



Alameda County
Social Services Agency
A safety net. A way forward.

2025 - 2026 Guaranteed Income & Healthy Retail Impact Report

Funded by

The Hellman Foundation



Prepared By:

**Alameda County Social Services Agency
Office of Policy, Strategy & Innovation**



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A Safety Net
A Way Forward

Because life happens.

We Show Up. We Stand With You

Together, We Create A Way Forward

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Introduction

The Alameda County Social Services Agency (ACSSA) extends its sincere gratitude to the Hellman Foundation for its **generous support through the Collaborative Change Initiative Grant**—originally awarded to ALL IN Alameda County in 2021. This investment allowed us to **deepen our commitment to improving the health, stability, and well-being of communities across Alameda County**. With this support, we directed more than **\$600,000** into two vital program areas - Healthy Retail and Guaranteed Income - each designed to **confront urgent and long-standing barriers facing individuals and families**. These initiatives expanded access to nutritious, affordable food and provided meaningful financial support to residents striving to meet basic needs, offering both immediate relief and pathways toward long-term economic security.

This work **unfolded during a period of profound organizational transition**. The untimely passing of the late Supervisor Wilma Chan - ALL IN's founder, guiding light, and steadfast champion - coupled with the relocation of ALL IN staff from the County Administrator's Office to Alameda County Health and the Alameda County Social Services Agency, and the sunsetting of the ALL IN Steering Committee, brought significant complexity. Yet these challenges also **underscored the necessity of sustaining and evolving this important work**. Thanks to the **unwavering support of ACSSA Director Andrea Ford and the Agency's leadership team**, we successfully navigated these transitions and continued to advance community-centered initiatives that reflect our shared values and long-term vision.

As a result, we strengthened local systems, uplifted community resilience, and made meaningful progress toward a county where all people have the opportunity to thrive. We are proud to present this final report, which **reflects the outcomes achieved through this remarkable partnership and collective endeavor**.



Funding Strategy

Our Guaranteed Income and Healthy Retail grant programs were designed to invest our Collaborative Change Initiative funds into high-impact initiatives that promoted Economic Opportunity, Education, and Health & Equitable Food Access. This project ensured **continued support for community-driven programs through targeted, equity-focused investments.**

Inspired by Warren Hellman's legacy and the Foundation's commitment to fairness and justice for Bay Area communities, our Agency sought to **bring together diverse stakeholders to generate collaborative, systems-level impact.**

Through a needs assessment, data analysis, review of past initiatives, and community and stakeholder input, we developed a funding rationale focused on equity and impact. This strategy **prioritized reaching communities that had historically been hardest to reach** - where we believed these funds would make the greatest difference. Each initiative reflected what we heard from the community and aligned with the long-term goals of Alameda County's Vision 2036. In doing so, we also worked to uphold and honor the foundational efforts of ALL IN Alameda County that paved the way for this continued progress.



Process

Grant Application and Selection Process

Application Outreach

The grant application and selection process was intentionally designed to be **transparent, accessible, and inclusive** across Alameda County.

Outreach efforts ensured broad awareness of the opportunity by promoting the grant across all five Board of Supervisors' districts, including unincorporated areas.

Promotion efforts included distributing flyers and conducting presentations to share the opportunity through district newsletters across Alameda County, as well as on social media platforms and professional networking platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn, and through broader community networks.

To ensure accessibility for the County's diverse communities, **all materials were translated into the seven threshold languages**: English, Spanish, Cambodian, Chinese, Farsi, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

To further expand reach, we partnered with **nonprofit organizations, community-based groups, and Public Health partners** to connect with eligible program participants. Outreach efforts included participation in unincorporated area committees, nutrition-focused meetings, and community convenings, with community leaders promoting this opportunity in their communities.

These combined strategies ensured the opportunity was widely accessible and grounded in community engagement.



Grant Opportunity

Funding Available for Corner Stores to Offer More Healthy Foods

We are accepting applications to support corner stores in Alameda County with one-time funds of up to \$25,000.

Funds can cover equipment, refrigeration, shelving, and other improvements.

Apply by October 10, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Submit your application to:
SSAInnovations@acgov.org



Flyer: Healthy Retail Grant Opportunity



Process

Grant Application and Selection Process

Selection & Decision Making

A cross-functional selection committee composed of internal and external stakeholders guided the review process through a **structured and data-informed approach**.

All applications were evaluated using a standardized scoring rubric to ensure **consistency, transparency, and fairness**.

The committee assessed each application based on key criteria, including **community need, feasibility, and potential impact**.

Final funding decisions were made collaboratively through a formal committee review process.

A flyer titled "GRANT OPPORTUNITY" with a green header. Below the title is a circular image showing several hands of different skin tones holding small green seedlings in soil. To the right of the image, text reads: "Apply for grants of up to \$175,000 to support existing Guaranteed Income Programs in Alameda County". Below this, a white box contains the text: "Apply by: October 10, 2025 at 5 PM". Further down, it says: "Scan the QR code for more information and to apply" and "Submit your application via email to: SSAlnnovations@acgov.org". A QR code is located to the right of this text. At the bottom, the Alameda County Social Services Agency logo is on the left, and "Funded by the Hellman Foundation" is on the right.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Apply for grants of up to \$175,000 to support existing Guaranteed Income Programs in Alameda County

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Alameda County Social Services Agency

Funded by the Hellman Foundation

Flyer: Guaranteed Income Grant Opportunity

To further strengthen equity-driven decision-making, application scores were analyzed alongside geographic and socioeconomic data, including **the Healthy Retail Map** (see page 6)

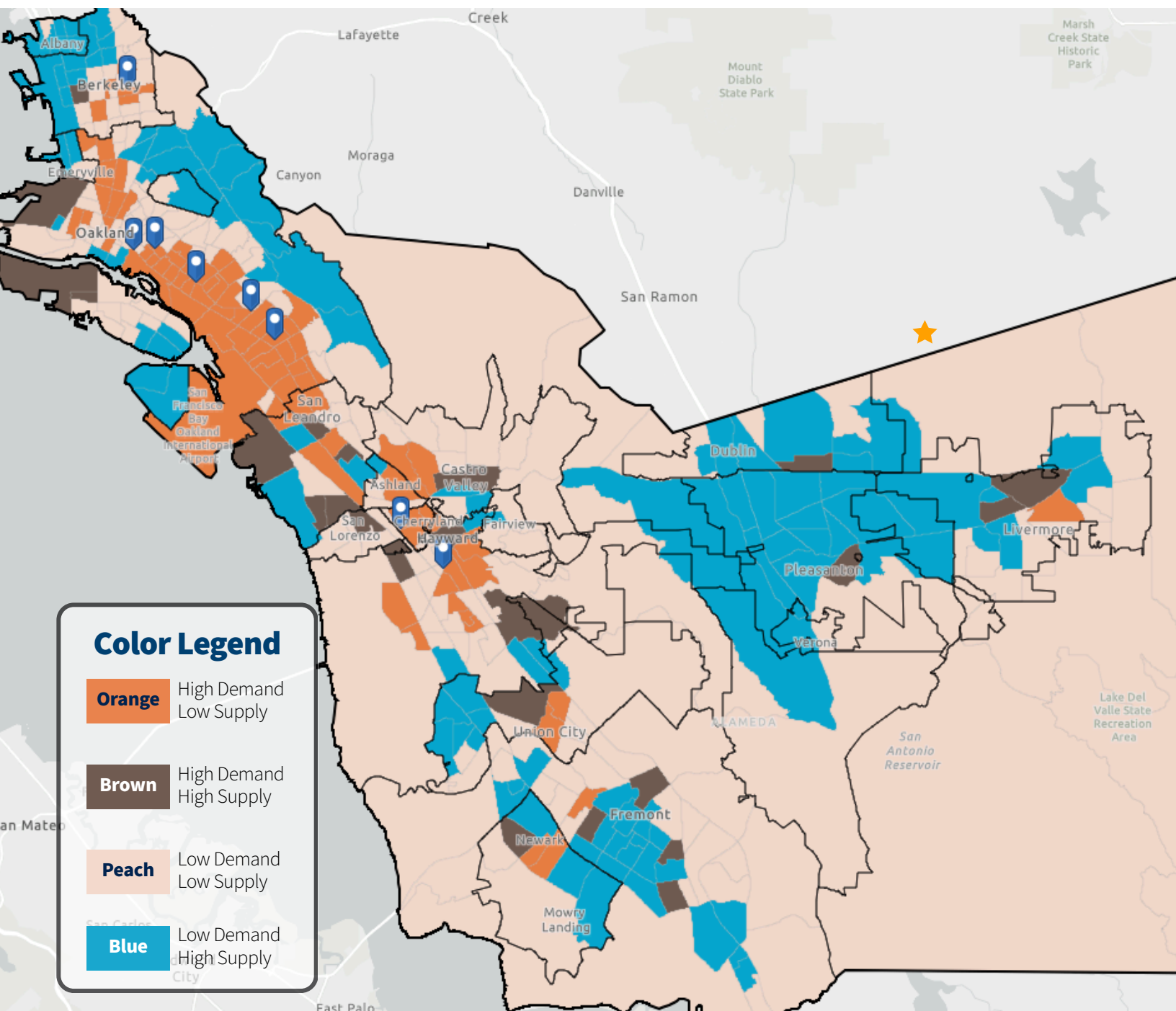
This integrated, equity-centered approach ensured that investments were **strategically prioritized in communities with the highest levels of need**, directing resources where they could generate the greatest impact.

Aligned with Hellman's vision, these investments have helped **pilot and scale innovative solutions** that address disparities in health, education, and economic opportunity.



Process

Healthy Retail Map



Store locations were prioritized in communities with the highest need based on food access and poverty data.

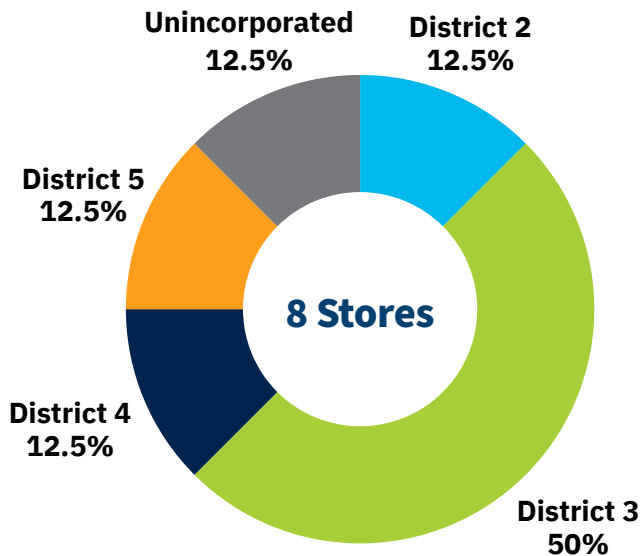
This map illustrates the **geographic distribution** of Healthy Retail grantees across Alameda County. Locations were strategically selected to align with **communities experiencing the greatest need**, based on food access and socioeconomic indicators.



Healthy Retail Program

Geographic Distribution

By Supervisorial District



Store Locations & Funding

Wah Fay Corner Store	\$11K
Holly Market	\$3K
Almahen Rancho Market	\$14K
Mother's Choice Nutrition	\$25K
Security Liquor and Groceries	\$25K
Berkeley Student Food Collective	\$25K
New Handy Corner Market	\$25K
Puesto Market	\$22K

A total of **\$150,000** was allocated to Healthy Retail initiatives to expand access to fresh and nutritious food across Alameda County. Through a competitive and data-informed selection process, funding was awarded to local corner store owners to implement improvements that increase the availability and visibility of healthy food options in communities with the greatest need.

Funding enabled store owners to **implement tailored, community-driven solutions that reflect their expertise and understanding of local needs.**

Investments included equipment upgrades, improved merchandising, expansion of healthy product offerings, and layout enhancements to increase the availability and visibility of fresh, healthy foods, especially in communities where residents depend on nearby stores due to limited access to transportation.

These efforts ultimately contribute to improved public health outcomes by **increasing equitable access to nutritious food in underserved communities.**



Awardees

Guaranteed Income Program

A total of **\$515,000** was allocated to Guaranteed Income (GI) initiatives to **advance financial stability and expand economic opportunity** across Alameda County. Through a **competitive, data-informed selection process**, funding was awarded to organizations implementing community-rooted solutions that support residents most impacted by systemic inequities. **This investment enabled GI programs to expand access** by increasing the number of participants, raising monthly stipend amount, and/or extending program duration so participants could continue receiving stipends beyond the program's original timeframe.

Guaranteed Income Program Grant Awards

● Expecting Justice

● Community Works West

● BANANAS

Alameda County Abundant Birth Project

\$175K

Restorative Resiliency Fund

\$175K

Steady Steps

\$165K

Alameda County Abundant Birth Project

Provides **guaranteed income support** to pregnant individuals and new mothers to improve maternal and infant health outcomes.

Restorative Resiliency Fund

Supports **individuals returning from incarceration** with guaranteed income to promote stability, reduce recidivism, and support successful reintegration.

Steady Steps

Provides **financial support** to families with young children, helping strengthen early childhood development and economic stability.



Alameda County Abundant Birth Project

Program Overview

The Alameda County Abundant Birth Project (ABP), implemented by Expecting Justice and in partnership with the Alameda County Family Health Services Division's Maternal, Paternal, Child, and Adolescent Health unit, provides guaranteed income (GI) to Black and other birthing people to **reduce financial stress during pregnancy and the early parenting period**. This report summarizes point-in-time outcomes as participants began receiving monthly payments of \$967 in February 2026 and will continue to receive payments through January 2027.

Challenges and How They Were Addressed

The primary challenge during implementation involved **updating the application and supporting participants to complete the enrollment process quickly**. To address this, the ABP and Beloved Birth teams collaborated closely, streamlining communication and providing in-person, real-time support during group prenatal care sessions. This approach ensured participants could **finalize enrollment efficiently and receive immediate assistance with questions or benefits counseling**. The collaborative model strengthened trust and improved administrative efficiency.



Distribution and Use of Grant Funds

Grant funds were distributed through AidKit via a dedicated debit card system. Initial participant feedback relates that **funds are being used primarily for essential household needs**, including housing, food, transportation, and other critical living expenses.

Early outcomes indicate significant benefits for participants:



12

Participants
Enrolled



100%

Maintained **consistent**
engagement in prenatal care



100%

Report feeling **more supported**
in their pregnancy



25%

Reported feeling **less worried**
about unexpected expenses



25%

Report feeling
less financial stress

Participant Feedback and Stories

To highlight the impact of the program while maintaining confidentiality, participants were invited to complete the sentence “**Because of the Abundant Birth Project...**”

Below are samples of participant responses that highlight the **emotional, financial, and practical support** they experienced through being in the program. These statements underscore the program’s role in reducing stress, increasing emotional support, and fostering stability during a vulnerable life stage.

“Because of the Abundant Birth Project...”

...I’m able to pay other bills I’m struggling with.

...I get support and respect.

...I feel like I can support myself and get through this pregnancy with no struggle.

...I have a support system with this new journey I am currently going through.

...I have more support and resources.

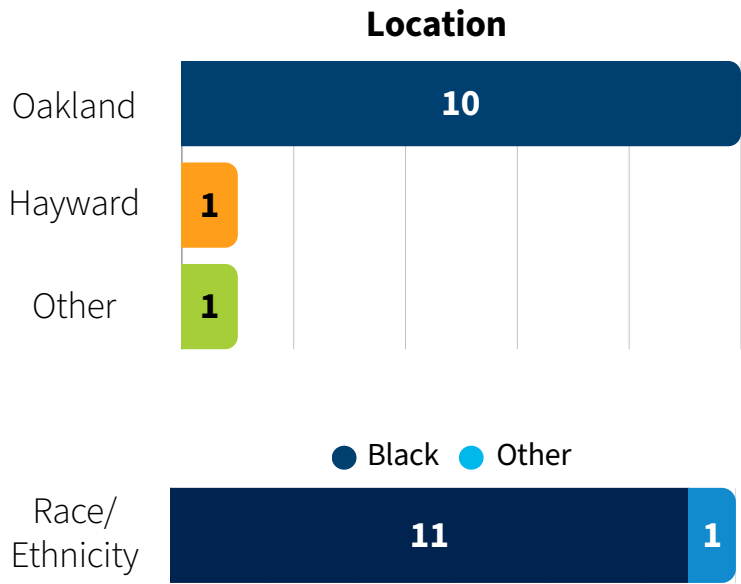
...I’m able to feel a little more comfortable with this pregnancy.



Reflections and Points of Pride

Administrators report being most proud of the program’s ability to offer **holistic, dignified support during pregnancy**. The integration of ABP with the Beloved Birth Black Centering model ensures that participants receive not only medical and emotional care but also financial stability - **reducing stress and supporting healthier perinatal outcomes**. This combined approach enhances participants’ ability to fully engage in prenatal care, strengthens trust in support systems, and advances a broader vision of birth equity in Alameda County. The program helps redefine what **comprehensive, respectful, and community-centered care** can look like, particularly for Black birthing people who continue to face persistent disparities in maternal health.

Participant Age Ranges 18-64: 12 (100%)



Conclusions

Although the program is still in progress, early data demonstrates strong engagement, improved participant well-being, and meaningful reductions in financial stress for a subset of participants. The integrated care and income support model continues to **show promise in advancing birth equity and supporting healthy pregnancies**. Ongoing monitoring and future data on spending and longer-term outcomes will provide additional insights as the program continues through 2027.



Outcomes

Restorative Resiliency Fund

Program Overview

The Restorative Resiliency Fund, administered by Community Works West, provides guaranteed income (GI) to individuals and families impacted by incarceration and violence. Participants receive **\$1000 per month for a total of 12 months**. The program aims to reduce financial instability, strengthen community reintegration, and support long-term well-being. This report presents **point-in-time outcomes to date**. The program continues to operate and participants will receive ongoing monthly support through early 2027.

Early outcomes indicate significant benefits for participants in the program:



14

Participants
Enrolled



86%

Able to pay
their monthly expenses



86%

Moving towards financial
goals to meet family needs

...these early results demonstrate meaningful improvements in financial stability and self-sufficiency.

Challenges and How They Were Addressed

Two primary challenges emerged during program administration. The first had to do with **scheduling and orientation barriers**. Coordinating participant availability for the GI orientation proved difficult. Ultimately, all but one participant attended the virtual (Zoom) orientation. To ensure full participation, the team conducted a one-on-one in-person orientation for the final participant. This flexibility **ensured equitable access to the program and consistent onboarding**.

The second barrier had to do with **language and technology gaps**. One participant faced significant challenges navigating email and completing surveys. To address this, a case manager is now providing individualized, in-person support by guiding the participant through required program tasks. This approach will continue going forward to **promote full inclusion and accurate data collection**.

These solutions reflect the **program's responsiveness to participant needs and its commitment to reducing administrative barriers**.



Distribution and Use of Grant Funds

Grant funds were disbursed via a monthly-loaded debit card. Participants receive \$1000 per month and have used their GI payments in the following primary categories. (in order of frequency from left to right as reported through surveys) The data indicates that **funds are being used to meet essential needs, reduce financial strain, and improve long-term stability.**



Food



Housing



Transportation



Savings



Paying Down Debt



Phone/Internet



Healthcare



Others (eg: Dental, Child Costs, Building Credit, etc.)

Participant Stories and Impact

Participants were invited to share reflections on how the program has impacted their lives. The following confidential, consented statements illustrate the program's **significant role in supporting economic resilience, emotional well-being, and stability.** These stories illustrate the program's broad reach across different family members and generations, supporting community members returning from incarceration, youth navigating financial independence, and survivors creating safer and more stable futures.



This program has eased my transition back into my community and has allowed me an opportunity to concentrate on other areas of my life.

It provides financial support during this time of unemployment and has given me support while I'm away from my family.

- Returning Citizen

It's helping me to create a savings for emergencies, which is supporting my mental health.

- Survivor of Domestic Violence

This program has impacted me positively because it's providing stability in a time in my life where I really need it and it helps me reach my goals that I want to achieve.

- Returning Citizen

I'm less nervous about being able to pay for things myself in my senior year... instead of asking for something my grandparents have to spend on other things.

- Child of Incarcerated Parent

Knowing I had additional funds to help get by is very comforting and has reduced my anxiety tremendously.

- Survivor of Domestic Violence



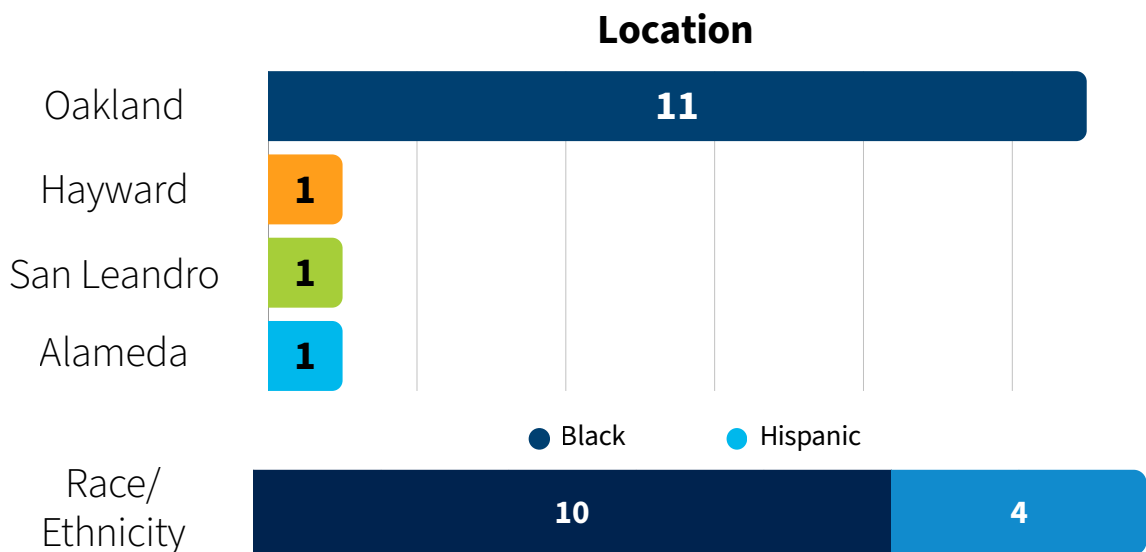
Reflections and Points of Pride

The Restorative Resiliency Fund has **demonstrated meaningful early impact** by providing consistent financial support and reducing the stress associated with meeting basic needs.

The program is particularly effective in **supporting individuals during critical life transitions** - such as reentry, education, and recovery from domestic violence - while helping them build savings, reduce debt, and move toward long-term financial goals.

By taking a flexible, participant-centered approach, Community Works West has **ensured that individuals facing structural barriers can fully access and benefit from guaranteed income support**. The program continues to strengthen economic stability, enhance mental well-being, and empower participants to focus on their goals rather than daily survival.

Participant Age Ranges 18-64: 14 (100%)



Conclusion

Early results in the Restorative Resiliency Fund demonstrate **positive outcomes in improving participants' financial stability and progress** toward personal and family goals. As the program continues through early 2027, ongoing data collection will provide further insight into long-term impact on financial health, resilience, and community reintegration. The results to date affirm the **importance of guaranteed income as a tool for equity and restorative support** in Alameda County.



Steady Steps

Program Overview

The Steady Steps program at BANANAS provides consistent financial resources, family navigation, and financial education to **economically challenged families with young children**. This report summarizes a point-in-time snapshot of outcomes of the program from December 2025 to early March 2026. While outcomes will continue to evolve, the initial data and participant feedback have been **overwhelmingly positive** and align with **research nationwide showing that guaranteed income (GI) programs** improve family stability, strengthen parent-child relationships, and create better long-term outcomes. [1]

Early outcomes indicate significant benefits for participating families:



10

Families
Enrolled in GI



56%

Able to spend
more time with children



100%

Reported program has
positively impacted their family

Challenges and How They Were Addressed

Program implementation has proceeded smoothly with minimal obstacles. The primary challenge involved **varying technical literacy among participants**, which initially slowed completion of documents required for direct deposit. To resolve this, Family Navigators provided individualized technical assistance, meeting with participants one-on-one to walk them through each step. This approach **ensured all families completed the necessary documentation and could successfully receive their GI payments**. No family was excluded due to technical barriers.

[1] Open Research – Unconditional Cash Study, July 2025,
[Key Findings: Parenting and Child Outcomes](#) | [Findings](#) | [OpenResearch](#)



Distribution and Use of Grant Funds

Families receive a **monthly GI payment of \$1,000 per family**, distributed via direct deposit on the third Thursday of each month through the BANANAS finance department. Early participant feedback shows that families are using the payments for essential living expenses, childcare, medical needs, transportation, food, and, in some cases, savings. These uses mirror trends in GI programs nationwide, where families consistently invest funds in ways that **strengthen their stability and improve their children's daily lives**.

Participant Stories and Impact



Being part of the Steady Steps program has provided my family with financial stability and peace of mind. It has helped reduce stress related to daily expenses and connected us with valuable resources.

A single father raising a medically sensitive 13-month-old shared that Steady Steps has brought vital financial stability.

Being in the program has impacted my family in a very positive way. I'm learning how to save, manage money, and even opened a bank account for myself.

A single mother raising three children with complex medical and developmental needs has used the program to build financial skills and begin planning for long-term goals.



Reflections and Points of Pride

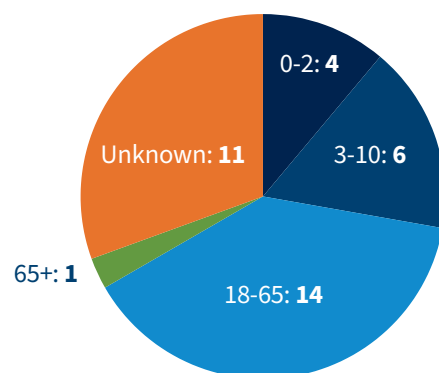
The most powerful outcome of Steady Steps has been witnessing families **transition from constant financial strain to a place of greater security and hope**. Many entered the program while facing impossible choices - balancing housing, childcare, food, and utilities on limited incomes. The guaranteed monthly payments and supportive coaching provide something many families have rarely experienced: **space to breathe**.

Families have begun setting long-term goals, catching up on bills, and establishing savings. Many report feeling a **renewed sense of dignity, confidence, and possibility**. These early outcomes mirror national research showing that families receiving unconditional cash support consistently thrive - **improving financial stability, mental well-being, and child development**.

● Asian Pacific Islander ● Black ● Hispanic ● Other



Location



Participant Demographics
Age Ranges (Individuals)

Conclusions

Early results of the Steady Steps program are showing **meaningful and measurable improvements in the lives of program participants**. The impact of the program has already provided stability, reduced stress, and opened new possibilities for participating families. As the program continues, BANANAS expects to see **even greater progress** toward long-term financial security, strengthened parent-child relationships, and improved overall family well-being.



Outcomes

Ripple Effect: Strengthening the Local Food System

Investments in neighborhood stores create a multiplier effect that improves food access, strengthens local economies, and advances health equity across Alameda County.



1

CORNER STORES

Increase healthy product purchases



Stores use grant funding to expand fresh produce and healthy options for customers



2

PRODUCE DISTRIBUTORS

Receive more orders from local retailers



More orders from distributors that source directly from small farmers



3

SMALL FARMERS

Increase production and sales



Reliable demand supports small-scale farmers and strengthens local agriculture



4

STRONGER LOCAL FOOD ECONOMY

Circulates resources within our communities



More money stays local, jobs are supported, and community wealth grows



5

INCREASE HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS

For underserved communities



More people can afford and access fresh, healthy foods close to home



6

IMPROVED FOOD ACCESS INDICATORS AND EQUITY OUTCOMES

For a stronger, more resilient Alameda County



Better food access contributes to improved health, stability, and equity for all residents



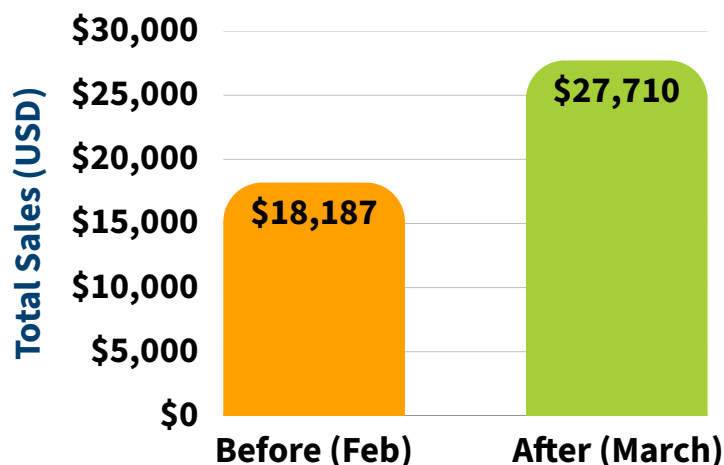
Before & After

Almahen Rancho Market - Fruitvale, Oakland, CA



Mohamed Almahen
Owner, Puesto Market

We've seen about a **48% increase** in produce sales after the new display. **Customers notice it immediately**, it's the first thing they see when they walk in.



Produce Sales
Before & After Store Improvements



Before: Enclosed produce layout with limited visibility

The store owner proposed **removing the existing fixed produce case and reconfiguring the layout** to create a central island display.

This approach opened the space, improved visibility, and allowed for a more flexible and engaging produce section.

The new island layout repositioned produce as the first visual touchpoint, **increasing visibility and influencing healthier purchasing behavior.**



48% INCREASE
Produce Sales

Based on supplier invoice comparison pre-and-post installation



Serving Unincorporated Area

Puesto Market - Hayward, CA

Story of a Store Owner



Lesley Urista-Mendez
Owner, Puesto Market

[Click here to watch
the Store Owner's Story.](#)



Scan to view the full video!

Puesto Market is led by a store owner whose vision is deeply rooted in care, both as a business owner and as a healthcare professional.

A nurse by training, **she has witnessed firsthand the health challenges many families face**, particularly in communities with limited access to fresh, nutritious food.

Located in an unincorporated area of Hayward, Puesto Market serves a diverse and growing community where **access to healthy food options can be limited**. Through her store, she is working to improve everyday health outcomes by **making fresh, culturally relevant, and affordable food more accessible**.

With support from the Healthy Retail Program, the store expanded its fresh offerings, improved refrigeration, and introduced new products such as housemade cold-pressed juices. These changes are designed to meet customers where they are by **offering convenient, healthier alternatives that fit into their daily lives**.

For the owner, Puesto Market is more than a business; **it is a platform to improve quality of life, one customer at a time**.

She shares more about the impact of the Healthy Retail grant in this video!



Serving Unincorporated Area

Puesto Market - Hayward, CA

Sales trends from point-of-sale data show consistent growth in produce and produce-based items following store improvements. As customers engage more with fresh offerings, including ready-to-eat foods and in-house juices, the store continues to evolve as a destination for healthier choices.

Looking ahead, the owner plans to build on this momentum by continuing to expand fresh options and deepen the store's impact on community health. She is also exploring opportunities to host community events that promote and encourage the purchase of healthy offerings.



Enhanced Signage & Product Visibility



Introduction of fresh, in-house juices made from produce



New refrigeration, increases access to fresh, healthy items

Key Impacts



Expanded **availability of fresh, ready-to-eat options**, including daily salads, fresh-cut fruit, and prepared meals.



Expanded access to nutrient-dense beverages through in-house, produce-based juices **made daily without preservatives or additives.**



Installation of a new, visually appealing refrigerator at the first customer touchpoint **increased engagement with fresh, healthy options.**



Improved **visibility of fruits and vegetables** through signage and layout.



Before & After

Wah Fay Market - Oakland, CA

Family-Owned since 1989

Wah Fay Market has served the Eastlake community for **over 30 years**, operating as a trusted neighborhood store for generations of residents.

The store plays a critical role for seniors, working families, and individuals who **rely on walking-distance access to everyday essentials**.

As consumer preferences shift toward healthier options, the store faced **growing pressure to meet demand without the necessary infrastructure**.

BEFORE ❌



- Outdated and frequently **breaking refrigerator**
- Soda-brand cooler restricted inventory to **sugar drinks only**
- **Limited space** for fresh produce
- **Could not meet** growing demand for healthy options

AFTER ✅



- Installed new double-door **commercial refrigeration**
- Expanded **fresh produce and healthy beverages**
- Removed soda-brand restrictions for **full product flexibility**
- Improved **visibility of healthy options** at the front of the store



Before & After

Wah Fay Market - Oakland, CA

Family-Owned since 1989

Measurable Impact



+\$500/MONTH

Increase in produce orders from non-profit distributors



REDUCED

reliance on soda inventory and brand restrictions



INCREASED

demand for fresh produce and healthier beverages



“My customers want healthier options.
Now the store has the space to provide them!”

Phillip Hoang, Owner, Wah Fay Market

Key Impacts



Refridgeration Update



Produce Expansion



Healthy Beverage Shift



Store Layout Improvement

Community Impact



Serves seniors and residents without transportation



Provides fresh food access within walking distance



Support daily, small-quantity purchases



A Student-Led Model for Community Food Access

Berkeley Students Food Collective

A volunteer-operated, student-led grocery cooperative **serving Berkeley's Southside for 15 years**. The Healthy Retail Grant empowered the Collective to strengthen healthy food access, deepen community partnerships, and expand student-driven programs that make a difference.

HOW THE GRANT HELPED



Community Partnerships

Hosted community meetings, tabling events, workdays, and tours with local partners



Creative Tools & Storytelling

Purchased Cricut and media equipment to create signage, promotional materials, videos, and student-led outreach campaigns.



Store Improvements

Expanded merchandising infrastructure, produce displays, and healthy food visibility throughout the storefront.



Sanitation & Safety

Added cleaning equipment and upgraded maintenance tools to support a cleaner, healthier shopping environment.



“ People want spaces where the community can **gather around healthy habits and support local businesses**. ”

Berkeley Student Food Collective Member



Student-led events, outreach, and partnerships strengthened community connection and healthy food access.



Status Update on Remaining Grant-Funded Projects

The following projects remain in active implementation phases. While timelines vary due to construction, equipment delivery, and unforeseen circumstances, progress continues across all participating stores. Together, these projects reflect the ongoing commitment to strengthening healthy food access and supporting long-term sustainability for participating community retailers.



Holly Market

Limited \$3,000 grant supported partial upgrades to the store's existing refrigeration system, and those targeted improvements have been completed.



Mother's Choice Nutrition

Construction activities remain underway as the store moves forward with structural modifications, including removing an outdated meat freezer to create space for upgraded equipment and offer more fresh produce and healthy products.



Security Liquor Groceries

Flooring and tile improvements have been completed, and the store is currently awaiting delivery and installation of refrigeration equipment to begin offering fresh produce.



New Handy Corner Market

The owner successfully removed the old refrigerator prior to undergoing a significant life event. Installation of the new refrigeration equipment is planned for the near future.



What Comes Next

Strategic Partnerships and Innovation Hub

At the end of 2025, **ACSSA introduced the Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives Division (SPID)** to carry forward ALL IN's vision and collaborative approach. SPID represents the institutionalization of ALL IN within the Agency's **core operations, ensuring that cross-sector partnership, systems thinking, and community-centered innovation remain embedded in ACSSA's long-term strategy**. SPID will leverage collective power to address systemic issues in partnership with the Agency's human services contractors.

As its first initiative, SPID has launched the **Innovation Hub**, a series of convenings designed to foster shared understanding, deepen collaboration, and support collective progress across the Agency, contractors, and multi-interest partners. **The Innovation Hub will serve as a space for meaningful dialogue and to inspire strategic action.**

A continued commitment to strengthening the local food security ecosystem in Alameda County

In 2026, the Innovation Hub will focus on **strengthening the local food security ecosystem**, which impacts all areas of the Agency and aligns with the **Alameda County Vision 2036 10x Goal: Eliminate Poverty & Hunger**.

Beginning in 2026, the planning team is implementing a series of convenings with community food provider partners **centered on continuous improvement for better alignment of processes and seamless coordination**.

Looking ahead, SPID intends to organize convenings on other issue areas to support the broader network of human service contractors.



Tribute to a Visionary Leader



Wilma Chan

Former Alameda County
Board of Supervisor
District 3

The late Alameda County Supervisor **Wilma Chan** was the guiding light in the creation of ALL IN Alameda County, bringing forward a vision that **recognized poverty as a complex, systemic issue requiring coordinated, community-driven solutions.**

During her time in office, she championed policies focused on equity and opportunity, and she helped mobilize county agencies, community-based organizations, and local leaders around a shared goal: **improving the well-being of residents experiencing economic hardship.**

Under her leadership, ALL IN Alameda County was established as a **collaborative initiative designed to address the root causes of poverty** through cross-sector partnerships, evidence-informed strategies, and a commitment to community voice. Her work laid the foundation for programs and innovations that **continue to support residents' access to food, income stability, and long-term pathways to economic security.**

ACSSA is proud to carry on the legacy of this visionary leader and to honor the memory of her tireless service and enduring commitment to Alameda County.



Acknowledgements

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