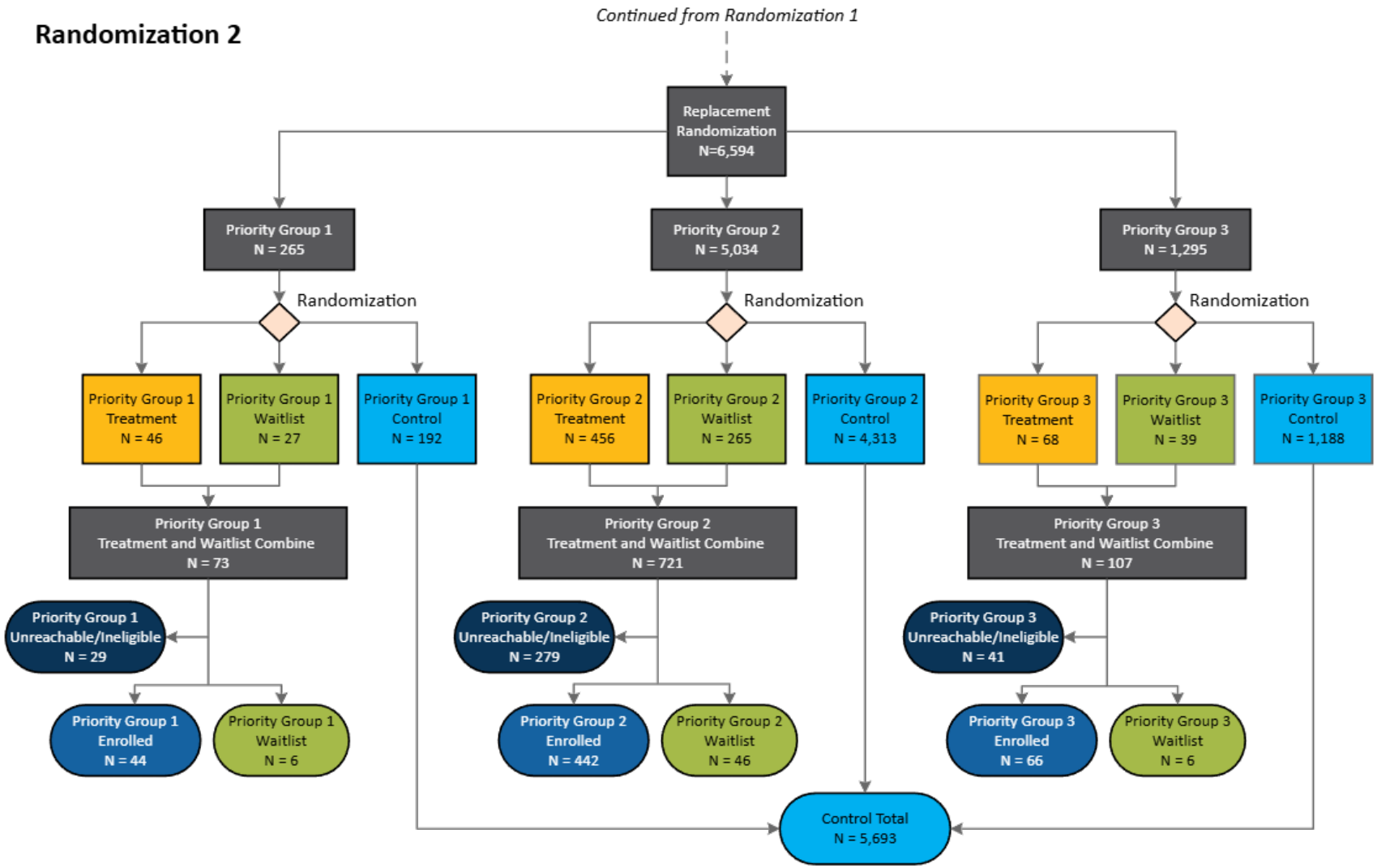


Figure 3: Wave 2 Randomization Process with Priority Groups



Final Treatment Assignment

Table 4: Cash Transfer Program Allocated Lottery Group Sizes

	Offered Payment		No Payment	Total
	Received Payment	Offered Payment Only	Control	
At risk of homelessness	205	103	198	**506**
Families	1,810	1,200	4,359	**7,369**
Senior	228	220	1,194	**1,642**
Total	**2,243**	**1,523**	**5,751**	**9,517**

Balance Tests

Randomization was designed to create groups that are, on average, balanced on observed and unobserved characteristics. This means that any post-treatment differences in outcomes can reasonably be attributed to the treatment itself, rather than to pre-existing group differences.

Table 5 shows the weighted demographic characteristics for the three treatment groups. Because selection varied by priority groups, the raw demographics in Table 2 show differences between the treatment groups that reflect the selection design rather than the success of randomization. Table 5 presents a more comparable table that weights on the selection probability account for priority group selection probabilities.

Table 5: Weighted Demographics by Treatment Group

	Offered Payment		No Payment
Demographics	**Received Payment**	**Offered Payment Only**	**Control**
Priority Group			
At risk of homelessness	6%	4.3%	5.3%
Families	79.1%	75.1%	77.4%
Seniors	14.9%	20.6%	17.3%
Living Situation			
Unsheltered	3.1%	3.9%	3%
Sheltered	13%	13.3%	14%
Permanent housing	83.9%	82.8%	83%
Age Category			
18-24	3.1%	4%	3.2%
25-34	30.1%	24.6%	27.7%
35-44	32%	24.9%	28.6%
45-54	10.1%	11.3%	12.3%
55 or older	24.7%	35.2%	28.2%

Demographics	Offered Payment		No Payment
	Received Payment	Offered Payment Only	Control
Number of children under 18*	2 (1, 3)	1 (0, 2)	1 (0, 2)
Household Size*	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)
Gender			
Female	77.6%	69.1%	73.7%
Male	21.8%	30%	25.3%
Other / Prefer not to say	0.6%	0.9%	1%
Hispanic	49.9%	46.5%	47.9%
Race **			
Native American / Alaska Native	2.5%	2.7%	2.4%
Asian	6.7%	6.7%	6.3%
Black / African	24.2%	24.7%	24%
Middle Eastern	5.1%	6.3%	5.9%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	1.7%	1.4%	1.8%
White	16.1%	17.5%	17.2%
Other Race	3.5%	3.6%	3.2%
Home Language			
English	71.8%	68.6%	70%
Spanish	17.8%	19.3%	18.8%
Other	10.4%	12.1%	11.2%
Highest Education			
Primary education	22.5%	26.7%	24.8%
High school diploma or GED	26.8%	28%	28.3%
Post-secondary nondegree	34.9%	28.8%	32.5%
Post-secondary degree	15.8%	16.4%	14.4%
Monthly Income ($)*	1,323 (202, 2,333)	1,583 (260, 2,500)	1,362 (233, 2,499)

* Median (Q1, Q3)

** Not mutually exclusive, participants were allowed to pick more than one race.

No individual variable-level hypothesis tests were conducted. This approach is consistent with best practices in other randomized evaluations of guaranteed income programs. Conducting separate statistical tests for each variable increases the likelihood of detecting spurious differences due to chance alone (approximately 5% of comparisons at $\alpha = 0.05$), which can "cause alarm for the client and reader, regardless of the practical significance of those differences in the magnitude of the imbalance". [5]

[5] Abt Associates created a pre-analysis plan that is the standard for the Mayors for a Guaranteed income evaluations https://www.abtglobal.com/files/Projects/PDFs/2023/data-analysis-plan-mayors-for-a-guaranteed-income-pilot-evaluations.pdf

Instead, the research team conducted omnibus balance tests to assess whether, overall, treatment assignment and receipt was systematically related to observed characteristics by comparing a sequence of regression models. The goal of these tests is to provide evidence that any observed differences are no greater than those we might expect by random chance in a well-functioning experiment. For each comparison, three nested logistic regression models were estimated and compared using Chi-square goodness of fit tests:

- Model 1: Included only indicators for priority group membership (to account for unequal randomization probabilities)
- Model 2: Added demographic characteristics (e.g., age, gender, race/ethnicity)
- Model 3: Further added baseline outcome measures (e.g., food insecurity, housing stability, etc.)

Balance was tested for two comparisons: 1) the group offered cash (regardless of receipt) with the control group (not offered cash) and 2) the group that received cash with the control group.

Model specifications:

Model 1: Base Model – Priority Group adjustment

$$Assignment_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 prioritygroup_i + \boldsymbol{e_{i,t=0}}$$

- *Assignment* is an indicator for whether a survey respondent was *offered* cash (for comparison 1) or *received* cash (for comparison 2)
- β_0 is the intercept
- β is a matrix of coefficients representing likelihood that a survey respondent was offered/received treatment based on the priority group
- $prioritygroup_i$ is a categorical variable, coded as binary variables for each group, representing the priority group for the respondent. This variable is included separately because by design, priority groups have different likelihoods of being offered treatment.
- e_i is an idiosyncratic error term

Model 2: balance check for demographic characteristics

$$Assignment_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 prioritygroup_i + \boldsymbol{Y_{t=0}\lambda} + \boldsymbol{X_{t=0}}\omega + \boldsymbol{e_{i,t=0}}$$

- *Assignment* is an indicator for whether a survey respondent was *offered* cash (comparison 1) or *received* cash (comparison 2)
- β_0 is the intercept

- β is a matrix of coefficients representing likelihood that a survey respondent was offered/received treatment based on the priority group
- $prioritygroup_i$ is a categorical variable, coded as binary variables for each group, representing the priority group for the respondent. This variable is included separately because by design, priority groups have different likelihoods of being offered treatment.
- $\boldsymbol{X}$ is a matrix of predictors from the application data, including gender, income, and zip code at baseline (t=0)
- ω is a vector of coefficients corresponding to the predictors' correlation to the offer/receipt of treatment at baseline
- e_i is an idiosyncratic error term

Model 3: balance check for demographic characteristics and baseline outcome scores

$$Assignment_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 prioritygroup_i + \boldsymbol{Y_{t=0}}\boldsymbol{\lambda} + \boldsymbol{X_{t=0}}\omega + \boldsymbol{e_{i,t=0}}$$

- *Assignment* is an indicator for whether a survey respondent was *offered* cash (comparison 1) or *received* cash (comparison 2)
- β_0 is the intercept
- β is a matrix of coefficients representing likelihood that a survey respondent was offered/received treatment based on the priority group
- $prioritygroup_i$ is a categorical variable, coded as binary variables for each group, representing the priority group for the respondent. This variable is included separately because by design, priority groups have different likelihoods of being offered treatment.
- $\boldsymbol{Y}$ is a matrix of outcomes at baseline(t=0)
- λ is a vector of coefficients corresponding to the baseline outcome variables' correlation to the offer/receipt of treatment
- $\boldsymbol{X}$ is a matrix of predictors from the application data, including gender, income, and zip code at baseline (t=0)
- ω is a vector of coefficients corresponding to the predictors' correlation to the offer/receipt of treatment at baseline
- e_i is an idiosyncratic error term

Omnibus test estimates

Table 6: Chi Square Tests Results for RAFT Participants

	Received Payment vs No Payment		Offered Payment vs No Payment	
	Chi Square Statistic	**p-value**	**Chi Square Statistic**	**p-value**
Model 1 to Model 2	46.10	0.004*	21.52	0.608
Model 2 to Model 3	2.05	0.727	0.79	0.940

* Statistically Significant

The omnibus joint hypothesis tests for balance across the three nested models are consistent with successful randomization. Comparisons revealed no statistically significant differences between individuals offered treatment and those not offered, suggesting that the procedure produced treatment and comparison groups that were similar across observed characteristics and supporting the validity of the experimental design.

As shown in Table 7, some demographic differences were observed between individuals who ultimately received treatment and those who were never offered. This is expected, as additional screening deemed some applicants ineligible due to income or other criteria such as age. However, once demographic characteristics were included as controls, there were no further differences in baseline outcomes between those who received cash and those who did not.

As a result, the Intent-to-Treat (ITT) estimates can be considered unbiased given evidence of effective randomization. Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS) was used to estimate an unbiased Complier Average Treatment Effect (CATE). Evidence of effective randomization supports the credibility of this analysis as well.

Table 7: Model 3 Results for Received Payment and Offered Payment Groups

		Received Payment				Offered Payment			
Covariates		**Estimate**	**Std Error**	**z-value**	**p-value**	**Estimate**	**Std Error**	**z-value**	**p-value**
Intercept		-0.14	0.28	-0.50	0.619	-0.14	0.28	-0.50	0.619
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	-0.89	0.11	-8.40	0.000	-0.89	0.11	-8.40	0.000
	Seniors	-1.57	0.14	-11.03	0.000	-1.57	0.14	-11.03	0.000
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	-0.11	0.17	-0.69	0.492	-0.11	0.17	-0.69	0.492
	Permanent Housing	0.01	0.16	0.06	0.950	0.01	0.16	0.06	0.950
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	0.10	0.15	0.65	0.514	0.10	0.15	0.65	0.514
	35-44	0.12	0.15	0.81	0.418	0.12	0.15	0.81	0.418
	45-54	-0.16	0.16	-0.98	0.329	-0.16	0.16	-0.98	0.329
	55 or older	-0.04	0.16	-0.22	0.826	-0.04	0.16	-0.22	0.826
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	-0.14	0.06	-2.10	0.036	-0.14	0.06	-2.10	0.036
	Other / Prefer not to say	-0.43	0.30	-1.43	0.153	-0.43	0.30	-1.43	0.153
Hispanic		0.10	0.10	1.01	0.311	0.10	0.10	1.01	0.311
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	0.02	0.16	0.11	0.912	0.02	0.16	0.11	0.912
	Asian	0.12	0.13	0.99	0.324	0.12	0.13	0.99	0.324
	Black / African	0.04	0.10	0.42	0.673	0.04	0.10	0.42	0.673
	Middle Eastern	-0.02	0.14	-0.17	0.864	-0.02	0.14	-0.17	0.864
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	-0.06	0.20	-0.28	0.781	-0.06	0.20	-0.28	0.781
	White	-0.02	0.10	-0.24	0.810	-0.02	0.10	-0.24	0.810
	Other Race	0.10	0.16	0.64	0.520	0.10	0.16	0.64	0.520
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	-0.06	0.08	-0.79	0.431	-0.06	0.08	-0.79	0.431
	Other	0.01	0.10	0.05	0.957	0.01	0.10	0.05	0.957

		Treated				Offered			
Covariates		**Estimate**	**Std Error**	**z-value**	**p-value**	**Estimate**	**Std Error**	**z-value**	**p-value**
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	-0.01	0.08	-0.14	0.887	-0.01	0.08	-0.14	0.887
	Post-secondary nondegree	0.12	0.07	1.62	0.105	0.12	0.07	1.62	0.105
	Post-secondary degree	0.17	0.09	1.92	0.055	0.17	0.09	1.92	0.055
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	-0.04	0.07	-0.54	0.592	-0.04	0.07	-0.54	0.592
	75th quartile	-0.07	0.07	-0.91	0.363	-0.07	0.07	-0.91	0.363
	100th quartile	-0.21	0.08	-2.82	0.005	-0.21	0.08	-2.82	0.005
Baseline Flourishing Scale Score		0.00	0.02	-0.05	0.964	0.00	0.02	-0.05	0.964
Baseline Family Function Scale Score		0.05	0.04	1.31	0.191	0.05	0.04	1.31	0.191
Baseline Social Support Scale Score		-0.01	0.03	-0.44	0.660	-0.01	0.03	-0.44	0.660
Baseline Food Insecurity Scale Score		0.01	0.01	0.43	0.666	0.01	0.01	0.43	0.666

Appendix E: Survey Administration and Response

Surveys were used to measure self-reported outcomes related to well-being using three validated scales. The flourishing scale captured overall psychological and social well-being, including life satisfaction, purpose, optimism, and social engagement. The protective factors scale is divided into family function and social support and incorporate personal and social strengths (such as coping skills and resilience) that help buffer against stress. The food insecurity scale measured participants' access to sufficient and nutritious food, reflecting material security and the ability to meet basic needs.

Administration Timeline

Surveys were administered to RAFT participants at three timepoints:

- Baseline: May 2023 (as part of the application process)
- Follow-up 1: July 2024
- Follow-up 2: February 2025

Because the $4,000 cash transfers were distributed on a rolling basis between June and December 2023, participants received the surveys at varying points before or after receiving the cash. As a result, the surveys captured outcomes ranging from 8 months before to 14 months after treatment. These temporal differences were accounted for in the survey analysis (see Appendix F).

Administration Process

The baseline survey was administered as part of the program application, so all participants completed it. The follow-up surveys were administered to all 9,517 study participants with a unique link. Every person who completed the survey received a $25 incentive, but only the first 1,800 surveys completed were accepted at each timepoint to stay within the evaluation's budget for incentives.

The program application was open to a broad range of county residents with the baseline survey available in nine languages. The follow-up surveys were translated into the four most commonly used non-English languages among applicants: Spanish, Persian/Farsi, Vietnamese, and Simplified Chinese. Email communications including invitations and reminders were also translated.

The baseline survey took approximately one hour to complete and included additional application-specific questions to verify income eligibility and household details. All three

outcome scales were required during the baseline. In the follow-up surveys, participants were randomly assigned to complete one of three outcome scales.[6] This technique, known as matrix sampling, helped reduce survey fatigue and improve data quality while preserving the ability to make population-level inferences.[7] This resulted in each follow-up survey taking less than 30 minutes to complete. Follow-up surveys administered to the treatment group included questions about how participants used their funds.

Response Rates

Surveys with at least 74% of questions completed were retained for analysis. The first follow-up survey (July 2024) received 1,830 valid responses and the second follow-up survey (February 2025) survey received 1,782 valid and complete responses, slightly below the goal of 1,800.

1,070 people responded to both surveys, as shown in Table 8. For this report, analysis was conducted on each survey follow up individually.

Table 8: Survey Response Rates for Treatment Groups and Priority Groups

	Total Count	Follow-up survey 1 response		Follow-up survey 2 response		Follow-up 1 and Follow-up 2 response	
		n	Rate	n	Rate	n	Rate
Treatment Group							
Received Treatment	2,243	956	42.62%	820	36.56%	595	26.53%
Offered Treatment	1,523	233	15.30%	190	12.48%	115	7.55%
Control	5,751	640	11.13%	769	13.37%	360	6.26%
Priority Group							
At Risk of Homelessness	506	127	25.10%	114	22.53%	74	14.62%
Families	7,369	1,478	20.06%	1,436	19.49%	858	11.64%
Seniors	1,642	224	13.64%	229	13.95%	138	8.40%

Respondents

RAFT applicants who received treatment were most likely to respond to both surveys; they represented 52% and 46% of the total survey respondents, respectively. About 80% of respondents were part of the "family" priority group, which also represented

[6] The protective factors scale included two subscales

[7] Raghunathan, T. E., & Grizzle, J. E. (1995). A Split Questionnaire Survey Design. Journal of the American Statistical Association, 90(429), 54-63.

Table 9: Overall Response Rates by Treatment Group*

Survey Date	Received Payment n (%)	Offered Payment n (%)	No Payment n (%)	Total N
July 2024	956 (52.3%)	233 (12.7%)	640 (35%)	1,829
February 2025	820 (46.1%)	190 (10.7%)	769 (43.2%)	1,779

** Includes partial responses -74% or more of the survey complete*

Table 10: Response Rates by Priority Group (Survey 1, July 2024)*

Priority Group	Received Payment n (%)	Offered Payment n (%)	No Payment n (%)	Total N
At Risk of Homelessness	87 (9.1%)	18 (7.7%)	22 (3.4%)	127
Families	785 (82.1%)	186 (79.8%)	507 (79.2%)	1,478
Seniors	84 (8.8%)	29 (12.4%)	111 (17.3%)	224

* Includes partial responses -74% or more of the survey complete

Table 11: Response Rates by Priority Group (Survey 2, Feb 2025)*

Priority Group	Received Payment n (%)	Offered Payment n (%)	No Payment n (%)	Total N
At Risk of Homelessness	72 (8.8%)	16 (8.4%)	26 (3.4%)	114
Families	665 (81.1%)	156 (82.1%)	615 (80%)	1,436
Seniors	83 (10.1%)	18 (9.5%)	128 (16.6%)	229

* Includes partial responses -74% or more of the survey complete

Response analysis

A response analysis was conducted to assess whether there were any systematic differences between respondents and non-respondents.

Table 12 and Table 13 show the overall differences between respondents overall and by treatment group for the two follow-up surveys.

Table 12: July 2024 Comparison of Demographics by Treatment group (Responded vs Did not respond)

Demographics	Received Payment		Offered Payment		No Payment		Overall
	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded
Total	**956**	**1,287**	**233**	**1,290**	**640**	**5,111**	**1,829**
Priority Group							
At risk of homeless-ness	87 (9%)	118 (9%)	18 (8%)	85 (7%)	22 (3%)	176 (3%)	127 (7%)
Families	785 (82%)	1,025 (80%)	186 (80%)	1,014 (79%)	507 (79%)	3,852 (75%)	1,478 (81%)
Seniors	84 (9%)	144 (11%)	29 (12%)	191 (15%)	111 (17%)	1,083 (21%)	224 (12%)
Living Situation							
Unsheltered	24 (3%)	43 (3%)	8 (3%)	49 (4%)	22 (3%)	154 (3%)	54 (3%)
Sheltered	132 (14%)	167 (13%)	33 (14%)	171 (13%)	90 (14%)	707 (14%)	255 (14%)
Permanent Housing	800 (84%)	1,077 (84%)	192 (82%)	1,070 (83%)	528 (83%)	4,250 (83%)	1,520 (83%)
Age Category							
18-24	33 (3%)	41 (3%)	9 (4%)	56 (4%)	16 (3%)	164 (3%)	58 (3%)
25-34	337 (35%)	376 (29%)	63 (27%)	338 (26%)	208 (33%)	1,319 (26%)	608 (33%)
35-44	333 (35%)	421 (33%)	74 (32%)	335 (26%)	197 (31%)	1,373 (27%)	604 (33%)
45-54	83 (9%)	153 (12%)	34 (15%)	153 (12%)	67 (10%)	615 (12%)	184 (10%)
55 or older	170 (18%)	296 (23%)	53 (23%)	408 (32%)	152 (24%)	1,640 (32%)	375 (21%)
Number of children under 18*	2 (1, 3)	2 (1, 3)	2 (1, 2)	1 (0, 2)	2 (1, 3)	1 (0, 2)	2 (1, 3)
Household Size*	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)
Gender							
Female	804 (84%)	945 (73%)	179 (77%)	871 (68%)	521 (81%)	3,697 (72%)	1,504 (82%)
Male	146 (15%)	334 (26%)	51 (22%)	408 (32%)	112 (18%)	1,363 (27%)	309 (17%)
Other / Prefer not to say	6 (1%)	8 (1%)	3 (1%)	11 (1%)	7 (1%)	51 (1%)	16 (1%)
Hispanic	515 (54%)	614 (48%)	129 (55%)	595 (46%)	349 (55%)	2,373 (46%)	993 (54%)

* Median (Q1, Q3)

Demographics	Received Payment		Offered Payment		No Payment		Overall
	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded
Race **							
Native American / Alaska Native	25 (3%)	31 (2%)	9 (4%)	33 (3%)	26 (4%)	113 (2%)	60 (3%)
Asian	61 (6%)	89 (7%)	10 (4%)	90 (7%)	37 (6%)	328 (6%)	108 (6%)
Black / African	217 (23%)	329 (26%)	49 (21%)	322 (25%)	132 (21%)	1,245 (24%)	398 (22%)
Middle Eastern	35 (4%)	80 (6%)	9 (4%)	87 (7%)	32 (5%)	311 (6%)	76 (4%)
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	15 (2%)	23 (2%)	4 (2%)	19 (1%)	9 (1%)	91 (2%)	28 (2%)
White	149 (16%)	202 (16%)	46 (20%)	212 (16%)	111 (17%)	907 (18%)	306 (17%)
Other Race	32 (3%)	49 (4%)	6 (3%)	50 (4%)	17 (3%)	170 (3%)	55 (3%)
Home Language							
English	722 (76%)	899 (70%)	185 (79%)	865 (67%)	467 (73%)	3,543 (69%)	1,374 (75%)
Spanish	169 (18%)	224 (17%)	38 (16%)	254 (20%)	128 (20%)	957 (19%)	335 (18%)
Other	65 (7%)	164 (13%)	10 (4%)	171 (13%)	45 (7%)	611 (12%)	120 (7%)
Highest Education							
Primary education	175 (18%)	317 (25%)	38 (16%)	365 (28%)	113 (18%)	1,336 (26%)	326 (18%)
High school diploma or GED	239 (25%)	368 (29%)	60 (26%)	368 (29%)	166 (26%)	1,451 (28%)	465 (25%)
Post-secondary nondegree	368 (38%)	420 (33%)	86 (37%)	361 (28%)	241 (38%)	1,614 (32%)	695 (38%)
Post-secondary degree	174 (18%)	182 (14%)	49 (21%)	196 (15%)	120 (19%)	710 (14%)	343 (19%)
Monthly Income ($)*	1,417 (201, 2,500)	1,299 (208, 2,289)	1,833 (333, 3,000)	1,666 (260, 2,500)	1,482 (417, 2,500)	1,317 (208, 2,417)	1,496 (292, 2,537)

* Median (Q1, Q3)

** Not mutually exclusive, participants were allowed to pick more than one race.

Table 13: Feb 2025 Comparison of Demographics by Treatment group (responded vs non)

Demographics	Received Payment		Offered Payment		No Payment		Overall
	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded
Total	**820**	**1,423**	**190**	**1,333**	**769**	**4,982**	**1,779**
Priority Group							
At risk of homeless-ness	72 (9%)	133 (9%)	16 (8%)	87 (7%)	26 (3%)	172 (3%)	114 (6%)
Families	665 (81%)	1,145 (80%)	156 (82%)	1,044 (78%)	615 (80%)	3,744 (75%)	1,436 (81%)
Seniors	83 (10%)	145 (10%)	18 (9%)	202 (15%)	128 (17%)	1,066 (21%)	229 (13%)
Living Situation							
Unsheltered	26 (3%)	41 (3%)	8 (4%)	49 (4%)	20 (3%)	156 (3%)	54 (3%)
Sheltered	96 (12%)	203 (14%)	30 (16%)	174 (13%)	112 (15%)	685 (14%)	238 (13%)
Permanent Housing	698 (85%)	1,179 (83%)	152 (80%)	1,110 (83%)	637 (83%)	4,141 (83%)	1,487 (84%)
Age Category							
18-24	23 (3%)	51 (4%)	5 (3%)	60 (5%)	26 (3%)	154 (3%)	54 (3%)
25-34	281 (34%)	432 (30%)	57 (30%)	344 (26%)	235 (31%)	1,292 (26%)	573 (32%)
35-44	285 (35%)	469 (33%)	58 (31%)	351 (26%)	233 (30%)	1,337 (27%)	576 (32%)
45-54	78 (10%)	158 (11%)	29 (15%)	158 (12%)	92 (12%)	590 (12%)	199 (11%)
55 or older	153 (19%)	313 (22%)	41 (22%)	420 (32%)	183 (24%)	1,609 (32%)	377 (21%)
Number of children under 18*	2 (1, 3)	2 (1, 3)	2 (1, 2)	1 (0, 2)	2 (1, 3)	1 (0, 2)	2 (1, 3)
Household Size*	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)	3 (2, 4)
Gender							
Female	679 (83%)	1,070 (75%)	152 (80%)	898 (67%)	615 (80%)	3,603 (72%)	1,446 (81%)
Male	138 (17%)	342 (24%)	38 (20%)	421 (32%)	148 (19%)	1,327 (27%)	324 (18%)
Other / Prefer not to say	3 (0%)	11 (1%)	0 (0%)	14 (1%)	6 (1%)	52 (1%)	9 (1%)
Hispanic	425 (52%)	704 (49%)	102 (54%)	622 (47%)	381 (50%)	2,341 (47%)	908 (51%)

* Median (Q1, Q3)

Demographics	Received Payment		Offered Payment		No Payment		Overall
	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded	Did not respond	Responded
Race **							
Native American / Alaska Native	17 (2%)	39 (3%)	5 (3%)	37 (3%)	28 (4%)	111 (2%)	50 (3%)
Asian	54 (7%)	96 (7%)	4 (2%)	96 (7%)	52 (7%)	313 (6%)	110 (6%)
Black / African	191 (23%)	355 (25%)	41 (22%)	330 (25%)	188 (24%)	1,189 (24%)	420 (24%)
Middle Eastern	34 (4%)	81 (6%)	8 (4%)	88 (7%)	34 (4%)	309 (6%)	76 (4%)
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	16 (2%)	22 (2%)	3 (2%)	20 (2%)	15 (2%)	85 (2%)	34 (2%)
White	143 (17%)	208 (15%)	39 (21%)	219 (16%)	145 (19%)	873 (18%)	327 (18%)
Other Race	27 (3%)	54 (4%)	9 (5%)	47 (4%)	23 (3%)	164 (3%)	59 (3%)
Home Language							
English	629 (77%)	992 (70%)	149 (78%)	901 (68%)	592 (77%)	3,418 (69%)	1,370 (77%)
Spanish	130 (16%)	263 (18%)	32 (17%)	260 (20%)	125 (16%)	960 (19%)	287 (16%)
Other	61 (7%)	168 (12%)	9 (5%)	172 (13%)	52 (7%)	604 (12%)	122 (7%)
Highest Education							
Primary education	139 (17%)	353 (25%)	36 (19%)	367 (28%)	137 (18%)	1,312 (26%)	312 (18%)
High school diploma or GED	215 (26%)	392 (28%)	45 (24%)	383 (29%)	195 (25%)	1,422 (29%)	455 (26%)
Post-secondary nondegree	311 (38%)	477 (34%)	74 (39%)	373 (28%)	297 (39%)	1,558 (31%)	682 (38%)
Post-secondary degree	155 (19%)	201 (14%)	35 (18%)	210 (16%)	140 (18%)	690 (14%)	330 (19%)
Monthly Income ($)*	1,390 (211, 2,500)	1,325 (200, 2,388)	2,000 (556, 3,120)	1,629 (250, 2,500)	1,333 (269, 2,500)	1,333 (225, 2,417)	1,417 (250, 2,500)

* Median (Q1, Q3)

** Not mutually exclusive, participants were allowed to pick more than one race.

Evaluators tested for systematic differences in response using a series of nested joint hypothesis F-tests. Three regression models were estimated for each follow-up survey to evaluate whether demographic or baseline characteristics predicted survey response.

- Model 1: Estimated the difference in response between treatment and control groups.
- Model 2: Added controls for priority group membership.
- Model 3: Added controls for baseline demographics and key outcome measures.

These models were selected based on the assumption that treatment and priority group membership would explain some variation in response rates. The key analytic question was whether baseline differences remained after accounting for these factors. Each model was estimated separately for the July 2024 and February 2025 follow-up surveys.

Model 1: Treatment group only

$$Responded_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Treatgroup_i + \boldsymbol{e_{i,t=0}}$$

- $Responded_i$is the dependent variable, an indicator for whether a participant *responded to the survey*
- β_0 is the intercept
- β_1 is the likelihood of respondent based on the treatment group
- $Treatgroup_i$ is a categorical variable representing the priority group for the respondent.

Model 2: Priority Group comparison

$$Responded_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Treatgroup_i + \beta priority group_i + \boldsymbol{e_{i,t=0}}$$

- $Responded_i$is the dependent variable, an indicator for whether a participant *responded to the survey*
- β_0 is the intercept
- β_1 is the likelihood of respondent based on the treatment group
- $Treatgroup_i$ is a categorical variable representing the priority group for the respondent.
- β is a matrix of coefficients representing the likelihood of respondent based on the priority group
- $priority group_i$ is a categorical variable (coded as binary variables for each group) representing the priority group for the respondent.

Model 3: Full model

$$Responded_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Treatgroup_i + \ \beta priority group_i + \boldsymbol{Y_{t=0}\lambda} + \boldsymbol{X_{t=0}}\omega + \boldsymbol{e_{i,t=0}}$$

- *Respondent* is an indicator for whether a participant *responded to the survey*
- β_0 is the intercept
- β_1 is the likelihood of respondent based on the treatment group
- $Treatgroup_i$ is a categorical variable representing the priority group for the respondent.
- β is a matrix of coefficients representing the likelihood of respondent based on the priority group
- $priority group_i$ is a categorical variable (coded as binary variables for each group) representing the priority group for the respondent.
- $\boldsymbol{Y}$ is a matrix of outcomes at baseline(t=0)
- λ is a vector of coefficients corresponding to the baseline outcome variables' correlation to the offer of treatment
- $\boldsymbol{X}$ is a matrix of predictors from the application data, including gender, income, and zip code at baseline (t=0)
- ω is a vector of coefficients corresponding to the predictors' correlation to the offer of treatment at baseline
- e_i is an idiosyncratic error term

Table 14: Chi Square Tests Results for Follow-Up Surveys

	Survey 1: July 2024		Survey 2: February 2025	
	Chi Square Statistic	**p-value**	**Chi Square Statistic**	**p-value**
Model 1 to Model 2	9.68	0.008*	10.10	0.006*
Model 2 to Model 3	200.61	0.000*	159.19	0.000*

* Statistically significant

For both follow-up surveys, omnibus joint hypothesis tests across three nested models indicate that survey nonresponse was not random. Significant differences between Model 1 and Model 2, and between Model 2 and Model 3, show that respondents were statistically different from nonrespondents, with observable characteristics predicting likelihood of response.

Overall, 43% of participants who received treatment responded, compared with 15% of those offered but not receiving treatment and 11% of those never offered. Response rates also varied across priority groups: seniors (14%) were less likely to respond than families (20%) and people experiencing homelessness (25%). Participants whose household language was English and those with higher educational attainment also responded at higher rates.

To address this, the final estimation model incorporated nonresponse weights along with priority group and demographic covariates. Even with these adjustments, evaluators caution that survey findings should not be assumed to generalize beyond the responding sample, as the perspectives of nonrespondents may differ in meaningful unobserved ways.

Cohort effects on response

Evaluators also assessed whether response rates for the treatment group varied by the timing of cash disbursement. As shown in Table 15, response rates were consistent across cohorts regardless of disbursement timing, though the first cohort who received payment in June 2023 had slightly lower response rates.

Table 15: Response Rates by Month Cash Received

Cohort (Month received cash)	Total	Survey 1: July 2024		Survey 2: February 2025	
		Count	Response rate	Count	Response rate
Jun-23	113	41	36%	36	32%
Jul-23	5	3	60%	3	60%
Aug-23	996	434	44%	376	38%
Sep-23	491	211	43%	182	37%
Oct-23	52	23	44%	20	38%
Nov-23	313	132	42%	106	34%
Dec-23/Feb-24	273	112	41%	97	36%
Total	2,243	956	43%	820	37%

Missing responses

There was no missing data in the baseline survey, as it was integrated into the program application process and all questions were required for eligibility determination. However, three primary sources of missing data were identified in follow-up surveys:

Missingness via Survey Design

To reduce respondent burden, the follow-up surveys were intentionally shortened. All respondents completed the first portion of the survey (approximately 20 items), after which they were randomly assigned to complete one of three validated psychological scales (5–10 items). The remaining two scales were not shown to the respondent and are therefore

considered missing completely at random (MCAR), meaning the probability of missingness is unrelated to any observed or unobserved data. When data are MCAR, excluding these cases does not bias estimates, and causal interpretations remain valid.

Incomplete Surveys

Some respondents did not complete the full survey. Surveys that were at least 74% complete were retained for analysis. This accounted for approximately 90% of responses in the July 2024 survey and 93% in the February 2025 survey. The number of partially completed surveys was small, and evaluators concluded that their inclusion was unlikely to introduce bias.

"Prefer Not to Respond" Selections

All questions were technically required, but respondents could select "Prefer not to respond" for any item. These selections were considered skipped and coded as missing.

Evaluators conducted additional analyses of missing data for the three primary outcome measures: well-being (flourishing), protective factors, and food insecurity. On follow-up survey 1, about 10% of respondents skipped at least one outcome item, compared to 11% on follow-up survey 2. A smaller share—0.8% and 1.1% of respondents, respectively—skipped every outcome item.

Patterns of missingness varied across the outcome scales. The food insecurity scale had the highest item nonresponse, with about 17% of respondents skipping at least one item on each survey. In contrast, only about 10% skipped items on the protective factors scale, and just 4% skipped items on the flourishing scale (Table 16).

Evaluators further analyzed whether missingness patterns differed by subgroup. As shown in Table 17, seniors and respondents whose primary household language was not English were significantly more likely to skip questions.

Several factors may explain this pattern:

- Food insecurity is a stigmatized topic, and respondents with higher food insecurity may have been reluctant to disclose their experiences.
- Language or literacy barriers may have contributed to misunderstanding or discomfort, even though the survey was available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, and Farsi. Translation nuances may have also caused confusion.

Summary scores were calculated as the mean of answered items for flourishing and the two protective factor subscales. For the food insecurity scale, which is based on the sum of

items, a weighted average of non-skipped items was used so that scores still ranged from 0 to 6.

Final Approach to Missing Data

After testing the impact of missingness, evaluators found that very few respondents skipped all questions, making it unlikely to introduce meaningful bias. The team therefore opted against imputation and used listwise deletion (complete-case analysis), which yields unbiased point estimates under the assumption of data being missing completely at random (MCAR). While this approach slightly reduced statistical power, the low rate of missingness limited the effect.

Table 16: Summary of "Prefer not to respond" Missingness Among Respondents

Outcome scale	Number of items	Survey 1: July 2024		Survey 2: February 2025	
		Skipped 1+ items	Skipped all items	Skipped 1+ items	Skipped all items
Flourishing	10	27 (4.4%)	2 (0.3%)	29 (4.9%)	4 (0.7%)
Protective Factors - Family Function	3	64 (10.5%)	8 (1.3%)	58 (9.8%)	9 (1.5%)
Protective Factors - Social Support	4	56 (9.2%)	4 (0.7%)	62 (10.5%)	7 (1.2%)
Food Insecurity	6	105 (17.2%)	6 (1.0%)	106 (17.8%)	5 (0.8%)

Table 17: Summary of "Prefer not to respond" Missingness Among Respondents, by Outcome Scale

Scale	subgroup	Number of items	Survey 1: July 2024			Survey 2: February 2025		
			Number of Responses	Skipped 1+ items	Skipped all items	Number of Responses	Skipped 1+ items	Skipped all items
Flourishing	All Respondents	10	610	27 (4.4%)	2 (0.3%)	592	29 (4.9%)	4 (0.7%)
	Seniors			7 (1.1%)	0 (0.0%)		7 (1.2%)	1 (0.2%)
	Non-English household language			11 (1.8%)	1 (0.2%)		9 (1.5%)	3 (0.5%)
Protective Factors - Family Function	All Respondents	3	607	64 (10.5%)	8 (1.3%)	591	58 (9.8%)	9 (1.5%)
	Seniors			11 (1.8%)	1 (0.2%)		9 (1.5%)	1 (0.2%)
	Non-English household language			20 (3.3%)	3 (0.5%)		19 (3.2%)	3 (0.5%)
Protective Factors - Social Support	All respondents	4	607	56 (9.2%)	4 (0.7%)	591	62 (10.5%)	7 (1.2%)
	Seniors			8 (1.3%)	1 (0.2%)		8 (1.4%)	0 (0.0%)
	Non-English household language			17 (2.8%)	2 (0.3%)		19 (3.2%)	2 (0.3%)
Food Security	All Respondents	6	612	105 (17.2%)	6 (1%)	596	106 (17.8%)	5 (0.8%)
	Seniors			14 (2.3%)	1 (0.2%)		15 (2.5%)	2 (0.3%)
	Non-English household language			32 (5.2%)	1 (0.2%)		35 (5.9%)	2 (0.3%)

Appendix F: Methodology

Overview

The evaluation estimated the average causal effect of receiving an unconditional $4,000 cash transfer on overall well-being (flourishing, protective factors broken down into social support and family function, and food insecurity) and individuals' use of public benefits (e.g., CalFresh, CalWORKs, and homeless assistance) and in the months following the offer of cash. Estimating causal effects relies on ruling out factors that could explain differences in outcomes. Ideally, the direct way to establish causality would be to observe each person under both scenarios – receiving cash and not receiving cash – and directly compare their outcomes. These hypothetical scenarios are called "counterfactuals." Since it is impossible for someone to both receive cash *and* not receive cash at the same time, evaluators used a randomized control trial (RCT) to approximate the average counterfactuals. Randomization ensures that, on average, the treatment group (those offered cash) and the control group (those not offered cash) are equivalent across both measured and unmeasured characteristics, allowing differences in outcomes between the two groups to be attributed to the offer of the intervention itself.

Treatment Effects of Interest

For both administrative benefits and well-being measures, evaluators estimated two types of treatment effects, each providing different interpretations and use for decision-making. The first estimate is the Complier Average Treatment Effect (CATE), which focuses specifically on those who received the cash (the "compliers"). This measures the causal effect of the intervention among participants who would take up the cash if offered, providing a more targeted estimate of RAFT's potential impact, putting aside logistical issues that might prevent some people offered cash from receiving it.

The second estimate is the Intent-to-Treat (ITT) effect, which estimated the average causal effect of being *offered* the cash, regardless of whether participants actually received it. The ITT is useful for policy decisions because it reflects real-world conditions, where not everyone offered a service will accept or use it.

Hypotheses:

Well-being (at approximately 6 and 12 months after receiving cash)

- Hypothesis 1a (Flourishing CATE): Compared to never receiving cash, the receipt of cash will cause an improvement in overall well-being ("flourishing").

- Hypothesis 1b (Flourishing ITT): Compared to never being offered cash, the offer of cash will cause an improvement overall well-being ("flourishing").
- Hypothesis 2a (Social Support CATE): Compared to never receiving cash, the receipt of cash will cause an improvement in social supports.
- Hypothesis 2b (Social Support ITT): Compared to never being offered cash, the offer of cash will cause an improvement in social supports.
- Hypothesis 3a (Family Function CATE): Compared to never receiving cash, the receipt of cash will cause an improvement in family function.
- Hypothesis 3b (Family Function ITT): Compared to never being offered cash, the offer of cash will cause an improvement in family function.
- Hypothesis 4a (Food Insecurity CATE): Compared to never receiving cash, the receipt of cash will cause an improvement food insecurity.
- Hypothesis 4b (Food Insecurity ITT): Compared to never being offered cash, the offer of cash will cause an improvement food insecurity.

Benefits

- Hypothesis 5a (6-Month Use of Benefits CATE): Compared to never receiving cash, the receipt of cash will cause a decrease in the amount an individual uses county-administered benefits in the 6-month period following a modal delay after an offer of cash.
- Hypothesis 5b (6-Month Use of Benefits ITT): Compared to never being offered cash, the offer of cash will cause a decrease in the amount an individual uses county-administered benefits in the 6-month period following a modal delay after an offer of cash.
- Hypothesis 6a (Conditional 6-Month Use of Benefits CATE): Among individuals defined as at the margins of stability, compared to never receiving cash, the receipt of cash will cause a decrease in the amount an individual uses county-administered benefits in the 6-month period following a modal delay after an offer of cash.
- Hypothesis 6b (Conditional 6-Month Use of Benefits ITT): Among individuals defined as at the margins of stability, compared to never being **offered** cash, the offer of cash will cause a decrease in the amount an individual uses county-administered benefits in the 6-month period following a modal delay after an offer of cash.

Inference criteria

The six main hypotheses were grouped into pairs of CATE and ITT and were treated as one joint hypothesis. For example, Hypothesis 1a (CATE) and Hypothesis 1b (ITT) are treated as one joint hypothesis regarding the effectiveness of the cash on improving flourishing. Each pair is considered a "family" and statistical significance was assessed within families using the Holm-Bonferroni adjustment procedure, holding the family-wise error rate (FWER) at 5%. For each family (m=2), the smallest p-value was tested against alpha/m (i.e., 0.05/2), and the second smallest against alpha/(m-1) (i.e., .05/1), stopping after the first comparison if it was not significant.

Weighting

Design Weights: Selection Probability

As discussed in Appendix A, the probability of selection into the program differed for the three priority groups by design. Individuals at risk of homelessness were approximately 50% more likely to be selected than families, who in turn were 50% more likely to be selected than seniors. As a result, the people who were offered and received cash were (by design) different from the group that did not receive cash.

To account for the unequal probability of selection into the offered cash group across priority levels, evaluators applied weights based on the inverse of selection probability, as shown in Table 18. This approach is similar to age-adjustment in health research, where differences in age distribution are accounted for when comparing outcomes like disease rates between populations—for example, adjusting cancer rates to reflect what they would be if older and younger populations had the same age distribution. In both cases, the goal is to avoid misleading comparisons caused by systematic differences between groups. Here, weighting by selection probability ensures the analysis reflects what outcomes would look like if all priority groups—individuals at risk of homelessness, families, and seniors—had been equally likely to receive cash offers.

Table 18: Priority Group Selection Probabilities and Weights for Participants Offered Cash and Not Offered Cash

	Total	Offered Payment			No Payment (Control Group)		
		N	Selection probability	Weight	N	Selection probability	Weight
At Risk of Homelessness	506	308	**60.9%**	**1.64**	198	**39.1%**	**2.56**
Families	7,369	3,010	**40.8%**	**2.45**	4,359	**59.2%**	**1.69**
Seniors	1,642	448	**27.3%**	**3.67**	1,194	**72.7%**	**1.38**
Total	**9,517**	**3,766**			**5,751**		

Non-response weights

Each of the two surveys is limited to 1,800 responses, so outcome data at each timepoint is limited to only 1,800/9,517 = 18.9% of the evaluation population per survey. As discussed in the response analysis in Appendix X, there were some differences observed between participants who responded to the survey and those who did not, violating the assumptions of similarity between groups created by randomization. To reduce potential bias, non-response weights were used in addition to controlling for covariates in the analysis of well-being outcomes.

Administrative Benefits Method: Staggered Difference-in-Differences

In a difference-in-differences (DiD) design, an analyst aims to estimate a treatment effect by comparing over time change in a treated group to over time change in a control group. Traditional approaches to DID effect estimation could induce bias when estimating treatment effects for the administrative benefits outcomes given issues like varying effects of offering cash in different months[8]. Several newly proposed staggered difference-in-differences[9] [10] approaches were used to account for this concern.

Everyone applied to the program at the same time (May 2023 offers to receive cash were sent out over the course of 5 months – June, September, October, November, and December 2023). At each offer period, individuals varied in how long they took to respond to the offer of cash with their verification documents and program administrators had not anticipated how many people would not be eligible, so it took them time to process the eligibility verifications prior to being able to send out the cash. The time between the offer date and when cash was received is referred to as the "payment delay." Table 19 shows the distribution of payment delay for each cohort.

[8] Baker, A. C., Larcker, D. F., & Wang, C. C. Y. (2022). How much should we trust staggered difference-in-differences estimates? *Journal of Financial Economics*, *144*(2), 370–395. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfineco.2022.01.004

[9] Wing, C., Freedman, S., & Hollingsworth, A. (2024). Stacked Difference-in-Differences. In *NBER Working Paper*. https://doi.org/10.3386/w32054

[10] Callaway, B., & Sant'Anna, P. H. C. (2021). Difference-in-Differences with multiple time periods. *Journal of Econometrics*, *225*, 200–230. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeconom.2020.12.001

Table 19: Distribution of Payment Delay by Cohort

Delay # Months between offer and receipt	Cohort 1: 6/1/2023 (n)	Cohort 2: 9/1/2023 (n)	Cohort 3: 10/1/2023 (n)	Cohort 4: 11/1/2023 (n)	Cohort 5: 12/1/2023 (n)	Total (n)
0	113	356	14	0	68	**551**
1	5	25	300	138	0	**468**
2	996	3	46	0	0	**1,045**
3	135	2	0	0	0	**137**
4	13	0	0	0	0	**13**
5	10	0	0	0	0	**10**
6	18	0	0	0	0	**18**
8	1	0	0	0	0	**1**

As noted above, individuals were offered cash in "cohorts," for example, some percentage of people were offered the cash in July, and others in August. The most common payment delay was defined as the "modal delay." As shown above, the modal number of months between when individuals receive an offer and when they actually receive the cash was 2. For the analysis of benefits outcomes, this modal delay was used to structure the analysis for all participants in all cohorts. This enabled the evaluators to apply the chosen staggered DID methods as closely as possible to their original intended use (while minimizing loss of precision due to inaccurate delay assumptions).

One staggered difference-in-differences approach, developed by Wing et al. (2024), treats each cohort as a "sub-experiment" (separately comparing people in each cohort to "control" individuals), allowing estimation of effects for particular cohorts or an overall treatment effect cross all "sub-experiments." The dataset used in the analysis was constructed as a stack of several smaller datasets, each of which corresponds to a different cohort sub-experiment, e, in which individuals were offered cash.

Each sub-experiment dataset resembles a simpler difference-in-differences design with a single "treated" group and a single "control" group. There are six months of "pre-" and six months of "post-" offer data for the treated cohort in question, and the same pre- and post-months of data for individuals who never received an offer of cash during that period. To take account of the modal delay, *k*, evaluators specifically included as "pre-" months, those from e-6 to e-1, and as "post-" months those from e+k to e+k+5.

Once E datasets were obtained (where E denotes the total number of *e* cohorts), each corresponding to a specific *e*, the final step was to append the datasets together into one single dataset. A corrective "stack weight" was calculated to adjust for the repeated control individuals across sub-experiments.

Another staggered difference-in-differences approach we consider, developed by Calloway and Sant'Anna (2021), instead breaks down the data into every possible 2x2 DiD design: a treated cohort (people offered cash at a particular point in time) and a control cohort (people not offered cash), each measured at only two time points: a single pre-treatment month (the last month before people in this treated cohort were offered cash) and a single post-treatment period (a month somewhere between e+k and e+k+5). A separate treatment effect is computed for each possible 2x2 DiD design, and then effects can be aggregated across them.

Subgroup Analysis – Margin of Stability

Evaluators spoke with program staff, who expressed the expectation for individuals experiencing entrenched forms of disadvantage and instability, and for whom various benefits constitute an important and ongoing source of support, a one-time payment of $4,000 is unlikely to remove the need for such benefits. Moreover, the RAFT program took steps to ensure that the cash payment would not be included in the income calculations used to determine benefit eligibility (i.e., for the three benefits that makeup the outcome in this evaluation), so there is no reason to expect that individuals would no longer be eligible for benefits due to the temporary increase in their monthly income from the transfer.

However, these conversations led evaluators to hypothesize that there may be a group of people who are "on the margin of stability" for which the $4,000 could make a difference that is measurable in county-administered benefits use. For such individuals, a large one-time cash transfer could mean that they have available cash that they can use when they experience challenges.

Evaluators defined participants as being "on the margin of stability" as those who either stopped or started using a given benefit in one or more of the six months prior to the first cash offer.

Well-being Method: Cross sectional regression analysis

For each follow-up survey timepoint, the evaluation team used a cross-sectional regression method to estimate the treatment effects of interest. This method compares the difference in outcomes between treatment and control groups, controlling for baseline outcomes and other covariates, further described in the following appendix. For the administrative benefits analysis, benefits use was observed monthly, so multiple time points before and after treatment were included in the analysis. In contrast, with fewer survey administration waves (and drop-off in response rates for post-treatment waves), it is likely that any potential precision-gains from a DiD-style analysis are less likely to be worth the additional analytical complexity.

Appendix G: Statistical Models

Well-being Factors Models

Linear regression analyses were used to compare follow-up outcomes (Survey 1 and Survey 2) between treatment and control groups, conditional on observed baseline outcomes for these units.

CATE Analysis

To estimate the CATE for each outcome, a two-stage least-squares regression model was estimated using 'Offered' as an instrumental variable (IV). The selection probability and non-response weights (described above) were applied. This was estimated separately for outcomes collected in the first and second surveys.

Stage 1:

$$Received_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Outcome_0 + \beta_2 Offered_i + \boldsymbol{X}\omega + \phi_i + e_i$$

Stage 2:

$$Outcome_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Outcome_0 + \beta_2 \widehat{Received}_i + X\omega + \phi_i + e_i$$

Standard errors were clustered at the household level.

ITT Analysis

The following model was used to estimate ITT, weighted using the selection probability and non-response weights described above. This was estimated separately for outcomes collected in the first and second surveys.

$$Outcome_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Outcome_0 + \beta_2 Offered_i + \boldsymbol{X}\omega + \phi_i + \boldsymbol{e_i}$$

- β_0 is the intercept
- β_1 is the estimated correlation of the baseline outcome with the follow-up survey outcome
- β_2 represents the difference in receipt for those who were and were not offered cash
- X is a matrix of predictors from the application data, including gender, income, priority group and zip code and ω is a vector of coefficients corresponding to their correlation to the outcome

- ϕ_i is a fixed effect for the cohort/month that cash was received
- e_i is an idiosyncratic error term

Standard errors were clustered at the household level.

Use of Administrative Benefits Models

Staggered difference-in-differences models were used to study whether, as a result of receiving $4,000, individuals changed what social service benefits they received within the 6 months after the cash transfer. Note that DiD methods estimate average treatment effects on the treated (ATTs) rather than average treatment effects (ATEs). The distinction is that ATEs also incorporate information about how treatment likely would have impacted control units, if they had received it. Given randomized assignment to cash offers here, the distinction is not a substantive concern, but this section refer to ATTs instead of ATEs here for the sake of accuracy.

CATT Analysis

To estimate the 6-month CATT across treated cohorts using the stacked data, we incorporate a two-stage least-squares strategy into Wing et al.'s (2023) staggered DiD method discussed above. Wing et al.'s (2023) method ultimately estimates treatment effects using a traditional DiD regression model, with regression weights account for the duplication of control units across "stacks." The first stage regression is defined as follows:

$$PostReceived_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Post_t + \beta_2 Offered_i + \beta_3 PostOffered_{it} + \beta_4 Income_{t0} + \phi_i + e_{it}$$

Where i indexes the individual and t months, and

- β_0 is an intercept
- β_1 represents the pre-post difference in receipt for those never offered cash
- β_2 represents the difference in receipt for those who were and were not offered cash, before anyone was offered cash
- β_3 represents the effect of the offer on the receipt of cash (this is the main instrumental effect we care about)
- Income represents the baseline income quartile of the participant at application
- ϕ_i is a fixed effect for priority group membership, and
- e_{it} an idiosyncratic error term.

The following model was used to estimate the second stage:

$$Y_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Post_t + \beta_2 Offered_i + \beta_3 \widehat{PostReceived}_{it} + X\omega + \phi_i + e_{it}$$

where $PostReceived_{it}$ is the predicted probability of receiving cash, as estimated in the first stage. β_3 from this second regression is the estimate of interest.

Standard errors were clustered at the household level to account for serial correlation arising from repeated observations of the same households over time and across multiple entries in the stacked dataset. The regression was weighted using a combination of stack weights and design weights to adjust for differential selection probabilities. The design weights are modified versions of the selection probability weights discussed above, updated to account for the panel nature of these data. Evaluators normalized both weights and multiplied them together.

ITT Effect

The Callaway and Sant'Anna (2021) (CS) staggered DiD method was used to estimate ITT effects for the benefits use outcomes. While the stacked Wing et al. (2023) method is valuable for allowing us to easily incorporate a two-stage least squares component, we believe the CS method may allow for more precise estimates of ITT effects. Like the Wing et al. (2023) method, this method allows estimating how average treatment effects vary with length of exposure to the program/intervention or how average treatment effects vary across the cohorts receiving the program/intervention. However, for all DiD analyses in this report, we focus on average effects across all cohorts, and across the 6 months following when treatment was typically received.

As discussed above, when applying the CS method, for cohort e offered cash in period e and a given post-offer month m, evaluators compared (1) change from the cohort's last pre-offer month (p) to the given post-offer month (m), with (2) that of the comparison cohorts (those never offered cash) over the same period. Each estimate for a given cohort and post-offer month is referred to as an ITT(g,t).
The CS estimation procedure then aggregated these effects across the cohort/post-month comparisons to get an overall ITT estimate. Specifically, the evaluator takes a weighted average of ITT(g,t)s with weights proportional to the cohort size. When doing so, evaluators did not include ITT(g,t)s that fall within the modal delay period (within first two months after an offer was made to a given cohort).

To estimate each ITT(g,t), evaluators applied a "doubly robust" strategy recommended when using the CS method.

Once this model is estimated, it is used to predict the unobserved control potential outcomes for treated units. From there, the evaluator calculates the mean observed treatment potential outcome (among treated units) and subtracts the mean predicted control potential outcome. This yields an ITT estimate of a given ITT(g,t). This procedure is repeated for every possible ITT(g,t).

Standard errors for individual ITT(g,t)s were bootstrapped by clustering at the individual level, and then aggregated across ITT(g,t)s following methods discussed in Calloway and Sant'Anna (2021).

Appendix H: Full Results

Well-Being Factors

Flourishing

Table 20: Follow-up 1 Regression Results for Flourishing Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		-0.72	0.33	-2.18	0.029	-0.72	0.33	-2.19	0.029
Standardized Baseline Flourishing Scale Score		0.54	0.05	10.59	0.000	0.54	0.05	10.60	0.000
Treatment Effect*		-0.01	0.10	-0.10	0.917	-0.02	0.15	-0.10	0.917
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	0.01	0.18	0.03	0.975	0.01	0.18	0.03	0.977
	Seniors	0.14	0.26	0.53	0.595	0.14	0.26	0.53	0.596
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	0.39	0.22	1.82	0.069	0.39	0.22	1.80	0.072
	Permanent Housing	0.48	0.20	2.42	0.016	0.48	0.20	2.41	0.016
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	0.09	0.16	0.54	0.588	0.09	0.16	0.54	0.586
	35-44	0.15	0.16	0.91	0.361	0.15	0.16	0.91	0.361
	45-54	-0.04	0.21	-0.17	0.864	-0.04	0.21	-0.17	0.863
	55 or older	-0.04	0.24	-0.16	0.874	-0.04	0.25	-0.16	0.872
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	0.05	0.11	0.48	0.630	0.05	0.11	0.46	0.643
	Other / Prefer not to say	0.90	0.22	4.16	0.000	0.90	0.22	4.17	0.000
Hispanic		-0.11	0.17	-0.67	0.503	-0.11	0.17	-0.67	0.501

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	0.15	0.32	0.48	0.635	0.15	0.32	0.47	0.636
	Asian	0.09	0.19	0.46	0.647	0.09	0.19	0.47	0.638
	Black / African	0.04	0.18	0.22	0.829	0.04	0.19	0.21	0.832
	Middle Eastern	0.37	0.27	1.35	0.179	0.37	0.27	1.34	0.181
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	-0.47	0.35	-1.34	0.181	-0.47	0.35	-1.34	0.182
	White	-0.08	0.15	-0.53	0.593	-0.08	0.15	-0.54	0.592
	Other Race	-0.51	0.29	-1.77	0.077	-0.51	0.29	-1.77	0.077
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	0.18	0.12	1.52	0.129	0.18	0.12	1.53	0.127
	Other	0.09	0.29	0.29	0.773	0.09	0.30	0.29	0.770
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	0.05	0.15	0.35	0.728	0.05	0.15	0.35	0.726
	Post-secondary nondegree	0.08	0.13	0.64	0.523	0.09	0.13	0.64	0.521
	Post-secondary degree	0.12	0.14	0.85	0.397	0.12	0.14	0.85	0.397
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	-0.02	0.13	-0.17	0.861	-0.02	0.13	-0.16	0.869
	75th quartile	0.06	0.12	0.45	0.656	0.06	0.12	0.45	0.656
	100th quartile	0.13	0.12	1.09	0.276	0.13	0.12	1.09	0.276
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	0.01	0.15	0.08	0.933	0.01	0.15	0.08	0.938
	October	0.10	0.15	0.71	0.476	0.10	0.15	0.71	0.479
	November	0.32	0.20	1.61	0.107	0.32	0.20	1.62	0.106
	December	0.21	0.27	0.78	0.436	0.22	0.29	0.75	0.451

Table 21: Follow-up 2 Regression Results for Flourishing Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		-0.39	0.43	-0.89	0.374	-0.41	0.44	-0.93	0.351
Standardized Baseline Flourishing Scale Score		0.61	0.04	16.97	0.000	0.61	0.04	16.92	0.000
Treatment Effect*		0.13	0.09	1.46	0.146	0.22	0.15	1.46	0.146
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	-0.21	0.13	-1.68	0.094	-0.20	0.13	-1.58	0.116
	Seniors	-0.29	0.19	-1.55	0.121	-0.28	0.18	-1.50	0.135
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	0.32	0.30	1.08	0.281	0.30	0.30	1.02	0.310
	Permanent Housing	0.40	0.29	1.38	0.167	0.39	0.29	1.35	0.179
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	0.26	0.27	0.97	0.333	0.27	0.27	1.01	0.314
	35-44	0.30	0.27	1.11	0.266	0.31	0.27	1.14	0.256
	45-54	0.24	0.28	0.83	0.406	0.24	0.28	0.85	0.398
	55 or older	0.28	0.29	0.97	0.334	0.29	0.29	1.00	0.317
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	0.01	0.10	0.10	0.918	0.02	0.10	0.15	0.878
	Other / Prefer not to say	0.32	0.17	1.82	0.069	0.30	0.17	1.76	0.079
Hispanic		-0.03	0.14	-0.20	0.840	-0.01	0.14	-0.07	0.947
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	0.17	0.19	0.92	0.359	0.19	0.19	1.00	0.318
	Asian	-0.07	0.23	-0.31	0.757	-0.09	0.23	-0.38	0.701
	Black / African	-0.15	0.14	-1.13	0.258	-0.14	0.14	-1.03	0.305
	Middle Eastern	0.24	0.27	0.87	0.384	0.24	0.27	0.88	0.380
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	-0.14	0.23	-0.64	0.521	-0.17	0.23	-0.76	0.445
	White	-0.15	0.15	-1.00	0.316	-0.13	0.15	-0.89	0.376
	Other Race	-0.20	0.21	-0.92	0.356	-0.19	0.21	-0.90	0.369

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	0.08	0.12	0.64	0.521	0.07	0.12	0.62	0.533
	Other	-0.20	0.28	-0.71	0.475	-0.18	0.28	-0.62	0.533
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	0.05	0.13	0.40	0.687	0.03	0.13	0.23	0.821
	Post-secondary nondegree	0.07	0.12	0.63	0.527	0.07	0.12	0.58	0.561
	Post-secondary degree	-0.05	0.13	-0.35	0.728	-0.06	0.13	-0.42	0.672
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	0.08	0.11	0.72	0.475	0.09	0.11	0.83	0.409
	75th quartile	-0.03	0.10	-0.27	0.784	-0.02	0.10	-0.16	0.875
	100th quartile	0.01	0.11	0.11	0.914	0.04	0.11	0.33	0.741
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	-0.13	0.14	-0.89	0.375	-0.15	0.15	-0.99	0.323
	October	0.07	0.13	0.50	0.621	0.02	0.15	0.12	0.902
	November	0.04	0.16	0.25	0.804	-0.02	0.18	-0.11	0.911
	December	-0.64	0.37	-1.70	0.089	-0.67	0.38	-1.78	0.076

Family Function

Table 22: Follow-up 1 Regression Results for Family Function Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		-0.33	0.41	-0.81	0.417	-0.32	0.41	-0.79	0.432
Standardized Baseline Family Function Scale Score		0.45	0.06	8.04	0.000	0.44	0.06	7.87	0.000
Treatment Effect*		0.19	0.10	1.86	0.063	0.33	0.18	1.86	0.063
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	-0.17	0.18	-0.95	0.341	-0.16	0.18	-0.91	0.361
	Seniors	-0.35	0.24	-1.45	0.148	-0.31	0.24	-1.28	0.200
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	0.48	0.28	1.73	0.084	0.51	0.28	1.83	0.067
	Permanent Housing	0.57	0.25	2.26	0.024	0.59	0.25	2.32	0.021
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	-0.22	0.22	-1.00	0.317	-0.31	0.22	-1.41	0.158
	35-44	-0.12	0.23	-0.52	0.606	-0.19	0.23	-0.83	0.404
	45-54	-0.33	0.24	-1.40	0.161	-0.35	0.24	-1.48	0.139
	55 or older	-0.33	0.26	-1.24	0.215	-0.40	0.26	-1.53	0.127
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	-0.18	0.14	-1.26	0.207	-0.17	0.14	-1.20	0.232
	Other / Prefer not to say	-1.12	0.46	-2.45	0.015	-0.97	0.46	-2.12	0.034
Hispanic		-0.16	0.16	-0.98	0.327	-0.14	0.16	-0.87	0.383

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	-0.16	0.27	-0.60	0.548	-0.15	0.27	-0.56	0.576
	Asian	-0.35	0.31	-1.13	0.258	-0.35	0.31	-1.15	0.250
	Black / African	-0.09	0.15	-0.58	0.560	-0.09	0.15	-0.58	0.564
	Middle Eastern	0.09	0.32	0.29	0.770	0.09	0.32	0.29	0.773
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	-0.30	0.31	-0.97	0.330	-0.31	0.31	-0.99	0.324
	White	-0.12	0.15	-0.76	0.449	-0.11	0.15	-0.69	0.488
	Other Race	-0.19	0.36	-0.53	0.598	-0.14	0.37	-0.37	0.712
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	0.08	0.12	0.63	0.528	0.07	0.12	0.60	0.551
	Other	-0.13	0.26	-0.50	0.618	-0.19	0.27	-0.69	0.490
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	0.15	0.14	1.07	0.287	0.17	0.14	1.17	0.243
	Post-secondary nondegree	0.32	0.16	2.04	0.041	0.32	0.16	2.06	0.040
	Post-secondary degree	0.36	0.17	2.11	0.035	0.35	0.17	2.08	0.038
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	0.03	0.14	0.22	0.826	0.06	0.14	0.39	0.698
	75th quartile	-0.11	0.13	-0.85	0.398	-0.10	0.13	-0.71	0.477
	100th quartile	-0.05	0.13	-0.35	0.729	-0.01	0.14	-0.08	0.934
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	0.07	0.15	0.47	0.636	0.09	0.15	0.61	0.543
	October	0.04	0.13	0.34	0.735	0.03	0.14	0.21	0.832
	November	0.44	0.21	2.11	0.035	0.37	0.22	1.65	0.100
	December	0.31	0.28	1.11	0.269	0.28	0.28	1.00	0.316

Table 23: Follow-up 2 Regression Results for Family Function Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		-0.21	0.39	-0.54	0.590	-0.16	0.39	-0.41	0.680
Standardized Baseline Family Function Scale Score		0.42	0.05	8.42	0.000	0.42	0.05	8.32	0.000
Treatment Effect*		0.20	0.10	2.08	0.038	0.30	0.14	2.08	0.038
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	0.06	0.24	0.24	0.807	0.03	0.24	0.13	0.900
	Seniors	0.37	0.30	1.22	0.222	0.34	0.30	1.14	0.255
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	0.66	0.27	2.50	0.013	0.69	0.27	2.60	0.010
	Permanent Housing	0.61	0.24	2.54	0.011	0.59	0.24	2.44	0.015
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	-0.51	0.23	-2.17	0.030	-0.54	0.23	-2.30	0.022
	35-44	-0.35	0.24	-1.46	0.144	-0.37	0.24	-1.53	0.127
	45-54	-0.72	0.26	-2.80	0.005	-0.69	0.26	-2.72	0.007
	55 or older	-0.98	0.28	-3.48	0.001	-1.01	0.28	-3.56	0.000
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	-0.01	0.13	-0.05	0.958	-0.01	0.13	-0.04	0.965
	Other / Prefer not to say	0.63	0.47	1.35	0.178	0.63	0.47	1.35	0.179
Hispanic		-0.04	0.13	-0.27	0.789	-0.03	0.13	-0.21	0.836
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	0.51	0.25	2.08	0.038	0.50	0.25	2.01	0.045
	Asian	-0.26	0.23	-1.14	0.253	-0.27	0.23	-1.20	0.232
	Black / African	-0.16	0.15	-1.12	0.265	-0.15	0.15	-1.00	0.319
	Middle Eastern	-0.20	0.27	-0.77	0.442	-0.19	0.27	-0.69	0.490
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	-0.23	0.30	-0.77	0.442	-0.25	0.30	-0.82	0.415
	White	-0.30	0.16	-1.90	0.058	-0.27	0.16	-1.75	0.080
	Other Race	-0.21	0.27	-0.78	0.434	-0.18	0.27	-0.67	0.500

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	-0.02	0.12	-0.17	0.868	-0.02	0.12	-0.16	0.873
	Other	0.23	0.24	0.92	0.356	0.24	0.24	0.98	0.325
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	-0.03	0.13	-0.23	0.815	-0.02	0.13	-0.17	0.862
	Post-secondary nondegree	-0.10	0.12	-0.84	0.401	-0.11	0.12	-0.91	0.362
	Post-secondary degree	0.10	0.13	0.75	0.454	0.09	0.13	0.68	0.495
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	-0.02	0.14	-0.12	0.905	-0.02	0.14	-0.17	0.866
	75th quartile	0.07	0.14	0.49	0.626	0.04	0.14	0.32	0.750
	100th quartile	0.26	0.14	1.93	0.054	0.28	0.14	2.02	0.044
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	0.05	0.15	0.37	0.713	0.10	0.14	0.72	0.473
	October	0.06	0.13	0.44	0.663	0.07	0.13	0.56	0.574
	November	0.42	0.29	1.45	0.148	0.37	0.30	1.23	0.218
	December	-0.17	0.29	-0.56	0.573	-0.18	0.30	-0.60	0.548

Social Support

Table 24: Follow-up 1 Regression Results for Social Support Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		0.35	0.43	0.83	0.407	0.37	0.42	0.87	0.386
Standardized Baseline Social Support Scale Score		0.45	0.05	9.85	0.000	0.45	0.05	9.84	0.000
Treatment Effect*		0.15	0.09	1.58	0.115	0.26	0.16	1.58	0.115
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	-0.09	0.19	-0.51	0.612	-0.09	0.19	-0.47	0.636
	Seniors	-0.19	0.24	-0.78	0.434	-0.16	0.24	-0.66	0.508
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	-0.06	0.23	-0.26	0.798	-0.04	0.23	-0.16	0.871
	Permanent Housing	0.14	0.19	0.74	0.457	0.15	0.18	0.79	0.428
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	-0.54	0.30	-1.84	0.067	-0.62	0.29	-2.12	0.034
	35-44	-0.45	0.30	-1.51	0.131	-0.51	0.29	-1.73	0.085
	45-54	-0.47	0.31	-1.54	0.124	-0.49	0.31	-1.59	0.112
	55 or older	-0.54	0.32	-1.70	0.089	-0.60	0.31	-1.90	0.057
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	-0.17	0.12	-1.42	0.156	-0.16	0.12	-1.35	0.179
	Other / Prefer not to say	-0.46	0.56	-0.83	0.408	-0.35	0.56	-0.62	0.538
Hispanic		-0.18	0.15	-1.15	0.250	-0.16	0.15	-1.07	0.286

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	-0.21	0.24	-0.86	0.391	-0.20	0.24	-0.82	0.414
	Asian	-0.40	0.24	-1.67	0.096	-0.40	0.24	-1.68	0.094
	Black / African	-0.12	0.15	-0.83	0.408	-0.12	0.15	-0.83	0.409
	Middle Eastern	-0.13	0.37	-0.36	0.720	-0.12	0.37	-0.33	0.743
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0.08	0.23	0.34	0.733	0.07	0.23	0.33	0.744
	White	-0.35	0.18	-1.93	0.054	-0.35	0.18	-1.88	0.060
	Other Race	-0.22	0.22	-1.02	0.307	-0.19	0.22	-0.89	0.376
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	-0.05	0.11	-0.41	0.684	-0.05	0.11	-0.45	0.655
	Other	-0.04	0.26	-0.17	0.864	-0.09	0.26	-0.34	0.737
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	0.25	0.13	1.92	0.056	0.26	0.13	1.98	0.048
	Post-secondary nondegree	0.38	0.14	2.78	0.006	0.38	0.14	2.80	0.005
	Post-secondary degree	0.40	0.16	2.51	0.012	0.39	0.16	2.48	0.013
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	0.09	0.12	0.71	0.480	0.10	0.12	0.85	0.396
	75th quartile	0.04	0.11	0.35	0.728	0.05	0.11	0.47	0.641
	100th quartile	0.02	0.12	0.16	0.875	0.05	0.13	0.37	0.715
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	0.09	0.13	0.64	0.522	0.10	0.13	0.77	0.443
	October	-0.13	0.11	-1.14	0.253	-0.14	0.12	-1.22	0.222
	November	0.16	0.21	0.76	0.445	0.10	0.23	0.46	0.644
	December	0.47	0.24	1.96	0.051	0.46	0.24	1.87	0.062

Table 25: Follow-up 2 Regression Results for Social Support Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		-0.39	0.40	-0.99	0.322	-0.39	0.39	-0.99	0.324
Standardized Baseline Social Support Scale Score		0.43	0.04	10.36	0.000	0.43	0.04	10.34	0.000
Treatment Effect*		0.01	0.10	0.13	0.898	0.02	0.14	0.13	0.898
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	0.31	0.23	1.39	0.165	0.31	0.23	1.38	0.167
	Seniors	0.19	0.27	0.70	0.485	0.18	0.26	0.70	0.487
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	0.19	0.25	0.76	0.449	0.19	0.25	0.76	0.445
	Permanent Housing	0.28	0.21	1.32	0.189	0.28	0.22	1.30	0.193
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	-0.19	0.24	-0.79	0.428	-0.19	0.24	-0.80	0.427
	35-44	-0.19	0.25	-0.79	0.431	-0.19	0.25	-0.79	0.430
	45-54	-0.24	0.25	-0.96	0.339	-0.24	0.25	-0.95	0.343
	55 or older	-0.16	0.27	-0.59	0.556	-0.16	0.27	-0.59	0.555
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	-0.24	0.12	-2.00	0.046	-0.24	0.12	-2.00	0.046
	Other / Prefer not to say	0.86	0.57	1.49	0.136	0.86	0.57	1.49	0.136
Hispanic		-0.02	0.14	-0.11	0.913	-0.01	0.14	-0.10	0.916
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	0.08	0.16	0.47	0.636	0.07	0.16	0.47	0.639
	Asian	-0.37	0.18	-2.01	0.045	-0.37	0.18	-2.03	0.043
	Black / African	0.03	0.14	0.23	0.816	0.03	0.15	0.24	0.811
	Middle Eastern	0.14	0.28	0.50	0.615	0.14	0.28	0.50	0.614
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	-0.10	0.32	-0.32	0.745	-0.10	0.32	-0.33	0.743
	White	-0.16	0.15	-1.09	0.278	-0.16	0.15	-1.08	0.280
	Other Race	-0.31	0.35	-0.89	0.373	-0.31	0.35	-0.89	0.375

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	-0.01	0.13	-0.10	0.921	-0.01	0.13	-0.10	0.922
	Other	-0.05	0.22	-0.22	0.825	-0.05	0.22	-0.22	0.826
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	0.01	0.13	0.09	0.925	0.01	0.13	0.10	0.922
	Post-secondary nondegree	0.13	0.12	1.07	0.287	0.12	0.12	1.06	0.289
	Post-secondary degree	0.07	0.13	0.53	0.597	0.07	0.13	0.53	0.599
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	0.01	0.12	0.05	0.960	0.01	0.12	0.05	0.963
	75th quartile	0.11	0.13	0.85	0.397	0.11	0.13	0.84	0.400
	100th quartile	0.07	0.13	0.53	0.600	0.07	0.13	0.53	0.599
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	0.02	0.16	0.16	0.875	0.03	0.15	0.18	0.856
	October	-0.13	0.13	-0.98	0.327	-0.13	0.13	-0.99	0.320
	November	0.56	0.26	2.15	0.032	0.56	0.27	2.08	0.038
	December	-0.02	0.22	-0.11	0.915	-0.02	0.22	-0.11	0.913

Food Security

Table 26: Follow-up 1 Regression Results for Food Security Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		-0.32	0.37	-0.85	0.395	-0.31	0.38	-0.84	0.404
Standardized Baseline Food Security Scale Score		0.63	0.04	14.63	0.000	0.63	0.04	14.61	0.000
Treatment Effect*		-0.03	0.09	-0.35	0.723	-0.05	0.15	-0.35	0.723
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	0.16	0.14	1.07	0.283	0.16	0.14	1.08	0.281
	Seniors	-0.08	0.19	-0.40	0.688	-0.08	0.19	-0.41	0.681
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	0.06	0.22	0.28	0.780	0.06	0.22	0.26	0.794
	Permanent Housing	0.14	0.21	0.67	0.500	0.14	0.21	0.67	0.500
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	0.10	0.23	0.43	0.666	0.10	0.23	0.42	0.673
	35-44	-0.04	0.23	-0.19	0.847	-0.05	0.23	-0.20	0.842
	45-54	0.03	0.27	0.12	0.903	0.03	0.27	0.12	0.906
	55 or older	0.13	0.26	0.47	0.636	0.12	0.27	0.46	0.645
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	0.11	0.11	1.00	0.319	0.10	0.11	0.95	0.341
	Other / Prefer not to say	-0.46	0.21	-2.20	0.028	-0.46	0.21	-2.20	0.028
Hispanic		0.07	0.16	0.41	0.681	0.06	0.16	0.41	0.684

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	-0.33	0.27	-1.21	0.226	-0.33	0.27	-1.21	0.225
	Asian	0.19	0.20	0.95	0.344	0.19	0.20	0.94	0.348
	Black / African	0.21	0.17	1.23	0.218	0.21	0.17	1.23	0.218
	Middle Eastern	0.27	0.24	1.14	0.255	0.27	0.24	1.12	0.262
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0.52	0.39	1.32	0.188	0.52	0.39	1.33	0.185
	White	0.03	0.16	0.18	0.860	0.03	0.16	0.18	0.857
	Other Race	0.26	0.21	1.22	0.224	0.27	0.21	1.27	0.206
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	0.17	0.10	1.77	0.078	0.18	0.10	1.79	0.075
	Other	-0.13	0.20	-0.69	0.493	-0.14	0.20	-0.69	0.490
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	-0.07	0.13	-0.54	0.587	-0.07	0.13	-0.54	0.591
	Post-secondary nondegree	-0.05	0.12	-0.44	0.662	-0.05	0.12	-0.44	0.660
	Post-secondary degree	-0.12	0.16	-0.71	0.476	-0.12	0.16	-0.73	0.464
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	-0.04	0.11	-0.33	0.738	-0.04	0.11	-0.36	0.717
	75th quartile	-0.14	0.13	-1.13	0.258	-0.14	0.13	-1.12	0.264
	100th quartile	-0.05	0.12	-0.42	0.673	-0.05	0.12	-0.44	0.659
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	-0.14	0.14	-1.03	0.306	-0.14	0.14	-1.01	0.312
	October	0.07	0.18	0.39	0.697	0.07	0.18	0.40	0.691
	November	0.52	0.27	1.93	0.054	0.53	0.28	1.92	0.055
	December	-0.20	0.18	-1.13	0.258	-0.19	0.19	-1.00	0.318

Table 27: Follow-up 2 Regression Results for Food Security Scale

Covariates		ITT				CATE			
		Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Intercept		-0.21	0.36	-0.58	0.563	-0.19	0.35	-0.55	0.583
Standardized Baseline Food Security Scale Score		0.50	0.04	11.29	0.000	0.51	0.04	11.31	0.000
Treatment Effect*		0.09	0.10	0.93	0.350	0.15	0.16	0.93	0.350
Priority Group	At risk of homelessness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Families	-0.13	0.16	-0.79	0.428	-0.13	0.16	-0.81	0.419
	Seniors	-0.26	0.22	-1.19	0.236	-0.27	0.22	-1.24	0.216
Living Situation	Unsheltered	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheltered	0.33	0.14	2.35	0.019	0.35	0.14	2.42	0.016
	Permanent Housing	0.38	0.11	3.47	0.001	0.38	0.11	3.46	0.001
Age	18-24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	25-34	-0.14	0.26	-0.55	0.582	-0.14	0.26	-0.56	0.579
	35-44	-0.21	0.26	-0.81	0.416	-0.22	0.26	-0.83	0.409
	45-54	-0.22	0.27	-0.84	0.399	-0.21	0.27	-0.81	0.421
	55 or older	-0.08	0.30	-0.26	0.797	-0.05	0.30	-0.18	0.860
Gender	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Male	0.05	0.10	0.48	0.629	0.05	0.11	0.51	0.610
	Other / Prefer not to say	-0.03	0.28	-0.13	0.900	-0.07	0.27	-0.27	0.788
Hispanic		-0.01	0.14	-0.08	0.935	-0.02	0.14	-0.17	0.868
Race	Native American / Alaska Native	-0.53	0.39	-1.37	0.173	-0.52	0.39	-1.34	0.181
	Asian	0.37	0.22	1.72	0.086	0.36	0.22	1.65	0.100
	Black / African	0.15	0.15	1.04	0.299	0.13	0.15	0.91	0.366
	Middle Eastern	0.11	0.31	0.35	0.729	0.11	0.31	0.36	0.719
	Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	-0.39	0.15	-2.57	0.010	-0.38	0.15	-2.47	0.014
	White	0.08	0.14	0.56	0.572	0.07	0.14	0.49	0.626
	Other Race	0.33	0.26	1.29	0.197	0.33	0.26	1.31	0.192

*ITT: offer of payment; CATE: predicted payment receipt (2nd stage)

		ITT				CATE			
	Covariates	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value	Estimate	Std Error	t-value	p-value
Home Language	English	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Spanish	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.998	-0.01	0.12	-0.09	0.926
	Other	0.04	0.24	0.16	0.875	0.01	0.25	0.02	0.980
Highest Education	Primary education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	High school diploma or GED	-0.04	0.13	-0.33	0.740	-0.04	0.13	-0.35	0.723
	Post-secondary nondegree	0.01	0.12	0.06	0.950	0.00	0.12	-0.01	0.994
	Post-secondary degree	0.03	0.13	0.19	0.847	0.02	0.13	0.12	0.907
Monthly Income	25th quartile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	50th quartile	-0.02	0.11	-0.18	0.859	-0.02	0.11	-0.17	0.863
	75th quartile	-0.01	0.11	-0.13	0.900	-0.01	0.11	-0.11	0.915
	100th quartile	0.00	0.11	-0.03	0.974	0.02	0.11	0.16	0.869
Offered Date	June	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	September	-0.04	0.14	-0.30	0.761	-0.04	0.14	-0.31	0.758
	October	-0.01	0.15	-0.08	0.939	0.02	0.14	0.13	0.895
	November	-0.05	0.17	-0.27	0.788	-0.09	0.20	-0.48	0.631
	December	0.13	0.19	0.67	0.505	0.09	0.21	0.43	0.666

Appendix I: Exploratory Use of Funds

Treatment Group Use of Funds

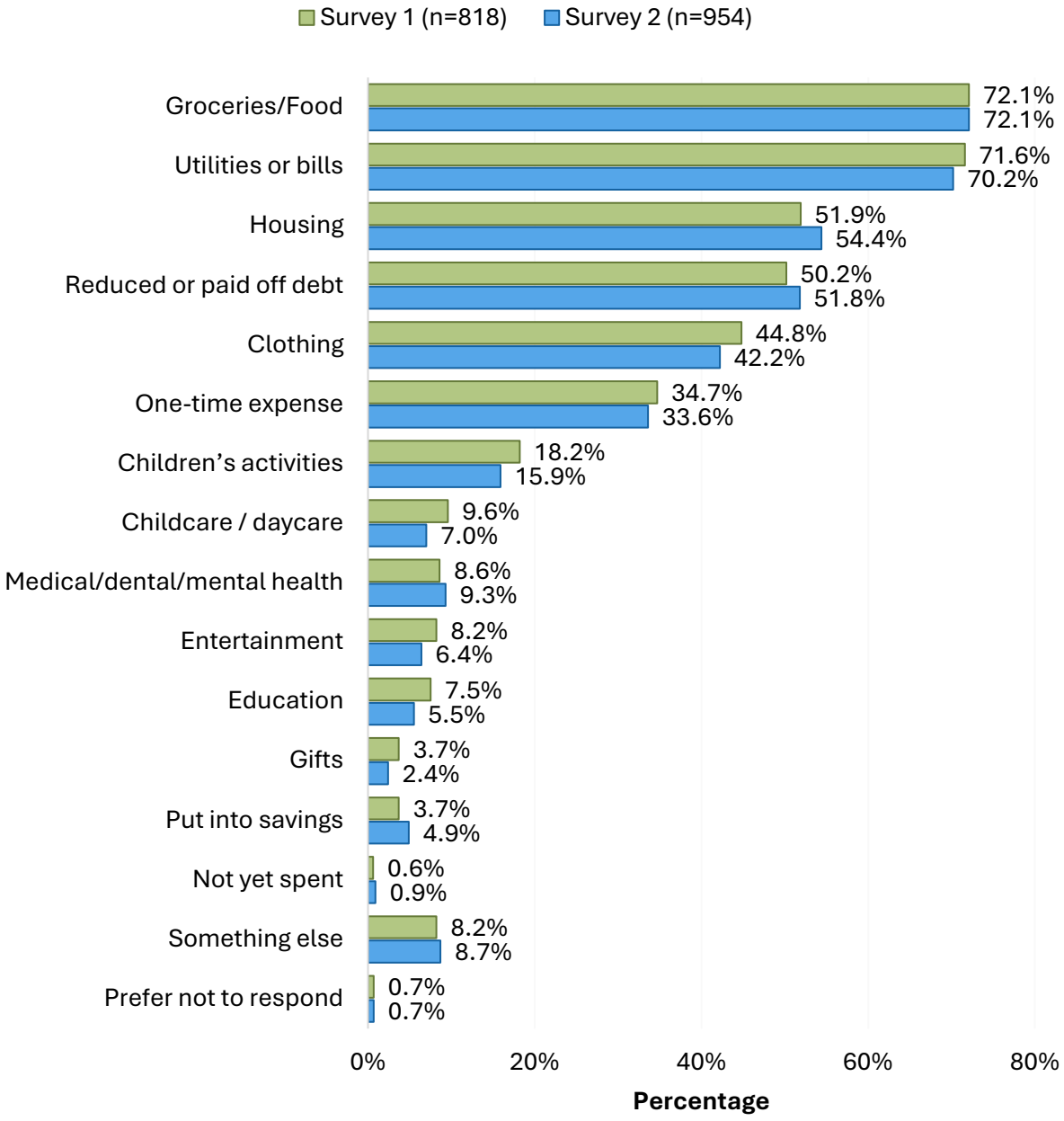
Cash recipients who responded to the survey were asked to self-report about how they used the funds. They could select as many that applied from the following list:

a. Reduced or paid off debt (credit card, loans, etc.)
b. One-time expense (car repair, housing improvement, etc.)
c. Education (online classes, degree program, vocational training etc.)
d. Groceries/Food (including formula and diapers)
e. Utilities or bills (electricity/gas/heat, cell phone, etc.)
f. Clothing
g. Housing
h. Put into savings
i. Medical/dental/mental health
j. Entertainment (restaurants, events, gifts, vacation, etc.)
k. Children's activities (sports, camp, art/music, etc.)
l. Childcare / daycare
m. Gifts
n. Something else (please specify) _____
o. Not yet spent
p. Prefer not to respond

The top ways RAFT survey respondents in the treatment group reported using the $4,000 received through the RAFT program include paying for groceries/food, utilities or bills, housing, reduced or paid off debt, clothing, or one-time expense. There was no statistically significant difference between July 2024 and February 2025 in how respondents used the money.

At both points in time, when participants reported using the RAFT money on something other than the provided options, the majority reported using the money on living expenses and travel and transportation. Other reported expenses included health and wellness (e.g., medical and funeral expenses), giving (e.g., philanthropy, gifts), and family and relationships (e.g., money owed to family, child support).

Figure 4: Reported Use of Funds by Survey*



*Respondents were allowed to select all that apply.

Qualitative Interviews and Open-Ended Responses

In addition to analyzing financial data, participants assigned to the treatment group were asked how (if at all) the $4,000 cash assistance impacted their day-to-day lives. These findings are based on multiple sources of qualitative data, including interviews conducted by Jewish Family Services (JFS) with 10 participants in June 2023 and 42 participants in June 2025, as well as responses from two follow-up surveys. Follow-up 1 and follow-up 2

surveys received 822 and 692 responses, respectively, for an open-ended question asking participants about the impact the cash payment had at the time of receipt. Table 28 below summarizes the common themes identified from these qualitative findings.

Table 28: Summary of Common Themes from Participant Responses on the Impact of the $4,000 Cash Payment

Themes	Definition
Basic Needs	Participants used the cash assistance to cover essential expenses such as groceries, utilities, clothing, furniture, transportation, and home/car repairs.
Pay Off Debt/Savings/Investment	Participants used the cash to pay off debt, including credit cards, rent, and loans. Some invested the money in education or vocational training, and when possible, saved the money for emergencies.
Temporary Housing	Participants used the cash to secure or maintain housing, including rental deposits or overdue rent. For some experiencing homelessness, the cash helped pay for temporary hotel stays or the purchase of a car, which provided both reliable transportation for work and, in some cases, a temporary place to sleep as opposed to staying outdoors.
Medical and Health	Participants used the funds to pay for medical, dental, or mental health expenses without added financial strain. Some also set aside cash for future medical emergencies and funeral costs.
Children's Needs/Enrichment	Participants with children used the funds towards their children's needs, including school supplies, tuition, childcare, and enrichment activities that supposed their growth and development.
Reduced Financial Stress	Participants described feeling a sense of relief and peace of mind after receiving the cash. Participants described the cash reduced financial stress and worry, helped them keep up with rent and bills, and allowed them to enjoy meaningful moments, such as celebrating holidays with their families.
No Change in their Financial Situation	Some participants reported that the assistance provided only short-term relief. Once the funds were spent, their financial hardships resumed, and their overall situations remained largely unchanged.

Note: These are based on qualitative analysis of follow-up 1 and follow-up 2 survey responses (n=822 and n=692) and interviews conducted by JFS in June 2023 (n=10) and June 2025 (n=42).

Appendix J: Acronyms

ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act

BGL – Better Government Lab, Georgetown University

BL – Board Letter

CalSAWS – California Statewide Automated Welfare System

CATE – Complier Average Treatment Effect

CATT – Conditional Average Treatment Effect on the Treated

CS – Callaway and Sant'Anna

DiD – Difference in Differences

FPL – Federal Poverty Level

HHSA – Health and Human Services Agency

JFS – Jewish Family Services

HMIS – Homeless Management Information System

ITT – Intent to Treat

OEPA – Office of Evaluation, Performance, and Analytics

OES – Office of Evaluation Sciences

RAFT – Recovery Action Fund for Tomorrow

RCT – Randomized Control Trial

SNAP – Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

TANF – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families