

Follow-up Items from May 27, 2020, SAC and BH-SAC Webinar

Budget

Linda Nguy, Western Center on Law and Poverty: I agree with the LAO that the Medi-Cal caseload cost is overestimated as we think DHCS has an expensive case mix and early surge peak. The caseload increase is primarily due to layoffs and many are eligible for a 90% federal match rate. How far apart is DHCS from the LAO \$750 million revised estimate for the GF?

DHCS Response: *Jacey Cooper, DHCS:* We are reviewing this and looking at actual per-member-per-month cost. We don't have a specific delta for you at this time other than the LAO recommendation.

DHCS Follow-Up: The final budget reflects a negotiated adjustment to COVID-19 related caseload costs. However, the adjustment is not as significant as the LAO recommended. The LAO recommended that COVID-19 related caseload costs be adjusted downward by \$1.2 billion total funds (about \$750 million General Fund), while the final budget adjusts COVID-19 caseload costs downward by \$780 million total funds (\$358 million General Fund) compared to the May Revision.

Carrie Gordon, CA Dental Association: Yes, we are still struggling with PPE and that's one of the reasons they are only open for 30%. As small businesses, it's hard to sustain a full time practice on 30% of revenue. Hearing sad conversations about dentists who can't afford to come back.

DHCS Response: *Bradley Gilbert, DHCS:* Thank you. We are working hard to get the Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) and working with CDPH to get detailed guidelines for dentist on return to care. Let us know if there is more to do on that and appreciate your comments regarding the budget.

DHCS Follow-Up: Guidance was issued for dental providers to begin reopening dental offices to start providing dental care. More information is available on the DHCS website: https://smilecalifornia.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/member_bulletin_june-special_2020.pdf