

# IMPROVING HEALTH THROUGH POLICY & ADVOCACY

Health Care for the Homeless | October 16, 2019

Strategic Initiatives & Public Affairs (SIPA)  
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## Presentation Outline

- Intro & Overview
- Policy & Advocacy Overview
- Alameda County Context
- Important Dates
- Get Involved
  - *Legislative Council*
  - *How to Get Involved*

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## HCSA Strategic Initiatives & Public Affairs (SIPA)

- Work
  - *Agency-wide coordination of policy, communications, and collaborations*
  - *HCSA Legislative Council*
  - *Advance HCSA's vision and mission through proactive strategies*
- Team
  - *Aneeka Chaudhry, SIPA Director*
  - *Eileen Ng, Policy Director*
  - *Jerri Randrup, Public Information Director*
  - *Jamie Yee, Policy and Program Analyst*



# POLICY & ADVOCACY OVERVIEW

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## Policy *laws, regulations, funding, & other government actions*

### Policy

- Local, State, Federal Government
  - *Legislative proposals (bills)*
  - *Budget*
  - *Resolutions & Principles*
  - *Rules, Regulations & Guidance*
- Examples:
  - *1115 and 1915 Waivers*
  - *42 CFR Part 2 changes*
  - *Measure A ballot measure*

### policy

- Specific to programs
  - *Administration & implementation*
  - *Changes to policies and procedures*
  - *Staffing*
  - *Contracts*
- Examples:
  - *WPC implementation*
  - *Data sharing MOUs*
  - *Measure A contracts*

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## Key Policy Issues Tracked in 2019

- Public Charge
- Affordable Care Act
- Nondiscrimination in Health and Health Education Programs or Activities Proposed Rule
- Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records Proposed Rule
- Bills:
  - *AB 143 (Quirk-Silva) Shelter crisis: homeless shelters: Counties of Alameda and Orange: City of San Jose – COUNTY SPONSORED*
  - *AB 728 (Santiago) Homeless multidisciplinary personnel teams – SUPPORT*
  - *AB 816 (Quirk-Silva) California Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool Program - SUPPORT*

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## Advocacy *activities to influence or change policy*

- Includes emails, letters, regulatory comments, calls, testimony, meetings, social media, op-eds, etc.
- **County Employees**
  - *May not use County time or resources to engage in political activity or advocacy*
  - *Must use personal time and identify as citizen if engaging as citizen*
  - *May not engage in work-related advocacy without an official County position*
- **Official County positions**
  - *ALL official positions are approved by the BOS*
  - *Guided by the Alameda County Legislative Platform*
  - *Require program, departmental, and agency approval before submission to BOS*

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# ALAMEDA COUNTY CONTEXT

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## Personnel/Administration/Legislation Committee (BOS PAL)

- Reviews federal, state, and local legislation and other regulatory and administrative matters referred by County departments
- Reviews and signs all letters of support or opposition for legislative & regulatory matters
- Recommends approval of the County's legislative platform and priorities
- Advances all recommendations to the full Board of Supervisors for final approval
- Provides direction to the County's State and federal lobbyists on advancing the County's legislative agenda

### HCSA's Role:

- Attend PAL Committee Meetings
- Bring recommended positions to PAL Committee

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## County Platform and Priorities

*Guide legislative and advocacy work on state and federal issues*

### Legislative Platform

- Updated every two years & organized around Vision 2026
- Identifies policy principles and priorities across all County agencies
- HCSA priorities covered in: *Healthcare for All, Employment for All, Eliminate Poverty & Hunger, and Eliminate Homelessness*
- 2019-2020 Legislative Platform: [https://cao.acgov.org/cao-assets/docs/intergov/2019\\_2020LegPlatformAmended.pdf](https://cao.acgov.org/cao-assets/docs/intergov/2019_2020LegPlatformAmended.pdf)

### Legislative Priorities

- Updated annually and highlights specific legislative priorities for the year
- 2019 Legislative Priorities: <https://cao.acgov.org/cao-assets/docs/2019%20County%20Priorities%20Amended%206.3.19.pdf>

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## HCSA Policy Priorities

- Identifies policy principles and priorities across HCSA's programs and departments
  - *Reflects input from staff, Legislative Council, & Agency Leadership Team*
- Guide HCSA's policy and advocacy work & contribution to County's platform and priorities
- Informs staff, public, electeds, associations, and others
- 2019 Policy Priorities
- 2020 Policy Priorities: currently being updated

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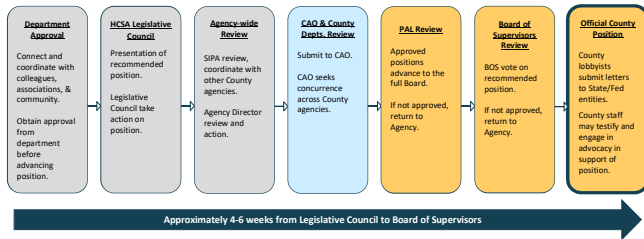
## HCSA Legislative Council

- Meetings open to any interested HCSA staff across all four departments
- Seeks to improve the health and wellbeing for all residents by advancing a social and health equity legislative agenda
  - *Initiate health related legislative proposals*
  - *Monitor federal and state legislation, budget and rulemaking*
  - *Recommend positions to the Board of Supervisors to support, oppose, or amend health related legislation*
- OAD Representatives:
  - *Eileen Ng (OAD)*
  - *Sequoia Hall (EMS)*

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## Alameda County Official Position Process



## IMPORTANT DATES

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## Key State Timelines

### Budget

- Fiscal year begins July 1
- By **January 10**: Governor releases proposed budget for the next fiscal year
- By **May 14**: Governor releases revised budget proposal "May Revision"
- By **June 15**: Legislature must pass a balanced budget

\*budget trailer bills have longer timeline

### HCSA's Role:

- Tracking and monitoring for impacts
- Recommend positions and proposals to the Board of Supervisors

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## Key Federal Timelines

### Budget

- Fiscal year begins October 1
- **February**: President submits budget to Congress
- By **April 15**: Congressional Budget Resolution Appropriations bill
- By **October 1**: Appropriations bills passed
- By **October 1**: President sign or veto

\*Federal budget not required to be balanced; Congress may fund gov't through short-term Continuing Resolutions

### HCSA's Role:

- Tracking and monitoring for impacts
- Recommend positions to the Board of Supervisors

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# GET INVOLVED

## How to Get Involved

### To participate through HCSA Legislative Council

- Contact your Legislative Council Rep. and Eileen Ng for advice and to get your item on the Council agenda
- Provide a description of the item and the problem that it causes or solves, and answer the following questions:
  - Is it aligned with HCSA's Policy Priorities and the County's Legislative Platform?
  - What are the potential impacts for County residents?
  - Are there potential impacts on programs or County operations?
  - How does it impact the county/state/federal budget?

### For regulatory comments, proactive legislative ideas, concerns, or questions:

- Contact Aneeka Chaudhry or Eileen Ng

# THANK YOU & QUESTIONS