



AREA AGENCY ON AGING
San Benito & Santa Cruz Counties

FOSTER GRANDPARENT/SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM
Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara & Santa Cruz Counties

PROJECT SCOUT
Tax Counseling Assistance

AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION
Navigating the San Benito County Senior & Disability Services Network

AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Wednesday June 17, 2026

10 a.m. – 12 Noon

Hybrid in-person - Zoom Meeting
175 Westridge Dr., Watsonville, CA

Guests can also join via Zoom
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86490817703>

Meeting ID: 864 9081 7703
One tap mobile
+16699006833, 86490817703# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86490817703>

AGENDA

- 10 a.m.
1. Welcome, Call to Order and Introductions
 2. Additions & Deletions to the Agenda
 3. Receive Announcements from Advisory Council Members
 4. Comments from Members of the Public on Items Not on the Agenda
- 10:10
5. Approve minutes of the May 2026 Advisory Council Meeting

175 Westridge Drive, Watsonville, California 95076 **www.seniorscouncil.org**
PHONE: AAA – (831) 688-0400 • FG/SCP – (831) 475-0816 • SCOUT – 1-877-373-8297 • FAX: (831) 688-1225

SUPPORTED BY FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, FOUNDATIONS, THE UNITED WAYS OF
MONTEREY, SAN BENITO, & SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES & YOUR PRIVATE DONATIONS

- 10:15 6. Committee Reports
- A. Resource Development Committee
 - B. Advocacy Committee
 - a. State & Local Funding
 - b. Candidate Forum(s)
- 10:45 7. Executive Director's Report
- A. Budget Shortfalls
 - B. Agency Operations
 - C. SB 1249 & CDA's 2030 Plan
 - D. Master Plan for Aging Local Playbooks
- 11:25 8. Program Reports (written)
- A. Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Program
 - B. Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
 - C. Volunteer Coordination Project
 - D. Project SCOUT
- 11:50 9. Miscellaneous Correspondence & Other Items
- No July meeting; August meeting in Hollister 440 San Benito St.
(Community Foundation for San Benito County)*
- 12 noon 10. Adjourn

Next Meeting:
10 am to 12 Noon
Wednesday August 19, 2026 HOLLISTER
No meeting in July

Questions, Clarifications or Additional Information:

If you have a question or wish clarification or additional information about any agenda item or attached materials, please telephone Seniors Council Executive Director Clay Kempf at 688-0400 ext. 115 before the meeting. If you get voicemail, please leave a detailed message so that a response can be made.

Distribution of Materials:

If you have information to share with members of the Board, a table or other suitable space will be provided on which you may make it available. It is the wish of the Executive Committee that meetings not be disrupted by distribution of paperwork or other items.

Accessibility:

This organization attempts to make meeting content understandable in languages other than English. All Meeting rooms are accessible for people with disabilities. If you wish to discuss reasonable modifications or accommodations for language or disability, please contact the Seniors Council office at 688-0400 at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Seniors Council Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Seniors Council to enable older persons to function with independence and dignity in their homes and in the community to their fullest capacity.

Area Agency on Aging Mission

To provide leadership in addressing issues that relate to older Californians; to develop community-based systems of care that provide services which support independence within California's interdependent society, and which protect the quality of life of older persons and persons with functional impairment; and to promote citizen involvement in the planning and delivery of services.



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AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL
(Held in person at Watsonville office with hybrid Zoom broadcast)

May 20, 2026

MINUTES

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Susan Westman (City of Capitola)
- Steve Clark (City of Scotts Valley)
- Mark Johannessen (At-large, Seniors Commission)
- Mindy Sotelo (San Benito County Board of Supervisors)

ALTERNATES PRESENT:

- Sandy Brown (alternate J. Cummings)
- Jacques Bertrand (alternate S. Westman)
- Regina Kelbert (alternate K. De Serpa)

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED:

- Kimberly De Serpa (Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors)
- Justin Cummings (Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors)
- Gabriela Trigueiro (City of Santa Cruz)
- Tara Ireland (Empowered Aging; AAA Service Provider)
- Ari Parker (City of Watsonville)
- Angela Curro (San Benito County Board of Supervisors)
- Dolores Morales (Councilmember, City of Hollister)
- Scott Freels (City of San Juan Bautista)
- Stephanie Auld (Representative of Persons with Disabilities)

VACANCIES: Representative of Persons with Low Income; CSL Rep.; At Large Rep.

STAFF PRESENT:

Clay Kempf, Seniors Council Executive Director; Zach Johnson, Seniors Council Administrative Services Officer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Antonio Rivas, CSL/Board Member; Mark Hucklebridge, CSL Candidate; Mickie Luna, CSL/Board Member

1. Welcome, Call to Order and Introductions

Acting Chair Steve Clark called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. Introductions were made.

2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

5-1

None.

3. Receive Announcements from Advisory Council Members

Disaster Preparedness Fair at Aptos Grange June 6, 1-5 PM.
Fire Hardening Fairs across the county in preparation for fire season.

4. Comments from Members of the Public on Items Not on the Agenda

None.

5. Consent Agenda

Advisory Council members were referred to minutes of the April AAA Advisory Council meeting.
MOTION, Westman/ Brown, to approve the minutes of the April 2026 AAA Advisory Council meeting. **PASSED**

6. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee

- a. FY 2026-27 Agency Budget – Projections are bad, \$154,000 deficit in budget for coming year. Benefits and hours reduction (plus potential layoff) recommended, as well as COLA and step increase freezes. Discussion of striking balance between competing priorities.

Resource Development Committee in place to help grow donor base.

Questions about impacts on staff, length of benefit reductions, other challenges.

Steve asked about a minimum reserves policy; there are goals (one month reserve per program, targeting three months) which are rarely met by all programs.

- b. Adoption of 2026-27 Staff Salary Schedule –

- c. Budget Cuts/Staff & Benefit Reduction – discussed previously

2. Resource Development Committee – Seniors Council hosting a 'non-event': a tea party mailer and donation request.

RDC also meeting regularly to explore other income possibilities.

Antonio asked about Santa Cruz Foundation. Two anonymous \$25,000 donations came in recently for programs. Leadership changes have eroded old relationships.

3. Advocacy Committee

- a. State & Local Funding – packet includes letters of concern to CDA. Discussion of Ventura County's struggles with de-designation. Intrastate Funding Formula remains contested. Recent CDA calculation had errors that require iterative reporting; not taking C4A input or responding to requests for info. Most recent budget bill has removed specifics amount of baseline funding, and was submitted before public hearing process even ended.

Group discussed giving members of legislature (Rivas, Laird, etc.) tour of programs (more than just a meeting), requested proposals for itinerary.

- b. Candidate Forums – Clay recapped two forums held recently and highlighted several responses from candidates.

Request for meeting with new City Manager, TBD.

4. California Senior Legislature Election – Positions cover same area as AAA. Open seats are Senator (uncontested, Mickie Luna) and Assembly Member (Rivas vs. Hucklebridge).

Presentations were made by candidates. Advisory Council members voted anonymously.

MOTION, Sotelo/Brown, to appoint Mickie Luna as CSL Senator. **PASSED.**

MOTION, Westman/Johannessen, to certify Antonio Rivas as CSL Assembly Member per election results. **PASSED.**

7. Executive Director Report

1. Budget Shortfalls – discussed previously
2. Agency Operations – discussed previously

3. SB 1249 & CDA's 2030 Plan – discussed previously
4. Master Plan for Aging Local Playbooks –

8. Program Reports

1. *ADRC – Report included in packet.*
2. *Falls Prevention – Report included in packet*
3. *Project SCOUT –. Report included in packet*
4. *Volunteer Coordination – Report included in packet*
5. *Miscellaneous Correspondence*

9. Miscellaneous

- Meeting in San Benito County in June
- Skipping meeting in July

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM
Minutes prepared by: Zachary Johnson



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Date: 6-12-26

To: Seniors Council Board of Directors, AAA Advisory Council

From: Clay Kempf, Executive Director

RE: Advocacy Committee Report

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR CANDIDATE FORUMS

We successfully held Board of Supervisor Forums in both Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties. Zach will report on these events during the meetings.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION & RELATED ITEMS

Updates on CDA's California 2030 Plan and implementation of SB 1249, along with an update on SB 1261 are included in my Executive Director's report. We'll want to discuss them under committee reports during the meetings, but written material can be found as part of the Executive Director report.

6.B-1

OMB Uniform Guidance Approved Changes (2024) vs. Proposed Changes (May 2026)

Reference	2024 Version	May 2026 proposed change	Practical difference
Part 1 / overall 2 CFR	Treated and commonly described as OMB "guidance."	Reframes subtitle A as an OMB regulation and proposes "Uniform Grants Regulation" as a plain-language name for part 200.	More formal regulatory posture; agencies have less room to treat 2 CFR as advisory.
Parts 25, 170, 180, 182, 183	Existing governmentwide systems, subaward reporting, debarment, drug-free workplace, trafficking provisions.	Replaces "guidance" terminology; updates subaward reporting references from FSRS.gov to SAM.gov; removes statements that parts 180/182 are "guidance not regulation."	Reinforces the mandatory nature and updates reporting platform references.
Part 176	American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA)-related award terms remained in 2 CFR.	Removes part 176 as obsolete.	Cleans out Recovery Act provisions no longer used for new awards.
Subpart A § 200.1 Definitions	Included fixed-amount award and Protected Personally Identifiable Information (PII) definitions; compliance supplement referenced annual updates.	Removes fixed-amount award and Protected PII definitions; revises Federal award date, improper payment, PII, unobligated balance; deletes "annually updated" from compliance supplement.	Supports elimination of fixed-amount awards and signals possible change to annual Compliance Supplement cadence.
Subpart B § 200.101 Applicability	Allowed fixed-amount awards; conflicts with statutes/regulations addressed together.	Removes fixed-amount award references; separates statutory conflicts from non-statutory agency regulatory conflicts; states subpart F and § 200.340 govern conflicting non-statutory agency regulations.	Strengthens governmentwide uniformity, especially audit and termination rules.
Subpart B § 200.102 Exceptions	Agencies could request exceptions; fixed-amount awards referenced.	Removes references to fixed-amount awards and emphasizes the places where OMB approval is specifically required, such as § 200.340.	Narrows agency flexibility where OMB wants central control.

6, B-2

Reference	2024 Version	May 2026 proposed change	Practical difference
Subpart B § 200.106 Agency implementation	Focused on agency implementation of Part 200.	Adds agency responsibility to comply with other subtitle A parts, including parts 25, 170, 175, 180, 182, 183, and 184.	Makes agency compliance obligations broader and more explicit.
Subpart B § 200.111 English language	Included broader language-access related framing.	Refocuses on basic requirement that announcements, applications, and award information be in English and U.S. dollars.	Reduces emphasis on translation/accessibility flexibility.
Subpart B § 200.112 Conflict of interest	Required conflict disclosures but not this specific disclosure.	Requires disclosure if employees working on the proposal or award worked for the awarding agency in the prior two years.	Adds a new pre-award transparency disclosure.
Subpart B § 200.113 Mandatory disclosures	Required disclosure of credible evidence of violations.	Requires OIGs to transmit disclosures to the U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C. within 10 days.	Increases enforcement escalation.
Subpart C § 200.201 Fixed amount awards	2024 retained and refined fixed amount awards.	Eliminates fixed amount awards unless authorized by statute.	Major reversal from 2024; recipients lose a flexible award structure.
Subpart C § 200.202 Program design	Focused on program goals/objectives and performance.	Adds requirements around statutory public purpose, agency priorities, nonprofit eligibility restrictions, R&D international elements, multi-year awards, and research categorization.	More agency control over program design and alignment with administration priorities.
Subpart C § 200.204 NOFOs	NOFOs for competitive opportunities; Grants.gov posting; 500-word executive summary was best practice.	Requires public announcement of all discretionary opportunities, including limited/noncompetitive as appropriate; applications generally through Grants.gov; SOIs encouraged; 500-word executive summary becomes required unless exception approved.	More transparency, but also tighter standardization of application processes.
Subpart C § 200.205 Merit review	Merit review required, with agency discretion.	Adds senior appointee pre-issuance review tied to law, agency priorities, national interest, EO 14332, and "Gold Standard Science" concepts.	Politically appointed leadership would have a more explicit role in award review.

6.B-3

Reference	2024 Version	May 2026 proposed change	Practical difference
Subpart C § 200.206 Risk review	Applicant risk review included financial stability, performance, integrity, audit findings, etc.	Expands factors: financial capacity for high-dollar awards, publicly verifiable questionable practices, foreign gift/contract disclosures, and certain affiliations.	Risk review becomes broader and more discretionary.
Subpart C § 200.208 Specific conditions	Agencies could impose conditions based on risk.	Allows adding/removing conditions during the period of performance; 15-day timeline after certain risk determinations; program-level conditions allowed.	More dynamic risk-based award management.
Subpart C § 200.211 Award information	Required award terms and conditions; termination provisions included.	Requires § 200.340 termination provisions to be included or incorporated by reference in every award.	Makes discretionary termination notice more explicit.
Subpart C § 200.216 Prohibited equipment/services/systems	Focused mainly on telecom/video surveillance restrictions.	Adds prohibited unmanned aircraft systems requirements under the American Security Drone Act.	Adds drone procurement/operation compliance obligations.
Subpart C New § 200.218	No equivalent provision.	Prohibits use of Federal awards to promote/support disparate-impact liability theories, to the maximum extent permitted by law.	New national policy restriction.
Subpart C New § 200.219	No equivalent provision.	Prohibits discriminatory event services based on viewpoint, content, subject matter, or ideological/religious affiliation.	New free-speech/viewpoint neutrality condition, especially relevant to public entities and federally funded program activities.
Subpart C New § 200.220	No governmentwide equivalent.	Prohibits Federal funds for covered foreign collaborations unless statutorily authorized or agency-approved.	New national security/foreign collaboration restriction.
Subpart D § 200.300 National policy requirements	2024 emphasized compliance with the Constitution, statutes, nondiscrimination, and other national policy requirements.	Adds specific restrictions related to unlawful DEI/DEIA, gender ideology, and transition-related procedures for minors, to the maximum extent permitted by law.	Significant policy shift from 2024; OMB expressly says its 2026 rationale differs from some 2024 policy positions.

6. B-4



Reference	2024 Version	May 2026 proposed change	Practical difference
Subpart D § 200.303 Internal controls	Referenced GAO Green Book and COSO as internal control frameworks; required safeguarding PII.	Deletes express GAO/COSO framework reference; adds confidential business information safeguards; proposes E-Verify participation for employees/contractors hired in or performing work in the U.S. under awards.	Less reliance on external control frameworks, but adds workforce eligibility compliance.
Subpart D § 200.305 Federal Payment	No explicit governmentwide requirement in § 200.305 that is tied to Treasury's Do Not Pay system. Also, payment requests generally tied to existing financial management/internal control requirements.	Adds reference requiring agencies/pass-through entities to use Treasury's Do Not Pay tools prior to issuing payments. Explicitly requires justification/documentation supporting payment requests before issuing Federal funds.	Increased screening for fraud, improper payments, excluded parties, deceased individuals, duplicate payments, etc. before funds are issued.
Subpart D § 200.318 Procurement	Included broader procurement examples, including labor/employment practices.	Adds documentation/market-rate support for materials under time-and-materials contracts; removes certain labor examples; limits project labor agreement language to federal-interest/cost-effectiveness context.	More cost-control focus; less labor-policy language.
Subpart D § 200.320 Procurement methods	Cost-reimbursement contracts were allowed under procurement standards.	Strongly discourages cost-reimbursement contracts; requires agency notice and written justification; agencies may require prior approval.	More scrutiny of higher-risk contract types.
Subpart D § 200.322 Domestic preferences	Included domestic preference language plus Build America Buy America (BABA) infrastructure requirements.	Removes broad recipient language and directs agencies to include domestic preference terms where practicable and lawful; preserves BABA for infrastructure.	Shifts responsibility toward agencies and legal authority analysis.
Subpart D § 200.329 Performance reporting	Required performance reporting.	Requires recipients to confirm subawards issued during the reporting period were reported to SAM.gov; adds scientific research categorization reporting.	Ties performance reporting to subaward transparency.

6.B-5



Reference	2024 Version	May 2026 proposed change	Practical difference
Subpart D § 200.331 Related entities	Required subrecipient/contractor determinations.	Clarifies that related-party transfers cannot be treated as internal allocations and must be classified as a subaward or contract.	Targets affiliated-entity pass-through arrangements
Subpart D § 200.332 Pass-through entities	Required subaward information, monitoring, and risk-based oversight.	Adds explicit SAM.gov subaward reporting reminder, related-entity classification responsibility, and reputational-risk consultation with agency.	Expands pass-through monitoring expectations.
Subpart D § 200.333 Fixed amount subawards	2024 allowed fixed-amount subawards up to \$500,000 with prior approval.	Removes authority to issue fixed-amount subawards.	Major reversal from 2024 flexibility.
Subpart D § 200.336 Records storage	Addressed collection, transmission, and storage of information.	Encourages domestic storage capabilities for electronic records.	Adds data-security/national-jurisdiction preference.
Subpart D § 200.339 Remedies	Listed agency remedies for noncompliance.	Allows agencies, at their discretion, to cooperate with private parties pursuing private causes of action/remedies.	Adds a potential litigation-support pathway.
Subpart D § 200.340 Termination/suspension	Allowed termination if the award no longer effectuates program goals or agency priorities.	Clarifies discretionary termination, including agency priorities/national interest, and adds temporary suspension concepts.	Makes mid-award termination/suspension authority more explicit.
Subpart E §§ 200.400, 200.401	Cost principles applied broadly; certain nonprofits could use 48 CFR part 31 principles; hospital cost principles referenced.	Removes fixed amount award references; removes hospital references; narrows nonprofit exemption to entities with 90%+ Federal funding through contracts or FFRDCs.	More nonprofits would remain under subpart E.
Subpart E § 200.421 Advertising/public relations	Certain advertising and PR costs allowable when necessary for award purposes.	Specifies advertising/PR costs are unallowable except limited cases; PR only if required by statute; advertising only for listed award-related purposes.	More restrictive allowability standard.
Subpart E § 200.429 Commencement /convocation	Restriction focused on IHEs.	Applies restriction to all entity types.	Broadens unallowability beyond colleges/universities.

6.B-6



Reference	2024 Version	May 2026 proposed change	Practical difference
Subpart E § 200.432 Conferences	Conference costs are allowed when consistent with award/cost principles.	Attendance costs are allowable only if expressly agency-approved and included in award terms.	Adds prior/express approval expectation through terms and conditions.
Subpart E § 200.442 Fundraising/ investment	Generally unallowable except in limited cases.	Allows only with prior written approval from a Federal agency.	Prior approval becomes central.
Subpart E § 200.444 General government costs	General government costs are unallowable, with exceptions.	Clarifies that these are general executive, legislative, or judicial branch activities, not tied to a specific award; removes the Councils of Government reference.	Clarifies government-recipient cost boundaries.
Subpart E § 200.450 Lobbying	Lobbying restrictions already applied.	Consolidates OMB memo references and clarifies that lobbying includes efforts to influence state government matters unrelated to award objectives/performance.	Broadens/clarifies state-level lobbying restriction.
Subpart E § 200.454 Memberships/ subscriptions	Certain memberships/subscriptions allowable.	Allows only costs necessary to fulfill award requirements and with Federal agency prior approval; country clubs and lobbying/issue-advocacy organizations are unallowable.	More restrictive; prior approval added.
Subpart E § 200.455 Organization costs	Organization costs addressed generally.	Clarifies that integrated data system costs should align with Federal grants data standards on Grants.gov.	Links data costs to GREAT Act data standards.
Subpart F § 200.503 Other audits	Other audit requirements could apply.	Clarifies additional audits by agencies, Inspector General (IG)s, or Government Accountability Office (GAO) only when authorized by statute.	Limits extra audit layering absent statutory authority.
Subpart F § 200.513 Compliance Supplement	Referred to annual Compliance Supplement.	Deletes "annual" before Compliance Supplement.	Signals a possible non-annual issuance cycle.

6.B-7



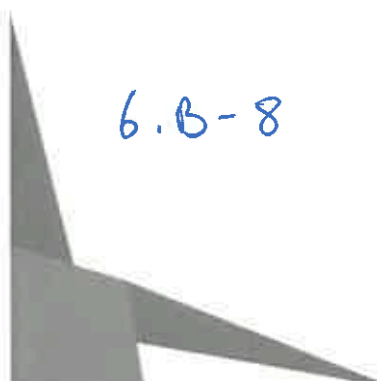


Reference	2024 Version	May 2026 proposed change	Practical difference
Subpart F § 200.514 Audit scope	Referenced GAO Green Book/COSO internal control frameworks.	Deletes those references, consistent with § 200.303.	Auditors would not point to those frameworks as expressing 2 CFR standards.
Appendix I: NOFOs	O24 Appendix I emphasized a simplified NOFO structure.	Requires Grants.gov applications unless statutory or agency-head-approved exception; adds SOI references.	More standardized application route and optional first-stage screening.
Appendix II: Contract provisions	Included existing required contract clauses, including older EO references.	Removes reference to rescinded Executive Orders in paragraph C.	Technical cleanup of contract clauses.
Appendix VIII: Nonprofit exemptions	Listed nonprofit organizations are exempted from subpart E.	Removes and reserves Appendix VIII.	Replaces named exemptions with a narrower objective standard in § 200.401.
Appendix IX: Hospital cost principles	Contained hospital cost principles under Part 200.	Technical revision pointing to Appendix IX to Part 300 until revised hospital guidance is implemented.	Moves hospital cost principle reference out of Part 200.

The May 2026 proposal represents a major philosophical and operational shift from the 2024 Uniform Guidance revisions. While the 2024 changes focused on streamlining, flexibility, and reducing administrative burden, the 2026 proposal pivots toward:

- Stronger Federal oversight
- Increased political/agency control
- Heightened payment scrutiny
- National security and domestic sourcing priorities
- Expanded compliance enforcement

6.B-8





FY 2023-2027 Labor/HHS Appropriations

As of June 9, 2026 (Dollars in thousands) Increases over prior year final funding are noted in **BOLD**. Decreases are noted in *italics*.

Older Americans Act and Other Key Aging Programs	FY 2023 Enacted Dec. 2022	FY 2024 Enacted 3.23.24	FY 2025 Enacted (Final CR) 3.14.25	FY 2026 Enacted 2.3.2026	FY 2027 President's Budget 4.3.26	FY 2027 House Comm. 6.9.26
Title III						
B: Supportive Services & Centers	410,000	410,000	410,000	414,000	414,000	414,000
C1: Congregate Meals	540,342	565,342	565,342	565,342	565,342	566,342
C2: Home-Delivered Meals	366,342	381,342	381,342	381,342	381,342	382,342
NSIP	160,069	<i>112,000</i>	112,000	112,000	112,000	113,000
D: Preventive Health	26,339	26,339	26,339	26,339	26,339	26,339
E: Family Caregivers Support	205,000	207,000	207,000	209,000	209,000	209,000
Title V SCSEP (DOL)	405,000	405,000	405,000	395,000	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Title VI						
A: Grants to Indians	38,264	38,264	38,264	40,264	40,264	42,264
C: Native American Caregivers	12,000	12,000	12,000	14,000	14,000	16,000
Title VII						
Ombudsman, Elder Abuse	26,658	26,658	26,658	26,658	26,885	28,000
Elder Rights Support + APS	33,874	33,874	33,874	33,874	34,005	34,005
Title II						
Aging Network Support Activities	30,461	30,461	30,461	30,461	30,461	33,461
ADRCs	8,619	8,619	8,619	8,619	8,619	8,619
Program Admin.	47,063	48,063	48,063	<i>41,000</i>	<i>0, rolled into ACFC</i>	43,727
RDE Center	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	Not mentioned	5,000
Other AoA/ACL Programs						
State Health Insurance Asst. Program	55,242	55,242	55,242	55,242	55,242	55,242
Community Care Corps	5,500	Unclear	Unclear	5,500	Not mentioned	7,000
CDSMP	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	<i>0</i>	8,000
Alzheimer's Disease Program	31,500	31,500	31,500	31,500	<i>16,800</i>	31,500
Elder Falls Prevention	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	<i>2,500</i>	7,500
Lifespan Respite Care	10,000	10,000	10,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
Sr Medicare Patrol	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Other HHS						
Social Services Block Grant	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000
Comm. Services Block Grant	804,383	804,383	804,383	810,383	<i>0</i>	<i>778,000</i>
LIHEAP: Low-Inc Home Energy Asst	4,000,000	4,025,000	4,025,000	4,045,000	<i>0</i>	4,055,000
CNCS: AmeriCorps Seniors	236,917	236,917	236,917	236,917	<i>0</i>	241,917

6.B-9



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Date: 6-12-26

To: Seniors Council Board of Directors, AAA Advisory Council

From: Clay Kempf, Executive Director

RE: Executive Director's June Report

BUDGET SHORTFALLS

Our budget outlook has changed dramatically since our last meeting, as outlined in the separate memo included in the packets. It highlights the need for the action taken last month by the board to decrease 202 6-27 expenditure, but clearly more action is needed and is currently under discussion.

Staff members are invited to attend the June Board meeting to hear more. In addition, an all-staff meeting is being held prior to the Board meeting on Wednesday, June 17, at 2 pm at the Watsonville office.

The Board welcomes ideas to close the budget gap, as does staff. All of us realize the hardships created by reductions in hours, benefits, and frozen wages, but are limited in mitigation options.

AGENCY OPERATIONS & FUNDING

Additional revisions our AmeriCorps grant applications have been required and completed for both the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs. We remain hopefully optimistic that our funding requests for the three fiscal years of 2026-2029 will be successful. Totalling well over \$1 million per year, these grants provide the vast majority of funding for both programs, and represents our second-largest funding source, topped only by the Older Americans Act administered by California's Department of Aging. Cristina has applied for increases over her current grant amounts, and we're all crossing our fingers that those submissions will be successful. The revisions are mainly around the new requirement that answers to each of the grant questions follow a very specific format. It appears the review process has been modified significantly and is morphing from an art into a checklist.

7-1

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING'S (CDA) AGING 2030 PLANS & SB 1249

The latest version of the Intrastate Funding Formula has become more controversial during month. CDA reports that none of the factors are being changed; however, some of the calculations they previously released were inaccurate, so a new 11x17 spreadsheet has been developed that significantly changes the allocations in at least Los Angeles County and City. Our allocation is unchanged; I haven't done a side-by-side comparison of other AAAs. But being informed that the allocations between the two L.A.s was wrong doesn't create a lot of confidence in the numbers. The new spreadsheet was shared the afternoon of May 7th; I e-mailed CDA leadership to see if they would be extending the public comment period given the change in the information being distributed and two of the five remaining days being weekends. CDA responded with a no, saying the factors haven't changed, only the resulting numbers.

California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) continues to work diligently to address and mitigate the concerns we have regarding CDA's implementation of SB 1249. It is nice to see our AAA colleagues from around the state come together in our mutual efforts to serve older adults, and share our concern over CDA's current approach to service delivery. The differences among us pale in comparison to our mutual goals, and last month's strategic planning workshop brought everyone back together with a renewed focus on our mutual goals. Many AAAs have new Directors, and the Association seems more cohesive than at any time in the past four years. C4A's new Executive Director Christina Mills and Board President Aneliza del Pinal (Santa Clara) deserve a tremendous amount of credit for their leadership.

Senator John Laird's SB 1261, protecting ADRC's from closure and defunding for two years in the event a AAA or Independent Living Center (ILC) designation changes, continues to move forward through the legislature. CDA has asked for amendments to require CDA approval of the two-year extension; we are pleased that Senator Laird has NOT accepted those amendments. Bill language is short and consists of the following:

"(g) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, the California Department of Aging shall not revoke the designation of an ADRC program solely due to the revocation of a designation, suspension, voluntary resignation or temporary inability of either the area agency on aging or the independent living center partner to serve in its operator role. In those circumstances, either the area agency on aging or the independent living center may continue to operate the ADRC independently during a transition period of not less than one year and not more than two years, upon agreement of the California Department of Aging, the Department of Rehabilitation, and the Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Committee, while a new or replacement partner is identified and designated.
(2) During the transition period described in paragraph (1), the services provided by the ADRC shall continue without interruption, and

joint operation shall be reestablished upon designation of the replacement partner that serves older adults or is a peer-led disability organization."

MASTER PLAN FOR AGING (MPA) LOCAL PLAYBOOKS

We continue to promote and share the content of our MPA Local Playbooks throughout our PSA, with mixed responses. Corey and Zach had very productive Local Playbook workgroups meetings last month, and we were pleased to hear about continued progress in both counties towards achieving some of our local goals.

Corey and I continue to make public presentations to various groups in San Benito County, keeping the playbook fresh and expanding the audience.

In Santa Cruz County, the Governance Committee met again on June 1. We were disappointed to receive a nice-looking document from County staff that outlined local goals that didn't include anything from the actual local playbook. On Wednesday evening, June 17th, we have been invited to join a 13-slide local playbook presentation by the County before the Scotts Valley City Council, mainly focusing on the needs assessment. The presentation has room for us to submit two sides. Our disappointment includes the final slide "Next Steps" not including anything about the Seniors Council, nor does it include Senior Network Services information for those needing assistance for older adults.

We still haven't been allowed to present the Local Playbook presentation to the Governance Committee. I will be sending that presentation to all of the Steering Committee members before the next meeting so they can at least be aware of its contents.

Meanwhile, the Aging and Long Term Care Commission of San Benito County continues to be the oversight committee for the San Benito County Playbook, and includes the item as a standing report at their monthly meetings. Britt, Corey and I share pertinent information at each meeting. Those efforts are embraced, and the County and the community at large does a nice job of working cooperatively and promoting the collaborative nature of the effort.

SERVICE PROVIDER PROGRESS REPORT & CSL ELECTIONS

Service delivery in Hollister at the Pauline Valdivia Memorial Center continues to be more challenging than expected. The good news is that the building reopened this week, albeit without indoor bathrooms (porta-potties are present in the side parking lot), and the main entrance locked - a surprise discovery after not being mentioned during a required pre-reopening walkthrough. Hollister Parks and Rec have improved their communication and advance notification of closure and opening dates, but improvement is still needed. The City seems to be somewhat limited in their

understanding of the complexity of serving older adults and especially in the provision of healthy meals and food handling safety.

Jovenes de Antaño hasn't responded to our latest request on the transfer of the second of two vehicles that were purchased using AAA funds and are used to deliver meals. The vehicles were cooperatively handed over to Martha's Kitchen back in June/July of 2025, and legal transfer of ownership completed for one; unfortunately paperwork was not finalized for vehicle #2. We're not sure why Jovenes has challenged the ownership of both vehicles, or even one of them, but some of the arguments are bordering on the bizarre. If not resolved soon, we'll solicit the legal assistance of the state Department of Aging.

California Senior Legislature (CSL) elections we conducted last month, and we're pleased to report that incumbents Senator Mickie Luna and Assemblyman Antonio Rivas were successfully re-elected by our AAA Advisory Council.

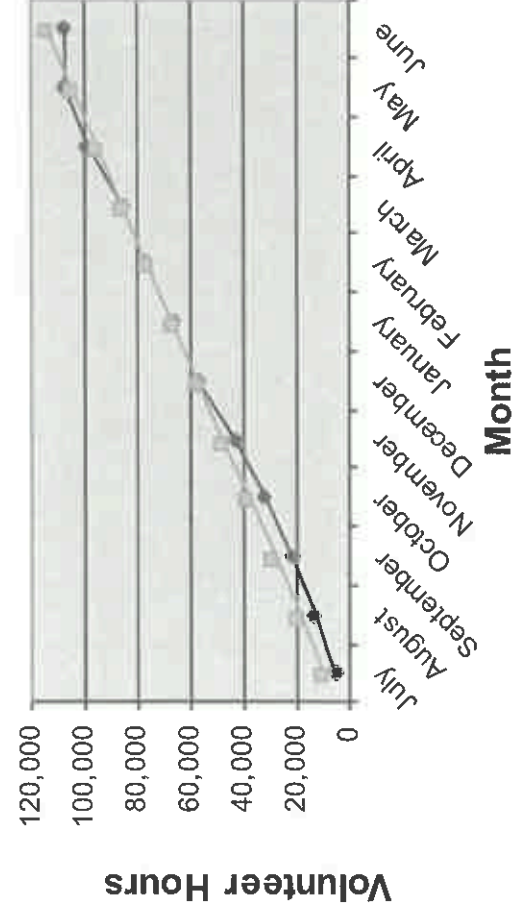
Project Name: Seniors Council Foster Grandparent Program

Grant Year: 7/1/25- 6/30/26

Month	Cumulative Hours		Monthly VSYS		Monthly Hours		Monthly Vols.		FY 24-25 Actuals		FY 23-24 Actuals		Annual VSYS Goal	
	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal	Actual	Goal	Active	Active	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals	VSYS	Goal
July	5,499	9,483	5.27	9.08	5,499	9.08	123	123	5,316	4,976	4,976	109	109	
August	12,921	18,966	7.11	9.08	7,422	9.08	123	123	6,996	5,585	5,585	109	109	
September	21,992	28,449	8.69	9.08	9,072	9.08	130	130	8,793	6,893	6,893	109	109	
October	31,502	37,932	9.11	9.08	9,510	9.08	132	132	9,446	7,363	7,363	109	109	
November	42,881	47,415	10.90	9.08	11,379	9.08	132	132	10,945	10,355	10,355	109	109	
December	56,914	56,898	13.44	9.08	14,033	9.08	135	135	12,266	12,862	12,862	109	109	
January	66,375	66,381	9.06	9.08	9,461	9.08	134	134	10,779	10,827	10,827	109	109	
February	76,233	75,864	9.44	9.08	9,858	9.08	132	132	8,020	7,179	7,179	109	109	
March	85,372	85,347	8.75	9.08	9,139	9.08	130	130	11,392	10,382	10,382	109	109	
April	99,066	94,830	13.12	9.08	13,694	9.08	131	131	11,665	10,621	10,621	109	109	
May	106,973	104,313	7.57	9.08	7,907	9.08	131	131	9,246	8,487	8,487	109	109	
June	106,973	113,796	0.00	9.08		9.08			5,055	5,739	5,739	109	109	
TOTAL			102.46		106,973				109,918	101,267				

Total VSYS Achieved

VSY Actual to Target (Cumulative)



8.A-1

Project Name: Seniors Council Senior Companion Program

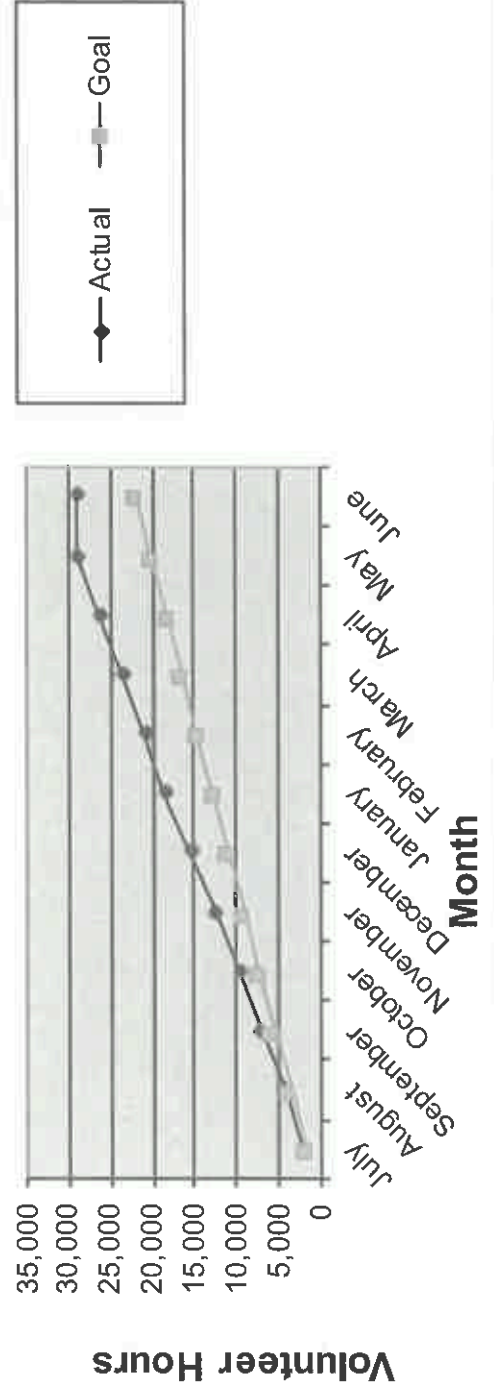
Grant Year: 7/1/25- 6/30/26

8.A-2

Month	Cumulative Hours		Monthly VSY Actual	Monthly VSY Goal	Monthly Hours Actual	Monthly Vols. Active	FY 24-25 Actuals	FY 23-24 Actuals	Annual VSY Goal
	Actual	Goal							
July	2,283	1,827	2.19	1.75	2,283	30	1,837	1,540	21
August	4,405	3,654	2.03	1.75	2,122	30	1,608	1,312	21
September	7,016	5,481	2.50	1.75	2,612	30	1,909	1,640	21
October	9,731	7,308	2.60	1.75	2,715	31	2,055	1,691	21
November	12,534	9,135	2.68	1.75	2,803	31	2,504	2,498	21
December	15,557	10,962	2.90	1.75	3,023	32	2,614	3,189	21
January	18,567	12,789	2.88	1.75	3,010	32	2,159	2,485	21
February	20,949	14,616	2.28	1.75	2,382	32	1,643	1,802	21
March	23,624	16,443	2.56	1.75	2,675	37	1,989	2,516	21
April	26,382	18,270	2.64	1.75	2,758	37	1,585	2,522	21
May	28,996	20,097	2.50	1.75	2,614	37	1,959	1,940	21
June	28,996	21,924	0.00	1.75			1,688	1,787	21
TOTAL			27.77		28,996		23,547	24,921	

Total VSYS Achieved

VSY Actual to Target (Cumulative)





AREA AGENCY ON AGING
San Benito & Santa Cruz Counties

FOSTER GRANDPARENT/SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM
Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara & Santa Cruz Counties

PROJECT SCOUT
Tax Counseling Assistance

AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION
Navigating the San Benito County Senior & Disability Services Network

Monthly Report to the Board of Directors – Seniors Council of Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties

Submitted by Corey Shaffer, Community Coordinator

Senior Services Planning and Volunteer Engagement

San Benito County, Seniors Council

For the Month of May 2026

OVERVIEW

May focused on Older Americans Month activities, community outreach, volunteer engagement, partnership development, and increasing awareness of programs and services available to older adults throughout San Benito County.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (SBCVOLUNTEERS.ORG)

Continued outreach and support of participating agencies utilizing SBCVolunteers.org, with ongoing promotion of volunteer opportunities and community engagement efforts throughout the county.

Current Platform Snapshot:

- 22 active agencies registered on the platform
- 61 registered users
- 10 active volunteer opportunities
- More than 3,000 agency profile views year-to-date
- More than 1,200 volunteer opportunity views year-to-date

Volunteer opportunities currently promoted through the platform include HICAP, CASA of San Benito County, Bridge Hospice, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Downtown Hollister Association events, and senior meal programs.

B.C-1

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

May was recognized as Older Americans Month, providing opportunities to celebrate older adults and increase awareness of local resources, services, and volunteer opportunities.

Outreach efforts included presentations, community engagement activities, partnership development, and recognition events highlighting the contributions of older adults throughout San Benito County.

Additional outreach highlights are included in the attached May 2026 Community Engagement Highlights.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

- Presented to the San Benito County Business Council regarding aging initiatives, volunteer engagement, and resources available to older adults.
- Participated in Older Americans Month recognition activities with community partners throughout the county.
- Continued collaboration with local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community stakeholders to strengthen partnerships and support aging-related initiatives.
- Met with Leah Calderon from the City of Hollister to discuss opportunities for continued collaboration and community engagement efforts supporting older adults.

MASTER PLAN FOR AGING (MPA)

Continued support of San Benito County's local Master Plan for Aging implementation efforts through outreach, partnership development, presentations, and collaboration with community stakeholders.

Ongoing efforts continue to support initiatives related to healthy aging, caregiving, housing, inclusion and equity, and affording aging throughout San Benito County.

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

Continued development and promotion of the San Benito County Seniors Connect newsletter and related outreach materials.

During May, communications efforts focused on Older Americans Month, community events, health and wellness resources, safety awareness, and opportunities for older adults to remain connected, informed, and engaged in the community.

A sample outreach graphic used during May is attached as an example of community communication and awareness efforts.

OBSERVATIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

- Community interest in volunteer opportunities and aging resources continues to grow.
- Presentations and outreach activities continue to strengthen community partnerships and increase awareness of available services.
- Opportunities remain to expand agency participation and volunteer engagement through SBCVolunteers.org.

B.C-2

NEXT STEPS / FOCUS AREAS

- Continue expanding participation on SBCVolunteers.org.
- Increase outreach to nonprofit organizations and community partners.
- Continue community presentations and partnership development efforts.
- Support implementation of local Master Plan for Aging initiatives.
- Continue promoting volunteer engagement, healthy aging, and community resource awareness throughout San Benito County.

Upcoming Activities & Presentations

- **June 4, 2026** – Presenting at the San Benito County Behavioral Health Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee (EDIC) meeting
- **June, 2026** – Presentation at the Community Foundation for San Benito County Executive Directors Round Table on SBCVolunteers.org and volunteer engagement efforts
- **July 30, 2026** – ¼ combined Master Plan for Aging (MPA) workgroup meeting



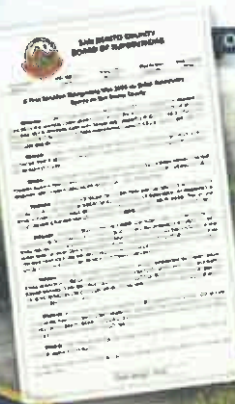
SAN BENITO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Honoring Our Past
Strengthening Our Future
Inspiring Our Future*

Recognizes MAY 2026

AS

OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH IN SAN BENITO COUNTY



Thank You!

To the San Benito County Board of Supervisors and all community partners, volunteers, and organizations working together to support and uplift older adults.



Celebrating OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH

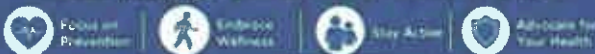


The City of Hollister proudly proclaims May 2026 as Older Americans' Month!



This proclamation recognizes the invaluable contributions of older adults in our community and reaffirms our commitment to their well-being, independence, and quality of life. Thank you to our seniors—you inspire and strengthen our community every day!

2026 THEME: CHAMPION YOUR HEALTH



B.C.-4

SAN BENITO CONNECT

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Stronger together, we celebrate, support, and uplift older adults in San Benito County.

Thank you

to all our partners and community leaders for making a difference!

STRONGER TOGETHER

Building a Vibrant Future

FOR SAN BENITO COUNTY

We were proud to present to the San Benito County Business Council our shared commitment to supporting older adults and strengthening our community through connection, resources, and collaboration.



Thank You!

to the San Benito County Business Council for the opportunity to share how we can support and empower older adults in our community.



Grateful TO THE HOLLISTER ROTARY CLUB

Thank you for the warm welcome and this incredible gift!

Honored to present the Master Plan for Aging and the Volunteer Program and to be part of such an inspiring community.



A Gift WITH MEANING

A reminder of the values that guide us in UNITE FOR GOOD.

Thank you, Hollister Rotary Club!

Together, we CAN make a difference and build a brighter future for all!





AREA AGENCY ON AGING
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Tax Counseling & CalFresh Assistance

AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION
Navigating the San Benito County Senior & Disability Services Network

PROJECT SCOUT

MAY 2026 Report

2026 Post-Tax Season Prep Sites*

- 1-ALL: Project SCOUT Tax Facilitated Self Assistance ONLINE <http://tinyurl.com/SCOUTFSA>
- 2-Project SCOUT VITA (Ad hoc, remote, & special events).
- 3-Santa Cruz Public Library Downtown one Saturday per month by appointment*.
- 4-La Manzanita Community Resources one Thursday per month by appointment (Watsonville)*.
- 5-Watsonville Public Library one Wednesday per month by appointment.
- 6-Watsonville Senior Center by appointment.
- 7-San Juan Bautista Public Library one Wednesday per month by appointment*.

Ad-Hoc Events (MAY)

In-home support services and drop offs for those unable to attend tax site events.

*Appointments are taken by calling 831-724-2606 or emailing projectscout@seniorscouncil.org, or in person at sites that help with appointments.

Project SCOUT MAY Tax Production Totals

Project SCOUT Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Tax Preparation Totals:

- Number of Federal returns prepared – 1801
- Primary or secondary 60 years old or older – 930
- Average income of those serviced – \$30,723.00
- Dollar Amount of Federal refunds including credits – \$1,756,067.00
- Dollar Amount of State refunds including credits – \$423,204.00

Dollar Amount of TOTAL refunds – **\$2,179,271.00**

Money back in the wallets of our clients, including average return cost of \$240.00 – **\$2,611,511.00!**

175 Westridge Dr., Watsonville, CA 95076 www.seniorscouncil.org
PHONE: AAA – (831) 688-0400 • FG/SCP – (831) 475-0816 • SCOUT – 1-831-724-2606 • FAX: (831) 688-1225

SUPPORTED BY FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS, AND YOUR PERSONAL DONATIONS

8.D-1

Project SCOUT Financial Impact

Tax refunds, credits, and savings returned to taxpayers in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties.



CalFresh Services MAY

CalFresh assessments have started for those seniors and disabled serviced during tax season. Outreach is happening to those who qualify for service.

- Number of Senior and disabled clients assessed for services – 17 (2 SCC, 15 SBC)
- Number of clients assisted with CalFresh in Santa Cruz County – 2
- Number of clients assisted with CalFresh in San Benito County – 3

CalFresh Outreach and Assistance

Senior and disabled clients assessed and assisted with CalFresh enrollment in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties.



8.D-2

MAY 2026 Recap

Challenges:

Although Project SCOUT continues meeting its budgetary needs keeping a balanced budget and a growing upward trajectory of funding in what is the one of the most unfriendly atmospheres in memory, the cancellation of COLA and wage increases, paired with health and benefit reductions are too much to swallow as cost of living in this region is over 60% higher than the national average, 45% higher than the state, inflation is about 4% higher this year alone, and both last year and this year cost of living COLA has gone up above 3%.

Seniors Council staff have been involved in meetings and planning for grants, grant writing, possible fundraising and fundraisers, etcetera. At this point in time, the results are not what any of us would like. As Project SCOUT's Program Director, just like I need to look out for my program and make certain that it is running properly, I also need to look at what options I have to allow myself and my family an upward trajectory.

Best Practices:

On May 20th, 2026 Project SCOUT was awarded with the "Be The Difference" Award by the Santa Cruz Volunteer Center at the Cocoanut Grove in Santa Cruz, CA. Project SCOUT volunteers were honored for their dedication, drive, and service to our communities.

Project SCOUT received a call on May 19 from a 88-year old client who had not received her refund. There were also questions with her 2024 amended return for which our team helped her this year. She thanked our Project SCOUT volunteers and staff for their perseverance and for connecting and explaining to her the various tax situations.

The volunteer helping stated "It is clients like her that keeps me and my team at the downtown library energized. It is (Project SCOUT staff) that has our back and jumps in when things are not going as well as intended for our clients. I want to thank you in addition to the thanks from our elderly client, who felt relieved with our efforts".

I want to thank her in turn and all our Project SCOUT volunteers as none of this work could be done without their efforts and determination. It is always a joy to be a part of such an impactful program providing an upward trajectory for many.