

Mendocino County Department of Social Services CEO Report

October 2025



I. Effective County Government

Department Procedures Released September/October 2025:

- PA 25-06 Petty Cash
- FCS Law Enforcement Records Request
- IHSS PAQA 14-56.01 Critical Incidents

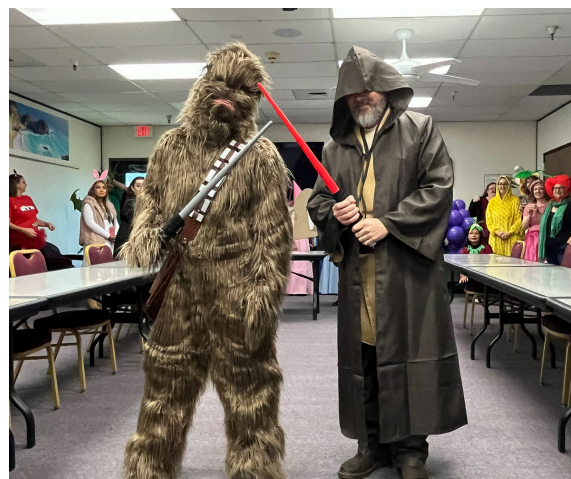
MCDSS Launches Security Awareness & De-Escalation Training

On Monday, October 27, 2025, MCDSS launched its new Security Awareness and De-Escalation Training for department staff, beginning with presentations in Ukiah and Fort Bragg. Additional sessions will be offered in Willits in the coming weeks.

These sessions focus on identifying early signs of escalation, responding appropriately, and utilizing tools and resources when staff may feel unsafe. Acting Chief Welfare Investigator Brandon McGregor and Senior Department Analyst Antonio Renteria will continue leading these trainings, providing opportunities for staff to learn, share experiences, ask questions, and build a stronger community of safety across the department.

Sometimes staff engagement means taking a moment to have a little fun. At MCDSS, our staff work hard every day to support the county's most vulnerable community members—work that can come with a certain level of stress. That's why finding ways to connect, laugh, and recharge is so important.

This Halloween, the department embraced that spirit of fun during its staff celebration. Director Parker and Assistant Director White joined in the festivities, donning Star Wars-themed costumes alongside staff. The lighthearted event brought smiles throughout the offices and served as a reminder that building a strong, supportive workplace culture includes making space for moments of joy and connection.



Special Investigations Unit (SIU) 2025 Quarter 3

Welfare fraud referrals may be received from the public, through the State of California welfare fraud hotline, other County agencies, and internal sources.

Referrals received	76
Closed investigations	66
Time of IEVS processing	100%

The Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) matches an applicant or recipient's data with State welfare files, wages, unemployment and disability benefit files, income information from the Internal Revenue Services, and/or Franchise Tax Board and the Social Security Administration. Eligibility Examiners review the matches within 45 days.

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II. Safe & Healthy County



November CalFresh Benefits Delayed Due to Federal Government Shutdown

With the rapidly changing political environment affecting crucial benefits such as CalFresh, the Mendocino County Department of Social Services (MCDSS) is working closely with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and the California Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) to provide timely and accurate updates on any changes.

Our lobbies remain open to serve customers and assist with new applications for assistance, household updates and reporting, as well as redeterminations for services. Stay informed by following MCDSS on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

If you need immediate food assistance, you can find local resources through the [Mendo Food Network](#).

Mendocino County Department of Social Services:

- Ukiah Employment & Family Assistance Services: (707) 463-7700
- Fort Bragg Employment & Family Assistance Services: (707) 962-1000

**Mendocino County
Department of Social
Services Monthly Data
Dashboard**



Family & Children's Services Court Report Timeliness Quarter 3

Jurisdictional Reports	88%
Dispositional Reports	50%
Semi-Annual Status Review Reports	37%