

IE VIBRANT HEALTH FORUM

# Navigating Medi-Cal 2026

Policy, Practice and Partnerships

# Welcome



# Upcoming Medi-Cal Changes for Californians without Satisfactory Immigration Status

Understanding the 2026 Medi-Cal Policy Update

# Medi-Cal Eligibility Changes

**June 30, 2025**  
PHE FLEXIBILITIES ENDED

**ASSET CHECK FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

Asset Limit is \$130,000 for one person.  
Add \$65,000 for every extra person with a max of 10 people.

**UIS ENROLLMENT FREEZE**

Some adults will no longer be able to sign up for full coverage based on their [immigration status](#).

**Who can still get full-scope Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status:**

- Children (age 0-18)
- Pregnant people (Coverage lasts through your whole pregnancy and up to one year after it ends.)
- Former foster youth under age 26, who were in foster care on their 18th birthday

**July 1, 2026**

**DENTAL COVERAGE ENDS**

UIS Patients age 19+ will stop getting full-scope dental services as part of their Medi-Cal coverage.

**July 1, 2027**

**MONTHLY PREMIUMS**

Based on immigration status, some patients will need to pay a small premium (estimated at \$30) to keep their Medi-Cal coverage.

**January 1, 2027**

**WORK REQUIREMENTS**

Adults ages 19-64 will need to work, volunteer or go to school to keep their coverage.

**SIX MONTH ELIGIBILITY CHECKS**

Adults 19-64 without children will have to renew their Medi-Cal eligibility twice a year instead of once.

**RETRO COVERAGE**

Medi-Cal will only pay for **one month** of past bills for adults 19-64 without children.

All other individuals will have up to **two months** of past due bills paid.

**January 1, 2026**



Retroactive coverage period reduced from 90 days to 30 days.

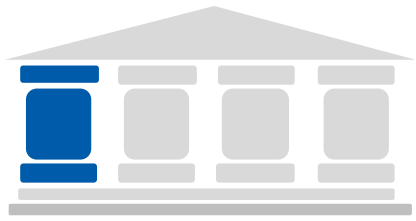
Changes to federal funding rules may limit access for some immigrants, as certain coverage will no longer be federally supported.

## Federal and State Policy Impacts

Medi-Cal work requirements start January 1, 2027, for some adults in the expansion group.

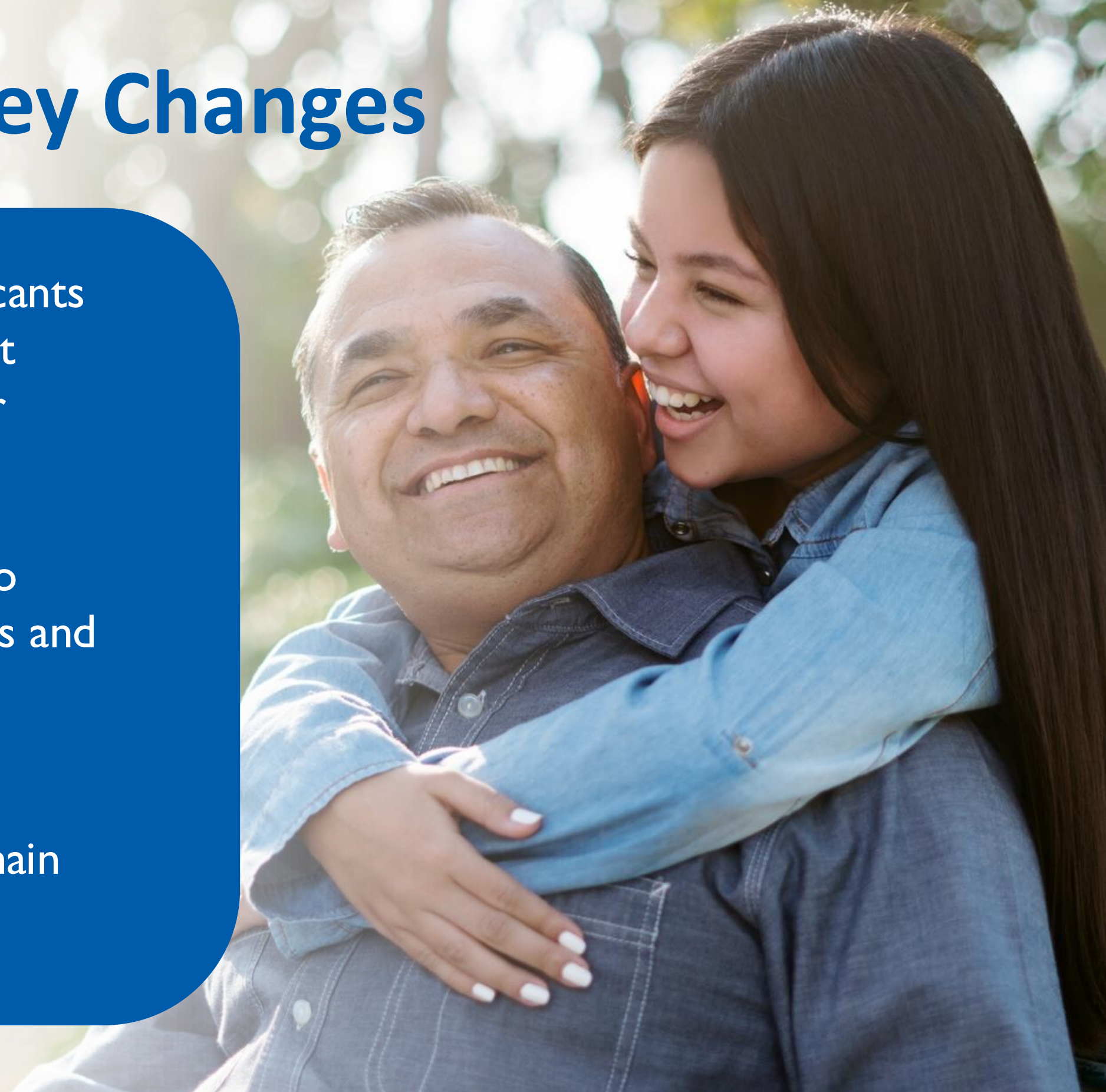
Beginning in 2028, copayments will be imposed on expansion adults with incomes above 100% of the federal poverty level.

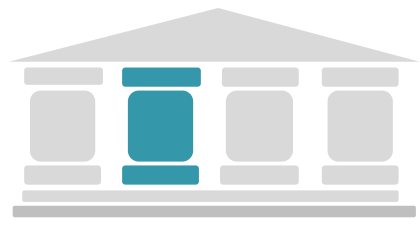




# Overview of 2026 Key Changes

- Effective January 1, 2026, New Medi-Cal applicants (19 years and older and not pregnant) without satisfactory immigration status only qualify for restricted scope coverage.
- Beginning July 1, 2026 – Dental benefits will no longer be provided to adult members 19 years and older without satisfactory immigration status, except for emergency dental services.
- Members under 19 years old or pregnant remain eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal with dental regardless of satisfactory immigration status.





## What Full Scope Medi-Cal with No Dental Covers

- Medi-Cal Care, Specialty Care, and mental healthcare.
- Family Planning, maternity care, and emergency care.
- Vision care, hearing aids, in-home care and more.



# Medi-Cal Renewal Process

Members must complete a Medi-Cal renewal every year to keep their benefits active.

- A renewal packet is mailed to the member by their local county Medi-Cal office about 60 days before the due date.
- Members have 60 days to fill out the renewal packet and return it to the county.
- Renewals can be submitted in two ways:
  - By mailing back the completed packet
  - Online through [BenefitsCal.com](https://www.benefitscal.com)
- It is very important that members submit their renewal packet and all required verifications on time. If they don't, they may:
  - Lose their Medi-Cal eligibility
  - Lose their IEHP health coverage
  - Be reduced to restricted scope Medi-Cal benefits





## Guidance and Renewals

- Members should respond promptly to renewal packets from their prospective county Medi-Cal office to avoid losing full scope coverage.
- If discontinued, a 3-month post Medi-Cal ending allows re-enrollment into full scope Medi-Cal (no dental).
- Members can keep track of their case via BenefitsCal.com and respond to all county requests.
- Members can also contact IEHP Eligibility & Outreach (E&O) team for assistance in submitting Renewal forms.





# Medi-Cal Work Requirements

## Overview:

- A new law passed in 2025 adds work requirements for some adults aged 19-64 on Medi-Cal.
  - Some people will need to work, look for work, or do approved activities to keep coverage.
  - These changes are expected to start January 1, 2027.



# Medi-Cal Work Requirements

## Qualifying Activities

Members must do one or more of the following:

- Work at a job and get paid.
  - Earn at least **\$580 a month** from working.
  - Be a seasonal worker (someone who only works during certain times of the year) and make an average of **\$580 a month** over the last six months.
- Be in a job training program (that helps you learn skills to get a job) for at least 80 hours per month.
- Volunteer or do community service for at least 80 hours per month. This should be organized and something you can prove you did with a letter or form.
- Go to school at least half-time. This usually means taking two or three classes or about six to eight credits each semester.
- Do a mix of the things listed above for a total of at least 80 hours per month, or at least \$580 per month.



# Medi-Cal Work Requirements

## Qualifying Exemptions

These new work or volunteer rules **do not apply** to:

- Children (0–18).
- Older Adults (65 and older).
- Pregnant people, including one year postpartum, regardless of birth outcome.
- Parents with children age 0-13.
- People with disabilities.
- People with serious health or mental health conditions or substance use problems.
- People who were released from jail or prison within the last 90 days.
- People on Medicare Part A or Part B.
- American Indians or Alaska Natives.
- Former foster youth under age 26, who were in foster care on their 18th birthday.



# Six-Month Eligibility Checks

Starting January 1, 2027, some Medi-Cal members will have their eligibility checked twice a year instead of once.

**WHO THIS APPLIES TO:** Adults (age 19-64)

**IMPORTANT TO KNOW:**

- Members may need to renew your Medi-Cal every six months.
- Missing deadlines could cause loss of coverage.

**WHO WILL CONTINUE WITH ONCE A YEAR RENEWALS:**

- Members in a Medi-Cal program that is not under the Affordable Care Act new adult group
- Pregnant or postpartum individuals
- Alaska Native or American Indian members
- Former foster youth under age 26, who were in foster care on their 18th birthday



# County Contact Information

**\*\*Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs (Cash Aid); General Relief (GR), EBT Cards\*\***

## San Bernardino County

**(877) 410-8829**

Monday-Thursday  
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday  
7:00 am – 4:30 pm

Closed on holidays

## Riverside County

**(877) 410-8827**

Monday through Friday  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Closed on holidays



# How Can You Support IEHP Members/Patients?

Advise members to keep their contact information current

Advise members to complete the Annual Eligibility Redetermination (AER) process

Direct members to call **1-888-860-1296**  
Monday-Friday at  
8am-5pm

Provide flyers to members/patients

Keep Your IEHP  
**RENEW YOUR MEDI-CAL NOW**

Medi-Cal Renewal Form  
It's time to renew benefits for:

Look for the yellow envelope in the mail and turn in your forms!

## DON'T LOSE YOUR MEDI-CAL BENEFITS. RENEW YOUR COVERAGE TODAY!

This includes doctor visits, prescriptions, dental, vision, immunizations and more.

**Online:** Scan the code or visit [BenefitsCal.com](https://www.BenefitsCal.com).

**By Mail:** Send the completed packet back to your county.

**In Person:** Visit your local county Medi-Cal office.

**By Phone:** Call IEHP's Eligibility and Outreach Team at **1-888-860-1296**, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.



For more information, please visit [iehp.org/renewal](https://iehp.org/renewal).

### ADULTS 19 AND OLDER

Starting January 1, 2026, depending on your immigration status, if you lose your Medi-Cal and have to reapply, you'll lose access to primary care, preventive care, and specialist services that come with full-scope Medi-Cal.

Children (18 and under) will continue to receive full scope Medi-Cal, if eligible, regardless of immigration status.

*Your county will mail you a letter to let you know if your Medi-Cal was automatically renewed. If not, you'll need to complete the packet and return it right away to your county Medi-Cal office.*

©2025 Inland Empire Health Plan. A Public Entity. All Rights Reserved. MK 25 7324079



# IEHP Eligibility & Outreach Team

Our dedicated team of 68 staff members is focused on helping members successfully complete their Medi-Cal renewals so they can maintain eligibility, avoid gaps in coverage, and enjoy a smooth, supportive member experience.

We support members through:

- Daily outbound calls to educate members on how to keep or improve their Medi-Cal and IEHP coverage.
- Personalized assistance for renewal navigation, documentation, and verification needs.
- Community-based engagement activities throughout Riverside and San Bernardino Counties to meet members where they are.
- Onsite support at IEHP Community Wellness Centers (Riverside, Victorville).



# How to Contact Eligibility & Outreach



- **(888) 860-1296**
  - Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
- **In person at our Community Wellness Centers in Riverside, Victorville or the Atrium.**
  - **Call (866) 228-4347 to schedule a CWC appointment.**
- **Visit our website:**  
<https://www.iehp.org/en/browse-plans/medical/medi-cal-renewal>



BenefitsCal

## ***Community Based Organizations (CBOs) help people apply and manage their benefits.***

### **What kind of organizations are CBOs?**

These organizations can include:

- Non-profit organizations
- Community centers
- Hospitals
- Advocacy organizations
- Food banks
- Schools/colleges
- Homeless shelters
- And more

In BenefitsCal, CBO staff can have either a CBO Manager account or a CBO Assister account.

- **Who uses a CBO Manager account?**

CBO Manager Accounts are usually for leaders or people in charge at the CBO. They can oversee the work of their staff, who are called CBO Assisters.

- **Who uses a CBO Assister account?**

CBO Assisters are usually staff members who work for CBO Managers. If you need a CBO Assister account, ask your CBO Manager to make one for you.

**What can CBO Accounts do?**

For both CBO Manager and Assister accounts, you can:

- Submit applications
- Upload documents
- Generate reports

# Community Based Organizations





# MISSION

WE **HEAL & INSPIRE** THE HUMAN SPIRIT

# VISION

WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL OUR COMMUNITIES ENJOY **OPTIMAL CARE & VIBRANT HEALTH**

# VALUES

WE DO THE RIGHT THING BY:  
PLACING OUR **MEMBERS AT THE CENTER** OF OUR UNIVERSE

UNLEASHING OUR **CREATIVITY** AND **COURAGE** TO  
IMPROVE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

BRINGING **FOCUS** AND **ACCOUNTABILITY** TO OUR WORK

NEVER WAVERING IN OUR **COMMITMENT** TO OUR  
**MEMBERS, PROVIDERS** AND **EACH OTHER**

**Thank You!**

**IE  HP**

# Resources in the Room

At the resource tables around the room, please consider visiting staff from the following tables:

- ✓ IEHP Medi-Cal Eligibility & Outreach
- ✓ IEHP Community Engagement Team
- ✓ IEHP Foundation
- ✓ Riverside County DPSS

# Who's In the Room

City of Hemet  
City of San Jacinto  
Community Health Systems, Inc.  
Faith in Action of the San Geronio Pass  
Family Service Association  
FSACA  
Gateway College and Career Academy @ Riverside  
City  
Global Communities Healthy Start  
Healthy Valley Foundation  
Hope Culture Inc  
Human Relations Council  
Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP)  
IEHP Foundation  
Inland Housing Solutions

Inland SoCal United Way/211+  
Increasing Desired Behaviors  
LAMAS Housing Project  
Mission Hope  
NCJWLA  
Neighborhood Healthcare  
Neighborhood Healthcare PACE  
Office of Senator Ochoa Bogh  
Office of Congressman Raul Ruiz  
REACH  
Renewing Hope Strategies  
Starting Over Inc  
St. John's Community Health Center  
TRIP / ILP  
TrueCare  
Valley Restart Shelter

# EMPOWERING YOUR LEADERSHIP

The IEHP Renewal Retreat





**The IEHP *Mission Integration Team* offers three to six-hour renewal retreats for your leadership teams.**

- At your location or at IEHP
- Zero cost: provided as a community service for being an IEHP partner
- Up to 20 participants of your leadership team for the ideal experience.

- **Clearer Purpose:** Reconnect with the personal “why” that fuels your daily work.
- **Stronger Connection:** Build authentic trust and deeper relationships within your leadership team.
- **Strategic Resilience:** Gain practical tools to cultivate compassion and prevent burnout across your organization.



Connect with us!



# IEHP Community Engagement Ambassadors

(CEAs)

- ✓ Host regional IEHP community partner network meetings
- ✓ Participate in community events and engagements
- ✓ Help connect individuals to health plan enrollment
- ✓ Lead presentations for IEHP benefits and programs
- ✓ Offering access to our digital newsletter with over 3,000 subscribers
- ✓ CEAs are from the local community they serve
- ✓ Learn more about the Community Wellness Centers

The graphic features a young man with curly hair, wearing a white cable-knit sweater and an IEHP pin, holding a tablet. The background is a mix of green and blue. Text and icons are overlaid on the image.

**IEHP**  
**Connecting Communities.  
Empowering Health.**


Our Community Engagement Ambassador Team serves as a trusted bridge between Inland Empire communities and the care they deserve. By working hand-in-hand with community-serving organizations, we help educate, support and empower members to live healthier, fuller lives.

**WHAT WE DO:**

- Deliver informative presentations on IEHP benefits and programs.
- Share health updates and resources through our digital newsletter (3,000+ subscribers!).
- Host regional Community Partner Network meetings to foster collaboration.
- Participate in community events and engagements.
- Help connect individuals to IEHP enrollment and services.

Are you a community organization looking to make a bigger impact? We'd love to work with you!

Email: [communityhealthreps@iehp.org](mailto:communityhealthreps@iehp.org)

Learn more 

©2026 Inland Empire Health Plan. A Public Entity. All Rights Reserved. H8894\_26\_7701179\_M

# IE HHP

## Foundation

*Igniting Vibrant Health in the Inland Empire.*



# Our Why

At IEHP Foundation, we know that healthy living starts long before and extends well beyond a doctor's visit. That's why we collaborate with nonprofit organizations and invest in initiatives that strengthen the building blocks for good health.

**Because when everyone in the Inland Empire lives a full and vibrant life, our region thrives!**



# Igniting Vibrant Health

## Together!

IEHP Foundation is a separate nonprofit organization, created by **Inland Empire Health Plan** as a strategic investment in a community-centered approach to tackle health disparities from the start.

While the health plan delivers clinic-based healthcare services, the Foundation focuses on improving the community conditions that shape a person's health, like access to food, housing, mental health care and economic opportunity. Our independence as an organization allows us to invest flexibly in long-term, community-led solutions to help improve health and wellness across the region.






*Advancing Vibrant Health in the Inland Empire.*



# IEHP Foundation Funding Priorities





## Building Healthy Neighborhoods

-  **Basic Needs** – Access to nutritious food and physical and mental health services.
-  **Meaningful Work & Wealth** – Healthcare and social services workforce development.
-  **Humane Housing** – Quality, affordable rental housing and homeownership.



## Cultivating Healthy Living

-  **Increasing Healthy Behaviors** – Creating environments that encourage nutritious diets, exercise & movement, and healthy social connections.
-  **Decreasing Risky Behaviors** – Alcohol, tobacco, drug use and risky sexual activity.

# Building Capacity of

# Trusted Health Messengers



**Champions for Vibrant Health**

**\$4.6M** General Operating support grants over two-years.

**80** Champions including executive & emerging leaders.

**40** Organizations serving families & children in San Bernardino & Riverside counties.



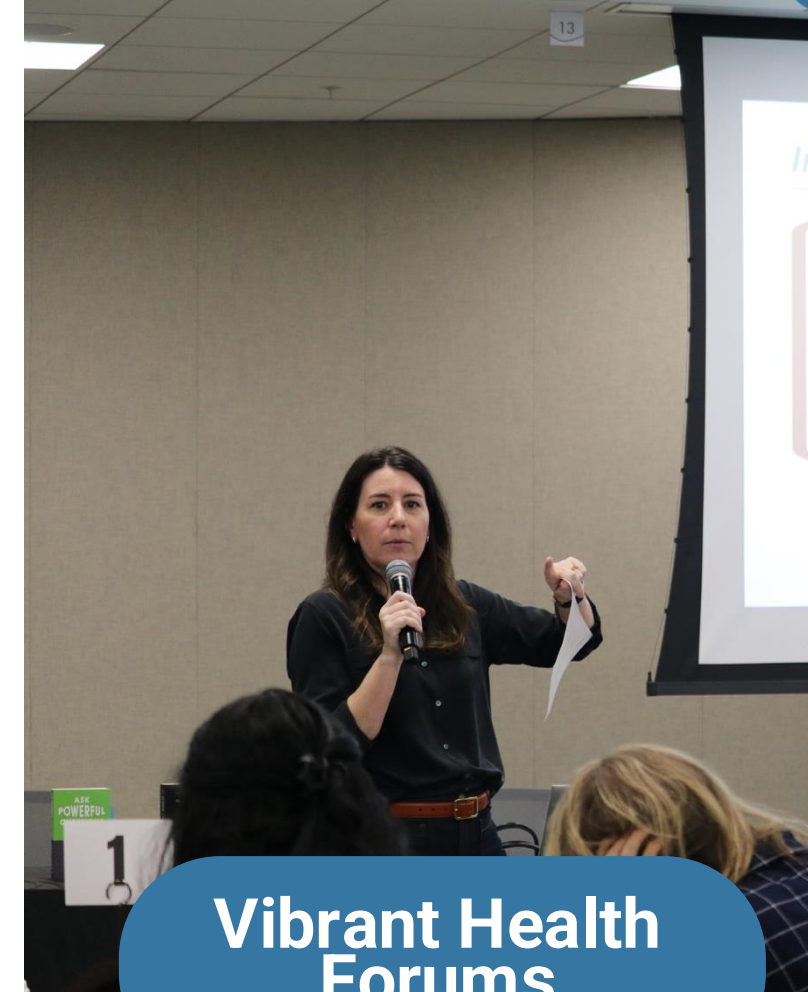
**Capacity Building Grants**

**25** Small Nonprofit Capacity Building Graduates

**22** Major Gift Cohort Graduates

**20** Organizations selected for 2026 Storytelling Cohort

**\$125k** awarded in grants



**Vibrant Health Forums**

Convened over 500 nonprofit leaders to learn about the issues that shape health & strengthen the nonprofit sector, including:

- **Maximizing Individual Giving**
- **Storytelling for Impact**
- **Lessons from the Blue Zones**
- **Serving on California State Boards and Commissions**



**Responsive Grants**

**30** Nonprofits funded

**\$470k** invested in projects supporting CHWs, mental health care, housing, youth programs and more.

# Building Healthier Communities

IEHP Foundation invests in **place-based initiatives** including:

- **Blue Zones Projects** in Banning, Coachella, Palm Springs, Riverside and Mead Valley.
- **Vibrant Villages** in Barstow and San Bernardino city.



## VIBRANT VILLAGES



# IEHPF Events & Resources

- ✓ **Vibrant Health Forums - Navigating Medi-Cal 2026: Policy, Practice, and Partnerships**
  - **Eisenhower Health:** March 26 (1pm – 3pm)
  - **IEHP Victorville Community Wellness Center:** March 18 (1pm – 3pm)
  
- ✓ **2026 – 2027 Responsive Grants**
  - **Healthy Organizations:** Build individual organization capacity. Grants range from \$5k - \$20k
  - **Healthy Communities:** Build organization or networks' capacity to implement systems change work. Grants range from \$20k - \$75k
  - **Grant Cycle 1 Application Window:** Feb. 26 – May 11, 2026 at 5pm
  - **Grant Cycle 2 Application Window:** July 14 – October 5, 2026 at 5pm
  - Virtual Info Session on March 13 from 9am – 10am. Go to [www.iehpfoundation.org/grants](http://www.iehpfoundation.org/grants) to register.



# Connect with Us!



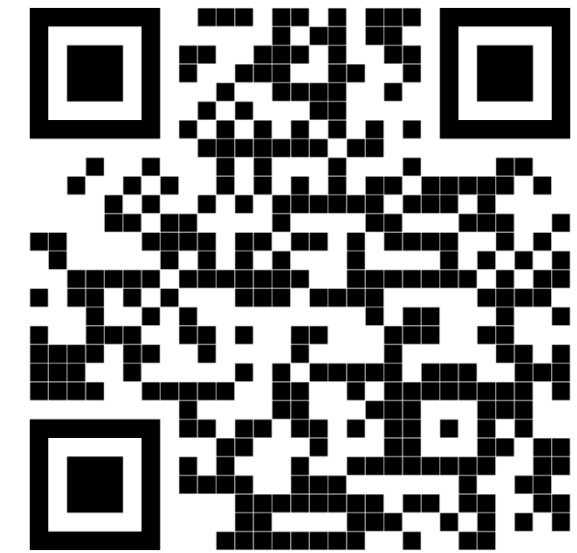
Learn more at IEHP Foundation



Follow us @IEHPFoundation



Sign Up for our Newsletter



Contact:

Sara Omari, Grants & Strategy Manager

[sara.Omari@iehpfoundation.org](mailto:sara.Omari@iehpfoundation.org)

IE VIBRANT HEALTH FORUM

# Navigating Medi-Cal 2026

Policy, Practice and Partnerships

Thank you!

