

## CALIFORNIA PROVIDES \$60 MILLION TO COUNTIES AND LOCAL GROUPS TO ENROLL HARD-TO-REACH INDIVIDUALS IN MEDI-CAL

**SACRAMENTO** — The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) awarded \$59.8 million to 23 county agencies and 12 community-based organizations (CBO), covering 44 total counties, to serve as [Medi-Cal Health Enrollment Navigators](#) through June 30, 2025.

**WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT:** The additional funding is intended to allow partners to focus on helping members retain their Medi-Cal coverage throughout the 14-month Medi-Cal eligibility redetermination period. Medi-Cal Health Enrollment Navigators are also expected to support targeted outreach and enrollment assistance for new Medi-Cal program eligibility and benefit expansions to undocumented individuals and people who may require additional assistance, such as those with limited English proficiency and persons with disabilities.

“DHCS is partnering with counties and organizations with deep connections to their communities to provide vital assistance to hard-to-reach Californians. Through these partnerships, we are working to ensure all eligible Californians have the support they need to apply for and use their Medi-Cal coverage, as well as to help current members keep their coverage,” said **DHCS Director Michelle Baass**.

The county awardees (\$35.9 million total allocated) include Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Lake, Madera, Merced, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Stanislaus, Trinity, Tuolumne, and Ventura. The CBOs (\$23.9 million total allocated) include Ampla Health, Bonita Family Resource Center, Catholic Charities of California, California Coverage and Health Initiatives, Center for Human Development, Community Service Solutions, Harwood/Family Resource Center Network, Innercare, Kaweah Delta Health Care, Marin Community Clinic, Sacramento Covered, and San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium.

**HOW GRANTS HELP:** DHCS identified 12 priority target populations to focus health navigation efforts:

- Persons with mental health disorder needs.
- Persons with substance use disorder needs.
- Persons with other disabilities.

- Older persons.
- Persons who are homeless.
- Young people of color.
- Immigrants and families of mixed immigration status.
- Persons with limited English proficiency.
- Low-wage workers and their families or dependents.
- Uninsured children and youth formerly enrolled in Medi-Cal.
- Persons who are in county jail or state prison, on state parole, on county probation, or under post release community supervision.
- Populations affected by Medi-Cal eligibility expansions.

**ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:** The Medi-Cal Health Enrollment Navigators project was established on July 1, 2019, as part of the 2019 Budget Act (Assembly Bill 74). Senate Bill 154 (Chapter 43, Statutes of 2022) allocated an additional \$60 million (\$30 million General Fund) to continue support for activities associated with the Medi-Cal Health Enrollment Navigators project. Awards were made to county agencies that had previously declined to seek a Health Enrollment Navigator funding allocation.

Counties and CBOs perform the following activities to reach vulnerable populations: outreach (direct, electronic, and print media); application assistance; enrollment; and assistance with accessing and utilizing health care services, troubleshooting, retention, and redeterminations.

# # #

**NUMBER:** 23-10 | **DATE:** March 3, 2023

**CONTACT:** [Office of Communications](#), (916) 440-7660

[www.dhcs.ca.gov](http://www.dhcs.ca.gov)