

Sacramento County Department of Child, Family and Adult Services Guaranteed Income Pilot

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What is Family First Sacramento?

Family First
Prevention Services

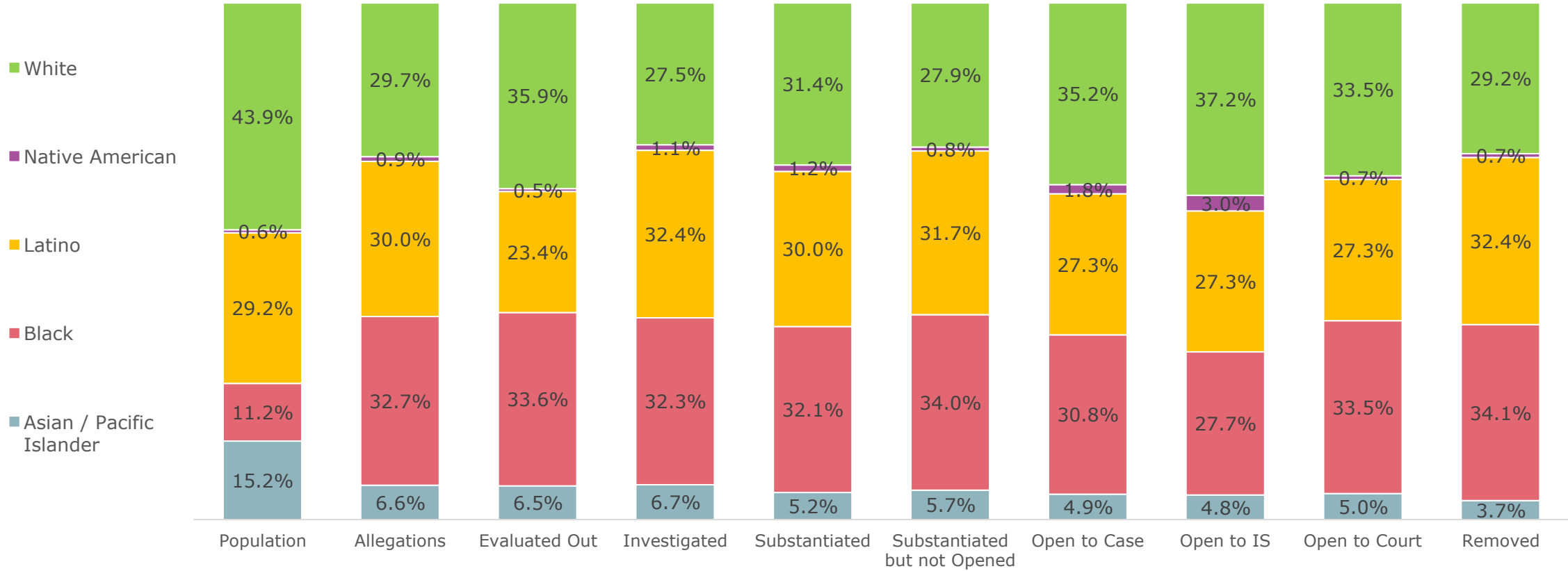
CA Dept of Social Services – State Block Grant

- One-Time Funding: DCFAS received \$7.3M and Probation received \$1.7M
- Developed a County Comprehensive Prevention Plan (CPP) in collaboration with Probation
- Includes Primary, Secondary, Tertiary Prevention
- Community Listening Sessions & Data Informed CPP Strategies

CPP Strategies Focus on:

- Equitable Child & Family Well-being
- Decreasing Disparities for Black/AA and American Indian/Alaska Native Children Ages 0-5

Children 0-5 Population Intersection with Child Welfare



Source: DCFAS CWS-CMS Data

Data

Decision Points (Allegations, Investigations, Open Cases, Removals)

Black/African American Children 0-5 in Sacramento County are:

- 4.3 times as likely to have an allegation than White children (0-5)
- 4.6 times as likely to have an allegation investigated than White children (0-5)
- 4 times as likely to have an allegation substantiated than White children (0-5)
- 2.9 times as likely to have a new voluntary Informal Supervision (IS) case than White children (0-5)
- 3.9 times as likely to have a new case with court involvement than White children (0-5)
- 4.5 times as likely to be removed from their family than White children (0-5)

Data

Decision Points (Allegations, Investigations, Open Cases, Removals)

American Indian/Alaska Native Children 0-5 in Sacramento County are:

- 2.2 times as likely to have an allegation than White children (0-5)
- 2.9 times as likely to have an allegation investigated than White children (0-5)
- 2.8 times as likely to have an allegation substantiated than White children (0-5)
- 5.9 times as likely to have a new voluntary Informal Supervision (IS) case than White children (0-5)
- 1.5 times as likely to have a new case with court oversight than White children (0-5)
- Are 1.8 times as likely to be removed from their family than White children (0-5)

What we learned from families

To inform the development of our CPP and county strategies, feedback was gathered from families in Sacramento regarding what they needed to make their family and community stronger.

Many needs emerged from community listening sessions and DCFAS is addressing the most common themes with our Comprehensive Prevention Plan strategies.

- Basic/concrete needs: food, diapers, formula, transportation, household bills
- Stable and affordable housing
- Affordable & accessible childcare
- Accessibility to services

Family First Sacramento Strategies



What is Guaranteed Income?

"One mother in the Magnolia Mother's Trust used her first guaranteed income payment to re-enroll in phlebotomy classes, which she had stopped for years after being unable to pay tuition. She has since graduated from her phlebotomy program and transitioned to work as a phlebotomist—allowing her to earn higher wages to support herself and her family."

- Recurring cash payments to individuals/families over a set duration and distributed on a regular basis to support meeting the needs that the individual/family considers to be most important.
- Guaranteed Income payments often target community members most impacted by disparities. It is intended to create an income floor and promote the dignity of individuals and families.
- Creates opportunity to improve the well-being of families of color living in poverty and reduce contact with formal public systems such as CPS & Probation.

"Economic insecurity and material hardship are known contributors to child welfare system involvement."

– Chapin Hall & American Public Human Services Association

FFS & GI Pilot Population Areas of Focus

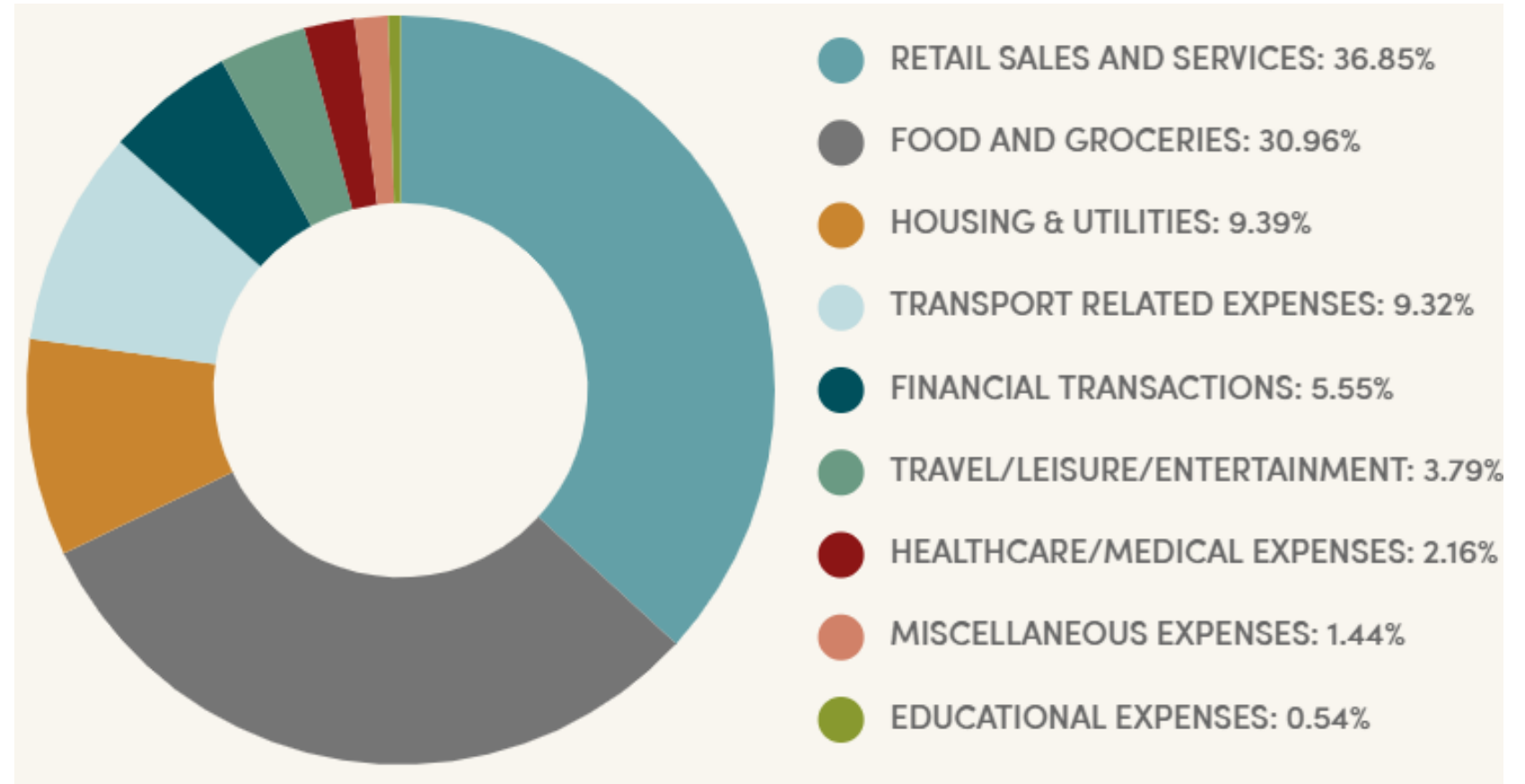
Child Welfare data reflects that Black/AA and American Indian/Alaska Native children 0-5 have the highest rate of contact with and entry into the child welfare system and are overrepresented as compared to their population size.

- To address racial disparities, we identified the top zip codes in Sacramento County with Black/AA children 0-5 who had the highest rates of contact with CPS:
 - 95823 & 95828 (Valley Hi & Florin)
 - 95815 & 95838 (North Sacramento & Del Paso Heights)
 - 95821 & 95825 (Arden Arcade)
- Census data also reflected that the poverty rates for Black/AA children under 5 in these zip codes was high.
- American Indian/Alaska Native children 0-5 are also included as a focus population given their overrepresentation in the child welfare system.

How do participants spend funds?

- 8,013 participants
- Data from 26 pilots nationally

Participants spend most of their income on the same things everyone else spends their money on: **Basic Needs.**



Source: Guaranteed Income Pilots Dashboard

<https://guaranteedincome.us/>

Impacts of Guaranteed Income

*"The guaranteed income payments helped me pay for my child's dental work."
- Single mom of three,
United Way GI recipient in Sacramento*

"With receiving the guaranteed income... it took a lot of stress off of trying to find different organizations to assist with certain things. I was able to pay bills. So, that left me more time to look for a job that would work with my schedule, which is how I ended up coming across [my current] job." –GI Recipient

Evaluation of other guaranteed income projects nationally have found some of the below outcomes:

- Increased ability to meet basic needs
- Improved mental health, Physical Health & Overall Well-being
- Increased Employment
- Increased Income Security
- Increased Housing Stability
- Increased Enrichment & Parent-child bonding
- Improved educational outcomes and child development

Sacramento County GI Pilot Eligibility Criteria

- Parents/legal guardians of Black/African American & American Indian/Alaska Native children 0-5 years old
- Child lives with the parent/legal guardian
- Family residing full-time (if unhoused, was previously residing) in one of the identified zip codes
- Family income under 200% of the federal poverty level
- Only 1 parent may participate from a two-parent household
- Family not already receiving GI from another program

Recruitment, Participant Selection and Enrollment Process

- Online application – assistance provided in-person and includes a baseline survey.
- Selection by lottery with randomization into the Intervention and Control groups.
- Intervention group contacted to confirm eligibility and benefits counseling provided. Enrollment if individual chooses to participate.
- Control group will be contacted and informed of their group assignment.
- Both groups will be encouraged to participate in ongoing research activities and will receive incentives for doing.
- Intervention group will receive \$725/month for 12 months.
- Goal is to start in July 2024

Evaluation

DCFAS-CPS and the GI Evaluation Contractor will collaboratively finalize the areas of research and methods to collect data.

The evaluation plan will include qualitative and quantitative data and will be reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB).

All participants will complete an initial baseline survey and subsequent participation in research will be voluntary.

May include but is not limited to the following:

- Food security/ability to meet basic needs
- Housing stability/quality
- Employment
- Access to transportation
- Access to healthcare
- Chronic stress/mental health
- Social support or connectedness
- Educational experience/attainment
- Quality of/increased enjoyment of parent-child interactions
- Administrative data to review areas such as:
 - Contact with Child Welfare
 - Government benefits utilization
 - Unemployment claims

Questions?

