



## SANTA CRUZ COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

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RANDY MORRIS, DIRECTOR

# News Release



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## NEW COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES DATA DASHBOARD PUBLISHED

*Using Human Services Data to Demonstrate Efficacy and Better Serve Community*

To better serve the community, increase transparency and improve the well-being of social services clients, the County of Santa Cruz Human Services Department (HSD) has published a new data dashboard site, [Dedicated to Making a Difference](#).

The new dashboards allow the public, government partners, and community-based organizations to access accurate and comprehensive data and performance trends, providing insight into the critical social services and interventions HSD provides to the community to protect the health, safety and welfare of Santa Cruz County residents.

HSD's budget expends roughly \$200 million annually on direct client supports for Medi-Cal health coverage, CalFresh food assistance, In-Home Support Services to qualifying older or disabled adults and children, and cash aid to the poorest families and adults in Santa Cruz County. Largely a blend of state and federal dollars, approximately 34 percent of HSD's budget covers costs to administer client benefits, or to provide workforce development, housing supports, and protection to vulnerable or abused children, youth and adults.

The dashboards cover several areas: Employment and Economic Security, Health and Well-Being, Safety and Care, and Housing, and use the latest available data. Along with charts that describe HSD's programs, the dashboard also includes maps showing program data by Supervisorial District, Incorporated Cities, and School Districts. The dashboard augments HSD's longstanding commitment to transparency and demonstrates its efficacy to meet community need for the nearly one-third of Santa Cruz County's population served.

"We are excited to announce our new data dashboards and show the extensive work County social services does on behalf of the community," HSD Director Randy Morris said.

"We hope this data helps contextualize our department's daily work to help our most vulnerable residents access vital programs and benefits, including support for children, families and elderly and disabled residents—especially at a time when our federal and state governments are proposing safety net cuts that could deeply impact those we serve."

To access the new Making A Difference data dashboard and learn more, visit:

<https://www.santacruzhumanservices.org/Home/AboutUs/MakingADifference>

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PROTECTING THE VULNERABLE ♦ PROMOTING SELF-SUFFICIENCY ♦ ALLEVIATING POVERTY

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ALL COUNTY RESIDENTS