

*Keynote Conversation*

# The Public Policy Landscape

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# THE PUBLIC POLICY LANDSCAPE

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FEDERAL ACTIONS & COVID LEGISLATION  
CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES



# OVERVIEW

- Federal Administrative Rules & Actions
- COVID-19 2020 Federal Legislation
- Healthcare
- Nutritional Support
- Housing & Homeless
- Biden Administration: Opportunities
- Challenges & Opportunities

# FEDERAL ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & ACTIONS

## HEALTHCARE

- Nursing Home Regulations (Pending)
- Home Healthcare Workers Benefits  
(Final – Blocked by Court Order)
- Medicaid Waivers (Final – Pending in Court)
- Federal/State Funding (Final)

## SSI / SSDI

- Evaluation of Medical Evidence (Final)
- Disability Reviews (Pending)
- Administrative Appeals (Final)
- Monthly Withholding (Pending)

## IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

- Public Charge  
(Final – Blocked and Pending in Court)
- HUD: Mixed Status Households (Pending)
- Refugee/Asylee Rights  
(Final/Pending)

## SNAP / CALFRESH

- Categorial Eligibility (Pending)
- Utility Allowances (Pending)

## LGBTQ RIGHTS

- ACA 1557  
(Final – Blocked and Pending in Court)
- HHS Grants Regulation (Final)
- HUD Gender Identity (Pending)

# COVID-19 FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Coronavirus Preparedness & Response	Family First Coronavirus Response Act (Family First)	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security act (CARES Act)	Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA)
March 6, 2020	March 18, 2020	March 27, 2020	December 27, 2020
\$8.3B	\$192B	\$2.2T	\$900B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vaccine and therapeutic research</li> <li>CDC for state/local response</li> <li>Small Business Administration loans</li> <li>Medicare: telehealth restrictions lifted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency family and medical leave</li> <li>Paid sick leave</li> <li>Nutrition support</li> <li>Free COVID-19 testing</li> <li>FMAP increase</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government funding</li> <li>Unemployment</li> <li>FEMA Disaster Relief Fund</li> <li>\$1,200 economic payments</li> <li>Nutrition support</li> <li>Geriatric training</li> <li>Medicare funding</li> <li>Housing programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child care</li> <li>Child Welfare</li> <li>Nutrition support</li> <li>Rental support</li> <li>Housing support</li> <li>\$600 economic payments</li> </ul>

# HEALTHCARE: COVID LEGISLATION

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## Medicaid

- States receive additional federal funding for Medicaid
- Home health care and telecare options increased
- COVID-19 testing is free for uninsured individuals
- \$300M to distribute vaccines to high-risk and underserved populations

## Medicare

- Vaccines will be free for Medicare beneficiaries
- Home health care and telecare options increased

## Long Term Care

- \$200M to CMS, at least half to be spent on nursing home inspections
- Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program

# NUTRITIONAL SUPPORT: COVID LEGISLATION

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## SNAP/ CalFresh

- Emergency allotments available to maximum monthly allotment for household size
- Benefit increase of 15% effective 1/1/21 – 6/30/21

## Older Adults

- \$1.15B total for senior nutrition programs
- Individuals who are homebound for social distancing are eligible for home-delivered meals, regardless of other eligibility criteria
- \$455M for Aging and Disability Services Programs
- Authorization of California's Great Plates Delivered program (75% cost share)
- \$863M total for Commodity Supplemental Food Program

## Food Banks

- \$400M for Emergency Food Assistance Program

# HOUSING & HOMELESS: COVID LEGISLATION

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## Rental Assistance

- \$4B for Emergency Solutions Grants for shelters and outreach workers
- \$25B for new Emergency Rental Assistance program

## Eviction Moratorium

- Moratorium on most evictions for nonpayment of rent September 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021

## Federal Housing Programs

- \$4.9B total for a range of programs, including: Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, Runaway and Homeless Youth, Family Violence Prevention Services, Housing for the Elderly, Housing for Persons with Disabilities, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, Public Housing Operating Fund, and Project-Based Rental Assistance



# BIDEN ADMINISTRATION: OPPORTUNITIES

## COVID Legislation

- Long-Term Care Facility Infection Control
- Public Health Corps
- \$1,400 Economic Payments
- \$15 Minimum Wage
- Rental Assistance
- Homeless Funding
- LIHEAP
- EITC

## Social Security

- Increase SSI Benefits
- Repeal Marriage Penalty
- Increase Resource Limit and Disregards
- Eliminate Waiting Periods for SSDI and Medicare
- Ease of Access to Social Security Administration

## Medicaid/Medicare

- Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)
- Medicare LTSS
- Medicare Supplement Benefits
- Medicaid Estate Recovery

## Older Americans Act

- Increased Funding
- Focus on Social Determinants of Health
- Focus on Social Isolation
- Elder Justice Outreach

# CHALLENGES

- Food insecurity
- Social isolation
- Digital divide
- Housing insecurity
- Sufficient income
- Disaster preparedness
- Vaccine distribution & injection

# OPPORTUNITIES

- Master Plan on Aging
- Age Friendly County designation
- Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
- Addressing digital divide
- Maximize state and federal funding in response to COVID-19
- COVID-19 federal legislation
- Influence legislation efforts regarding senior housing and monitoring and reporting communicable diseases in facilities
- Layer equity across all planning and decision making



## THANK YOU!

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# Preparing for CalAIM in 2021

MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE



Scott Coffin  
Chief Executive Officer  
January 29, 2021

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## CalAIM Overview

- ❑ “Governor Newsom’s Budget Proposal includes \$1.1 billion (\$531.9 million General Fund) to implement the CalAIM framework, including broad delivery system, program, and payment reforms. These statewide efforts will help better manage member risk through population health management strategies, reduce variation and complexity in the health care system, and improve outcomes through payment reform.”
- ❑ The California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative “will target and coordinate care for vulnerable populations with complex health needs that currently drive high costs. The effort will include housing-related services and flexible wraparound services so health plans may avoid costlier alternatives to hospitalization, skilled nursing facility admission, and/or discharge delay.”
- ❑ <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/budget/2021-22/#/Agency/4000>



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## Most Important Questions in 2021

- ☐ How do the COVID-19 vaccinations factor into the planning efforts this year?  
How do the equity and health disparities affect the vaccination rates?
- ☐ What is the capacity of the delivery system in Alameda County to support the whole person care and health home program transitions on 12/31/2021?
- ☐ CalAIM requires encounter reporting and patient tracking by the physicians and caregivers to participate in the delivery of services. Is the delivery system ready with the proper infrastructure to participate?
- ☐ In order to coordinate transitions of care for the enhanced care management populations, do legal barriers exist that prohibit the sharing of patient data?
- ☐ How do we work together to define the eligibility criteria and service thresholds (e.g. number of visits), and identify the “highest value” set of services to offer?

## ECM & ILOS: Community-Based Approach

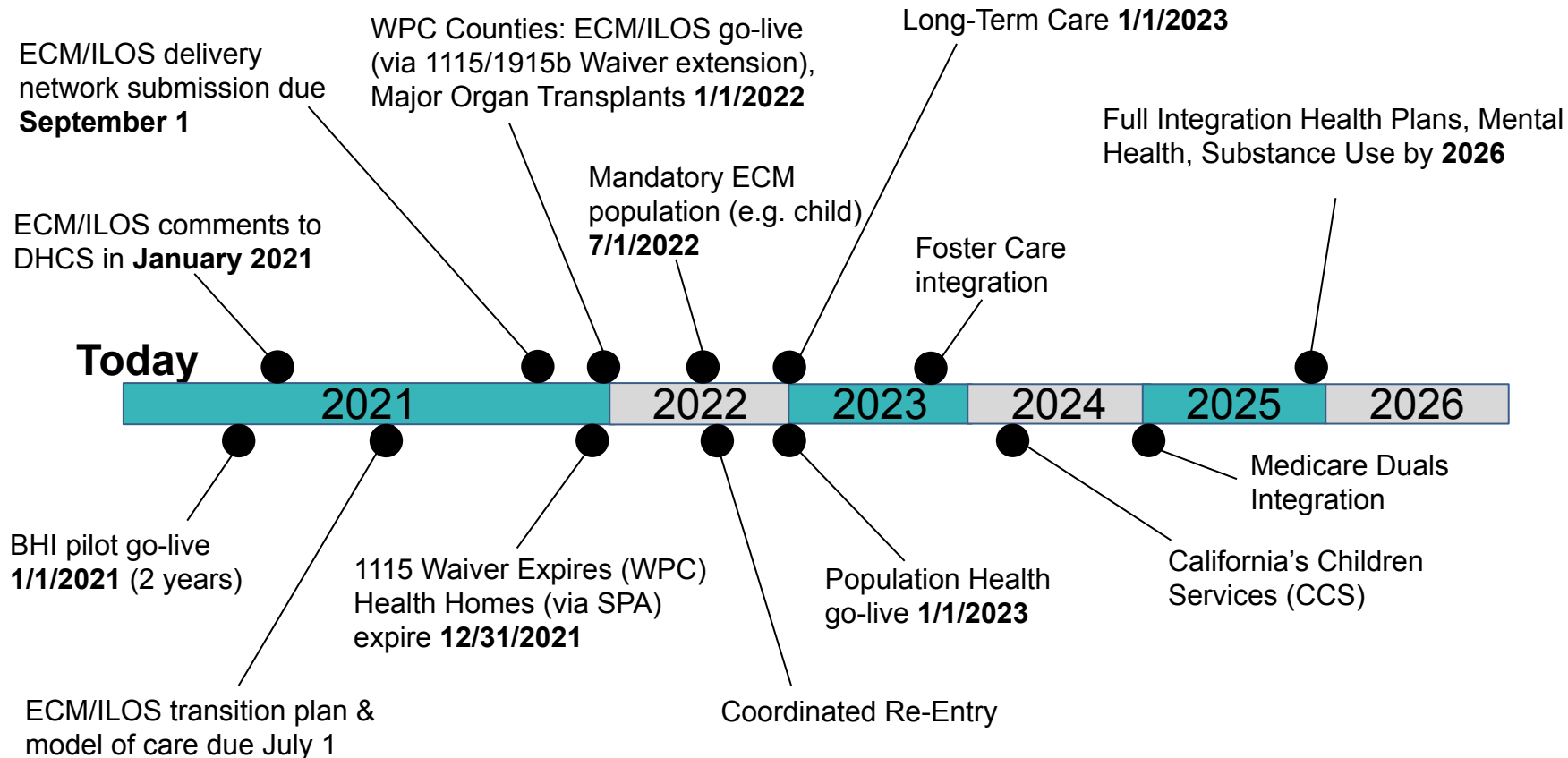
- ☐ **February, March, April:**
  - ☐ Listening Sessions & Planning Sessions (virtual)
  - ☐ Both managed care health plans at the same table – Alliance, Anthem
  
- ☐ **May, June:**
  - ☐ DHCS – Reimbursement Rates
  - ☐ Draft the transition plan and model of care, due to DHCS by July 1<sup>st</sup>
  
- ☐ **July, August, September:**
  - ☐ Finalize ECM and ILOS Provider Networks, due to DHCS by September 1<sup>st</sup>
  - ☐ Regulatory Approvals
  
- ☐ **Operational Readiness in October, November, and December**






# Appendix

# CalAIM in Alameda County





## Enhanced Care Management (ECM) targets specific populations in the Medi-Cal system, for children and adults:

1	Children or youth with complex physical, behavioral, developmental and oral health needs (i.e. California Children Services, foster care, youth with Clinical High-Risk syndrome or first episode of psychosis).
2	Individuals experiencing homelessness, chronic homelessness, or who are at risk of becoming homeless.
3	High utilizers with frequent hospital admissions, short-term skilled nursing facility stays, or emergency room visits.
4	Individuals at risk for institutionalization, eligible for long-term care.
5	Nursing facility residents who want to transition to the community.
6	Individuals at risk for institutionalization with Serious Mental Illness (SMI), children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED), or Substance Use Disorder (SUD) with co-occurring chronic health conditions.
7	Individuals transitioning from incarceration who have significant complex physical or behavioral health needs requiring immediate transition of services to the community. Applies to County Jail and Juvenile facilities.

## In Lieu of Services (ILOS)

1	Housing Transition Navigation Services
2	Housing Deposits
3	Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services
4	Short-term Post-Hospitalization Housing
5	Recuperative Care (Medical Respite)
6	Respite
7	Day Habilitation Programs
8	Nursing Facility Transition / Diversion to Assisted Living Facilities, such as Residential Care Facilities for Elderly & Adult (RCFE) and Adult Residential Facilities (ARF)
9	Nursing Facility Transition to a Home
10	Personal Care (beyond In-Home Services and Supports) and Homemaker Services
11	Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (Home Modifications)
12	Meals / Medically-Tailored Meals / Medically-Supportive
13	Sobering Centers (transitions to IP/OP Detox Centers - excludes "medical" detox centers)
14	Asthma Remediation

# Q&A

*Type questions in the chat.*