

Headlines

EHSD's Got Talent!

**Mercedes Ibarra
Takes 1st Place**

*Plus Contest Highlights
Video & Photo Gallery*

**Eligibility Worker Month
How Faye Herald
Supports Foster Youth**

**\$6,000 Hiring Bonus for
Early Childhood Educators**



Holiday Food Fight

THANK YOU to all who donated and supported the 2023 Counties Care Holiday Food Fight!

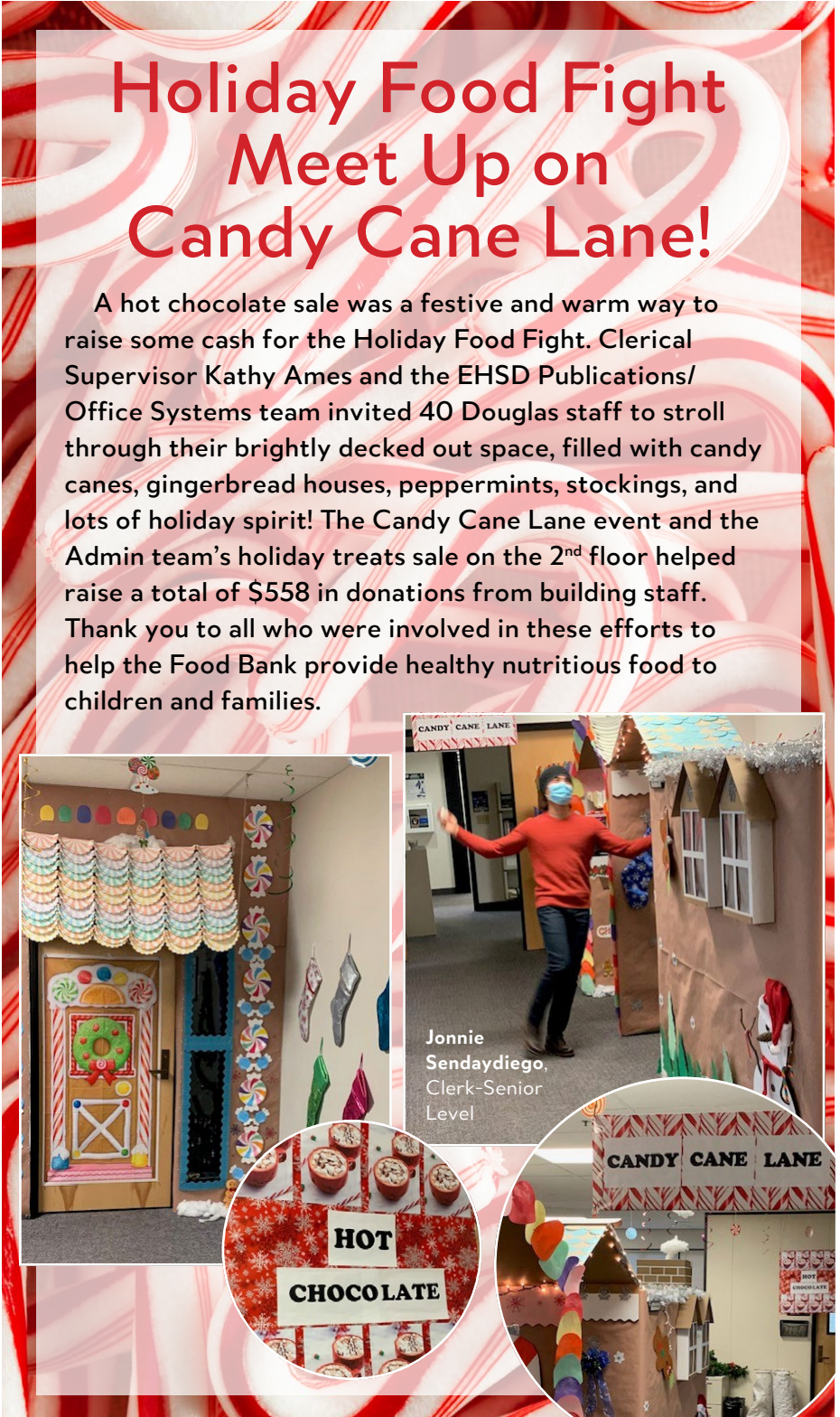
EHSD staff raised \$3,106, making our department the fifth among all County departments to raise the most money toward Contra Costa County's goal. Not a bad showing to be in the top 5, PLUS surpass our department's goal of \$1,500!

Better yet is that our EHSD total will help provide 6,212 meals for people who need a little extra to supplement their food budgets. We appreciate your generosity toward our local families.

Thanks also to the Contra Costa County Library and its team of Holiday Food Fight Coordinators Gayle Aquino, Rich Hall, and Shannon Ladage for leading our countywide campaign.

The Holiday Food Fight has raised nearly \$2.7 million since 2003. The 2023 amount is not yet final, but the county that raises the most funds per employee will win the Big Apple trophy and bragging rights until the next campaign at the end of this year.

Always, the *real* winners are the people who face hunger and receive fresh, nutritious food from the Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano to help their families.



CSB is Hiring Teachers

By Tish Gallegos, Community Relations/Media Manager

EHSD's Community Services Bureau is boosting our Early Childhood Educators recruitment with social media posts and additional outreach. CSB is hiring Teachers, Associate Teachers, and Site Supervisors. Candidates can use these links to the County Jobs site **to apply**:

- **Teachers & Associate Teachers** – bit.ly/ECETeacherOpenings
- **Site Supervisors** – bit.ly/ECESiteSupJobOpenings

An exciting NEW **\$6,000 Hiring Bonus** is intended to incentivize prospective candidates to fill the many openings. New staff hired for these positions will receive \$3,000 the month following her/his hire date + \$3,000 after 4 months of continuous employment.

If you know of someone who might be interested, send them the link to our news card on EHSD.org [Now Hiring Early Childhood Educators | EHSD](#). This is also reachable from our [home page](#) under "EHSD News & Announcements." Or they can call (925) 646-5049 for more information.

You can also share our **social media posts on Facebook, Instagram, and X**. We want to let everyone know about how our early childcare teaching staff has the opportunity to nurture children and families in Contra Costa County.

Building Legacy at CSB

Attention ECE Professionals

NOW HIRING Teachers & Associate Teachers

Join Our Team of
Early Childhood Educators

“Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.”
–Nelson Mandela

Apply Today
visit
bit.ly/ECETeacherOpenings

**\$6,000
Hiring Bonus!**

\$3,000 the month following hire date + \$3,000 after 4 months continuous employment

More information
(925) 646-5049



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES
Building Brighter Futures Together

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
COMMUNITY SERVICES
BUREAU

Experience Counts— Faye Herald Adds a Personal Touch

By Alan Wang, Community Relations Media Specialist



Eligibility Workers, like **Faye Herald**, are an essential part of the team. They sort out the mounds of paperwork and make sure all the pieces are in the right place so EHSD can serve its customers.

As a Social Services Program Assistant for Children and Family Services (CFS), Faye’s caseload averages around 180. These include foster care, KinGAP, and Medi-Cal only cases. Foster care cases include children that are placed in a Resource Family Approval (RFA) home either directly or through an agency. KinGAP cases include children placed with their own family members.

“I also work closely with Social Workers, Clerks, Child Support, and other agencies to provide information and maintain eligibility” says Faye. “KinGAP cases have no Social Workers, so I am their main point of contact. I assist in resolving issues with payment, Medi-Cal and locating resources like clothing, food, educational resources and housing.”

At times, Faye says a case will call for her to meet face-to-face with clients so she can add her own

personal touch to resolve an issue. To find out more about Faye Herald, **CLICK** the play button below and watch the video interview with her.



Success Story: **CLICK** the play button to see how **Faye Herald’s** CFS experience helped Nicole Douglas and her nephew overcome their challenges.

*Building Brighter
Futures Together*

Congratulations to our EWTU Graduates!

This recent EWTU class began on August 28th and graduated on Friday December 29, 2023. Our new eligibility staff members completed training for both CalFresh and Medi-Cal Programs with Trainers **Krista Holguin** and **Elisa Subias**. They started off the new year on their first assignment at the Medi-Cal CalFresh Service Center (MCSC). Congratulations and welcome to this EWTU class!



Congratulations and welcome to this EWTU class!

Want to help plan the 2024 Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration?

The Board of Supervisors has asked EHSD to be the departmental sponsor for one of Contra Costa County's newest commemorative events.

The 2nd annual 2024 Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Celebration will be on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at the County Administration Building. If you would like to offer ideas and input, contact one of our event co-chairs: **Tish Gallegos** (tgallegos@ehsd.cccounty.us) or **Oravanh Thammassen** (othammassen@ehsd.cccounty.us).

The next meeting for the Core Planning Team will be on Thursday, January 18th, at 11 a.m. Let Tish or Oravanh know if you would like to receive the calendar invite to join virtually.

Ideally, want EHSD representation across all bureaus and locations. Please check with your supervisor about participating.

We are looking forward to making our 2024 AANHPI event a meaningful celebration for our community.

Celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

County Board of Supervisors Host Upcoming January 16 Event



The Board of Supervisors is honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the 46th Annual Commemoration Event on **Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 11 a.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1025 Escobar St., in Martinez.**

“Fifty-five years have passed since Dr. King was assassinated, and we find ourselves still fighting for equity and inclusion today. We are fortunate to honor a Humanitarian and Student Humanitarian of the Year, who bring to life Dr. King’s vision through their service to our community. Together, we will commemorate Dr. King and commit to continuing our work together to address issues of racial injustice and inequality in our communities,” said incoming Board Chair Supervisor Federal Glover.

The theme of the event is “Beloved Community.” The celebration will feature keynote speaker Dr. Adam Clark, who has served as Superintendent of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District since July 2020. Prior to this, he served as superintendent of the Vallejo City Unified School District. Dr. Clark has also held various leadership positions in education, including Associate Superintendent of Educational Services, Assistant Superintendent of

Student Services, and principal at all three levels. He earned his doctorate from Saint Mary’s College of California and will share his perspective on Dr. King’s legacy.

The Board will honor Adult Humanitarian of the Year, Willie Mims, and Student Humanitarians of the Year, Vedant Kathrani, Robi, and Noor To-Zul-Ahmad, from Dougherty Valley High School in San Ramon. Their passionate leadership, advocacy, and community service have improved the lives of Contra Costa County residents and reflect the spirit of Dr. King’s work and achievements.

The program also includes entertainment from the Pittsburg High School, and performers Doris and Joe Bumpus. The public can also watch the ceremony at <http://www.contracosta.ca.gov/6086> or www.contracostatv.org. The celebration will also be broadcast live on Contra Costa Television (CCTV) channels, Comcast Cable 27, ATT/U-Verse 99, and Astound 32 & 1027.

To learn more about the Dr. King Ceremony and past ceremonies, visit www.contracosta.ca.gov/5307.

January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Claudia Gonzalez, Alliance to End Abuse & Corinna Espino, Children & Family Services

Human trafficking is a form of interpersonal violence and, a crime in which force, fraud, or coercion is used to compel victims into commercial sexual and labor exploitation, affecting individuals of all genders, social economic status, citizenship status, and backgrounds. It is a public health issue that affects individuals, families, and communities across generations.

Human trafficking can happen to anyone, and certain populations are disproportionately at risk, including people affected by prior abuse, poverty, unstable living situations or homelessness, and those systemically marginalized and underserved. In Contra Costa County, there are collaborative efforts to prevent and stop human trafficking.

The Employment & Human Services Department (EHSD) funds several partners in the fight against human trafficking through the Contra Costa Alliance to End Abuse (Alliance) and Children & Family Services (CFS).

The Alliance and CFS provide facilitation, coordination, technical expertise, grant and reporting assistance, the development of best practices, media awareness campaigns, and/or data gathering and analysis.



Other EHSD-Linked Collaboratives

Human Trafficking Task Force (HTTF) <p>A collaborative effort of nearly 40 agencies that provides direct services to survivors, holds traffickers accountable, educates the community and members, and harnesses data to support these efforts.</p> <p>Co-led by:</p>	Human Trafficking Coalition <p>An informal body overseen by the Board of Supervisors since 2009 which shares information, best practices, training, and networking around human trafficking issues.</p> <p>Led by:</p>	Human Trafficking Multi-Disciplinary Team (HT-MDT) <p>A collective of 30+ agencies that plans for and meets survivor goals for complex or high-risk human trafficking cases.</p> <p>Co-led by:</p>	Commercially Sexually Exploited Children / Youth (CSEC/Y) Interagency Steering Committee <p>A committee that supports and guides the work of Contra Costa County to end CSEC/Y through identification, intervention, and education.</p> <p>Co-led by:</p>
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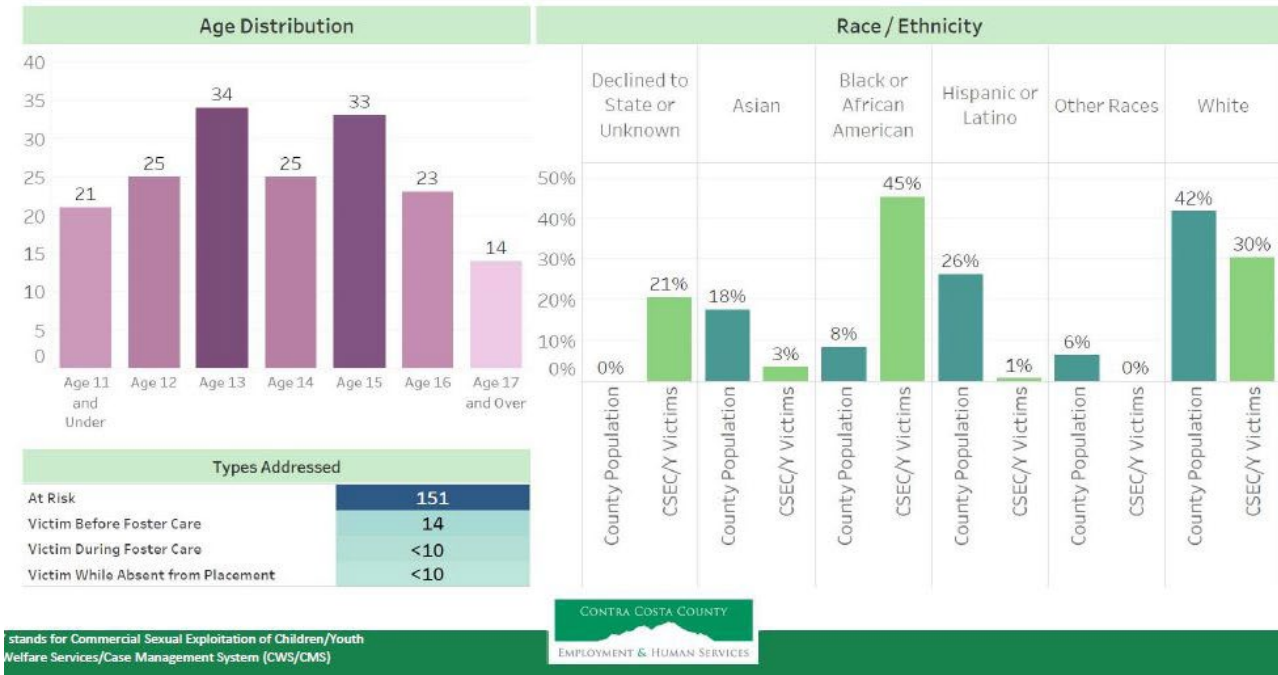
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January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month

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Commercially Sexually Exploited Children/Youth Services (CSEC/Y)

Apr 2022 – Mar 2023 CSEC/Y* Data



This graph illustrates the different experiences of youth at risk or actively experiencing exploitation in Contra Costa County. CFS has two direct services programs to support these youth.

- **CSEC Case Specialist Services** offered through a partnership with Community Violence Solutions, includes intensive case management.
- **Search and Recovery Program** in partnership with Love Never Fails Us, helps locate youth who are missing or frequently absent from care, and helps stabilize in their home environment

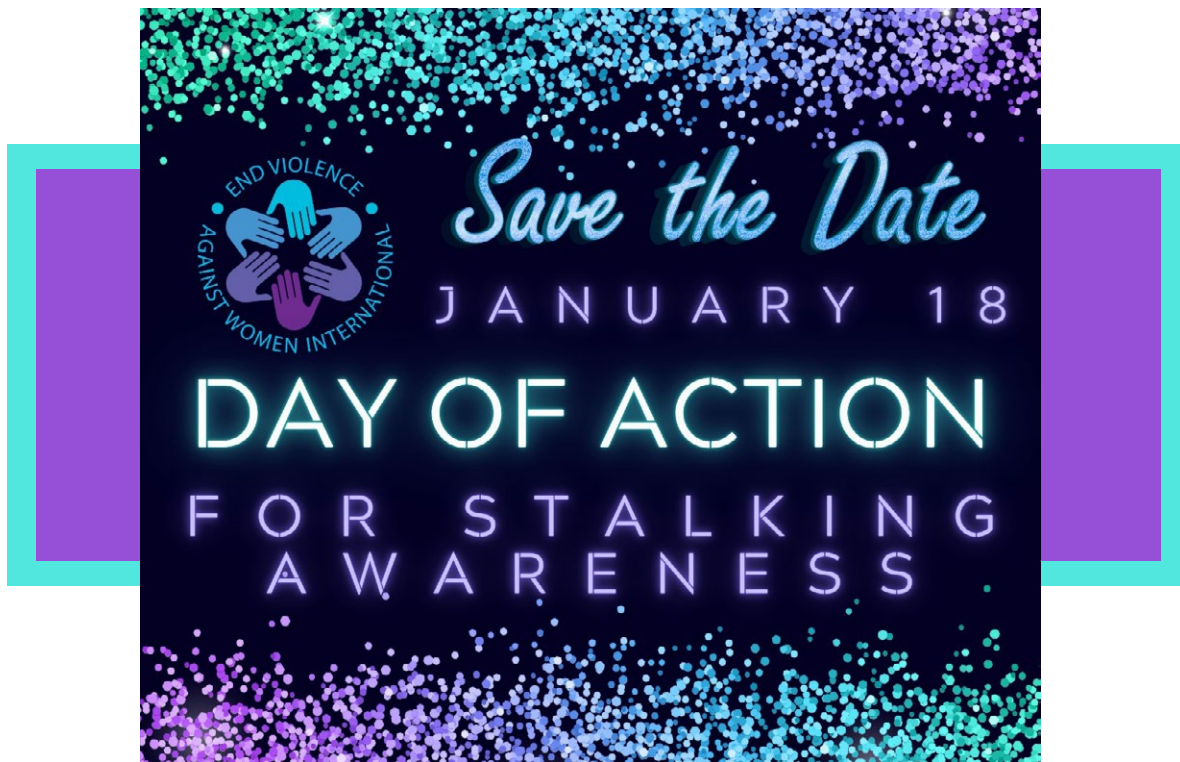
For additional information and to watch the full “Anti-Human Trafficking Update” presented this year at the September 12th Board of Supervisors meeting, click [here](#).

What Can I Do if I Suspect Human Trafficking?

The best and safest practice is to not intervene directly with the suspected exploiter. Be careful not to put the victim at further risk. Call for help and report what you have witnessed. If case of an emergency, please call 911.

- **Report any child, under 18, who is at risk or suspected to be experiencing trafficking, call the 24/7 Child Abuse Hotline at 1-877-881-1116.**
- **Community Violence Solutions 24/7 Crisis Hotline at 1-800-670-7273**
- **Contra Costa County Human Trafficking Tip Line at (925) 957-8658.**
- **National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.**

First-ever Stalking Awareness Day of Action



Wear something sparkly to help “spark” conversations about stalking prevention. The Stalking Prevention and Resource Center (SPARC) has announced its first day of action for National Stalking Awareness on Thursday, January 18th.

Join EHSD’s Alliance to End Abuse by taking advantage of photo opportunities of yourself and your colleagues in sparkly attire or posing in front of a sparkly background.

You can print this [sign](#) (or make one yourself) to use in the photo. Post to your social media and send them to Headlines@ehsd.cccounty.us.

SPARC is also offering two free webinars this month:

[Stalking Survivors Speak: What Survivors Want You to Know to Enhance Your Response to Stalking](#) on January 9th at 11 AM

[“Totally Stalking You”: How Stalking is Normalized and How We Can Stop It](#) on January 22nd at 10 AM

Visit SPARC’s [website](#) to learn more.

Seeking Nominations for Contra Costa County Youth Hall of Fame

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors is now accepting nominations for the 2024 Contra Costa County Youth Hall of Fame Awards. These awards are presented annually to outstanding Contra Costa County residents between 12 and 18 years old.

Students will be recognized at the 30th Annual César E. Chávez Commemorative Celebration on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 11 am in Board Chambers at 1025 Escobar St. in Martinez. Community members can also join the event live on Contra Costa Television channels and the [County's website](#).

For more information and the application form to nominate youth in our community, visit <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/FormCenter/Contra-Costa-County-Cesar-E-Chavez-Youth-42/2024-Contra-Costa-County-Youth-Hall-of-F-364>

To submit your nomination, complete the form and upload it to the County website or email the application and your letter of recommendation to Lia Bristol at YouthNomination@dcd.cccounty.us.

Nominations must be received or postmarked by February 16, 2024.

Nominees should demonstrate exemplary behavior in one of five categories:

- **Good Samaritan:** Goes out of their way to do for others without seeking recognition
- **Volunteerism:** Lends a helping hand for the good of the community; Gives their time and energy to a worthy cause or organization
- **Teamwork:** Works unselfishly for the good of the team
- **Leadership and Civic Engagement:** A natural leader who inspires others and works to make a difference in school and the community
- **Perseverance:** Has worked hard to overcome obstacles and achieve success



Instant Office Fame

EHSD Talent Shines at Holiday Party & Karaoke Contest

By Alan Wang, Community Relations, Media Specialist

Gian Gutierrez was a quiet and relatively unknown Journey Level Secretary who flew under the Administrative Bureau radar. But after strutting his flashy moves and belting out a classic Dean Martin song on stage at the EHSD Holiday Party & Karaoke Contest, his office mates will never see him the same way. “I will never think of Gian as the quiet, shy secretary,” said Admin Services Assistant, **Anita Luu**.

Gian gained notoriety during a night of holiday laughing and cheering as a crowd of more than 120 EHSD employees packed the Retro Junkie karaoke bar in Walnut Creek for the much-anticipated event on December 6th. Eleven contestants representing all EHSD bureaus took the stage vying for \$500 dollars in cash prizes and the honor of being crowned the department’s Karaoke Champ. In the end, **Mercedes Ibarra**, a Community Services Bureau, Comprehensive Services Assistant Manager, walked away with first place honors for her performance of Bidi Bidi Bom Bom (Selena) and Black Velvet (Alannah Miles).

Mercedes and others were cheered on by party goers who raised their pom poms and signs in support of their favorite contestants. “I can’t believe the amount of talent we have at EHSD,” said Anita Luu. “I loved the performances, but I loved the audience cheering even more.” The crowd was rewarded for their participation with \$300 worth of gift cards that were raffled off sporadically through the night.

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Instant Office Fame

EHSD Talent Shines at Holiday Party & Karaoke Contest

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The contestants performed a variety of songs from genres that included Tejano, R&B, Rock, Country, classic Italian, and Latin pop. A panel of judges made up of **Tracy Murray** (WFS Director), **Tamina Alon** (Admin Director) and **Ernestine Cook** (Departmental Fiscal Officer) were tasked with scoring the contestants on talent, stage presence and audience engagement. The judges whittled the contestants down to four finalists who performed a second song. The results were as follows:

- 🏆 **Mercedes Ibarra**, Community Services, Comprehensive Services Assistant Manager – First Place
- 🏆 **Gian Gutierrez**, Administrative, Journey Level Secretary -- Second Place
- 🏆 **Shawn Stewart**, Workforce Services, Senior Clerk – Third Place
- 🏆 **LaTosha Stockholm**, Workforce Development Board, Specialist -- Fourth Place

Based on the turnout, it looks like there may be an encore presentation of the EHSD Holiday Party & Karaoke Contest next year.

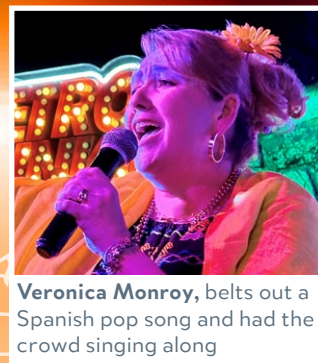
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Fiscal Unit Fans; **Rose Castaneda**, **Vickie Wetzel** (back), **Hera Chen**, **Veronica Heath**



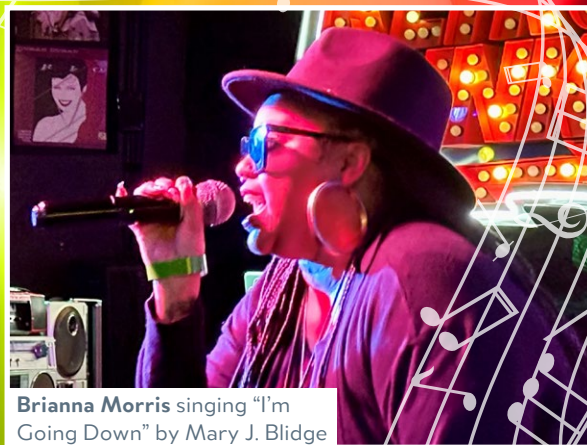
Admin Support's **Jacquie Mesner** and **Melissa Anino**



Veronica Monroy, belts out a Spanish pop song and had the crowd singing along



CFS, 500 Ellinwood in the House. (L to R) **Jacquie Parrish**, **Aryanna Jefferson**, **Anna Jauregui**, **Cheo Lee**, and **Bonnie Ruso**.



Brianna Morris singing "I'm Going Down" by Mary J. Blidge

Instant Office Fame

EHSD Talent Shines at Holiday Party & Karaoke Contest

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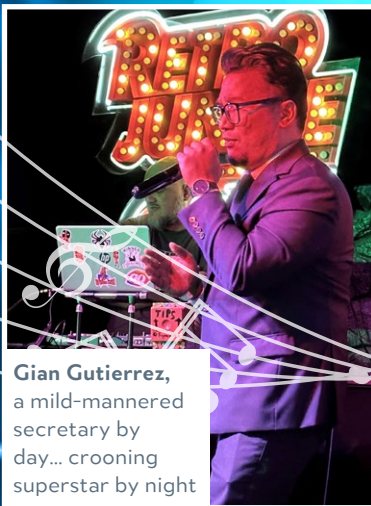
Aryanna Jefferson and Cindy Conklin teaming up to represent CFS. **CLICK** the play button to watch highlights of the karaoke competition.



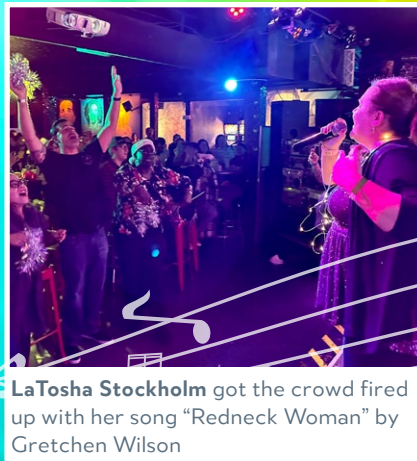
Suliana Teo, CFS Clerk Senior Level, singing Jesus to a Child, by George Michael



Former boy band star, **James Gibson**, from 151 Linus Pauling, soothes the crowd with his silk voice



Gian Gutierrez, a mild-mannered secretary by day... crooning superstar by night



LaTosha Stockholm got the crowd fired up with her song "Redneck Woman" by Gretchen Wilson



Shawn Stewart made the finals by singing "Rock With You" by Michael Jackson, then finished in third place by singing "Back At One" by Brian McKnight



Finalists, **LaTosha Stockholm** (WDB), **Shawn Stewart** (WFS), **Mercedes Ibarra** (CSB) and **Gian Gutierrez** (Admin)



WFS fans representing 4545 Delta Fair. **Magda Picasso**, **Ayaba Adams**, **Amelia Montgomery**, **Matthew Nelson**.

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Instant Office Fame

EHSD Talent Shines at Holiday Party & Karaoke Contest

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Mercedes Ibarra danced and sang her way into the finals with a song by Selena (Bidi Bidi Bom Bom), then took first place with her rendition of "Black Velvet" by Alannah Miles



Aging & Adult Services, from 400 Ellinwood, in the house: **Brianna Morris, Elisabeth Shapiro and Rhasaan Robinson**



Judges: **Tamina Alon** (Admin Director), **Ernestine Cook** (Departmental Fiscal Officer) and **Tracy Murray** (WFS Director)



Workforce Development Board office mates **LaTosha, Danni Adeyemi, Rochelle Soriano**



Another winner of more than \$300 worth of gift cards given away during the free raffle



Michael Stewart got the show started with his performance of "Superwoman/ Where Were You When I needed you" by Stevie Wonder

Head Start teachers from George Miller III Children's Center in Richmond: **Veronica Monroy, Sami Ho, Lorena Molina** (back), **Alaysia Turner, Leslie Pérez, Leticia Rodas**



EHSD Diversity Equity & Inclusion Team Update

Iliana Choate, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Team

Through COVID, remote work, shut-downs, outbreaks, and winter storms, your DEI Core Team has been working hard. Here are some highlights from what we have accomplished from 2020-2023:

- An email address for staff to provide input, questions, suggestions, and concerns EquityandInclusion@ehsd.cccountyl.us
- A DEI Intranet page with posted DEI trainings, resources, and videos - [Pages - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion](#)
- A DEI Team logo and mission statement
- Facilitated two EHSD Listening Sessions and participated in three Office of Racial Equity & Social Justice (ORESJ) Listening Sessions
- Developed Implicit Bias Training for New Employee Orientation (NEO) and integrated it into the Eligibility Worker Training Unit (EWTU), Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training provided during the Quarterly New Employee Orientation Day two (Q3) and EWTU
- Curated a DEI micro learning playlist accessible in SMART
- Provided a total of seven presentations that encompassed Leadership Team Meeting, All Staff Meeting for CSB and CFS, and several EHSD Live segments
- Organized staff participatory events such as the Ethnic and Historic Decorating Event, Juneteenth Artwork and Poetry Event, Pride Artwork and Poetry Event and the Hair Care Drive
- Collaborated with staff volunteers for the Hair Care Drive
- Consulted with Solano and San Francisco counties on the work with DEI
- Distributed a DEI survey and used the data collected to prioritize our work
- Created 7 Flyers, 2 Letters to Staff, 6 DEI related Infographics and 7 Headlines articles

As we look forward to 2024 and the work that lies ahead we encourage and welcome everyone to reach out to the DEI Team at EquityandInclusion@ehsd.cccountyl.us to provide suggestions, ideas, and concerns.

Building Brighter Futures Together



DEI Team meeting (L-R): Patricia Perez, Lorena Martinez Castillo, Verneda Clapp, Rodney Dixon, Deborah Drake, Tracy Murray, Terrie Adams, Shannon Currie. Not pictured: Cynthia Mallory, Iliana Choate

Sad News

By Alan Wang, Community Relations, Media Specialist

Last month, *Headlines* featured Area Agency on Aging Program Manager **Ana Bagtas** and her mother on the cover of the December issue. Almost two weeks after we published the article, Jovita Primero Bagtas Baniqued, age 78, passed away following her battle with cancer. The *Headlines* [story](#) chronicled Ana's own experience as a caregiver to her mother who was also a caregiver in her past professional life.

She was born in Anoling province, Tarlac, Philippines, and had 5 children (all born in Manila). In 1985, the recently widowed Jovita and her children immigrated to California. Jovita built a career spanning almost two decades as a Certified Nursing Assistant in long-term care facilities. Her biggest joys were seeing all of her children graduate from college and watching her family grow with grandchildren. Jovita transitioned peacefully on December 17, 2023 surrounded with love by her family.

Click [here](#) to learn how Ana's experience differed from her expectations and click [here](#) to watch our interview with Ana and her mother.



Ana Bagtas and her mother on last month's cover





We Care...You Care

We Care...You Care is how we recognize our peers, emphasizing internal customer service. **We Care...You Care** nominations tie directly to one or more of our six Core Values. The program gives you the opportunity to show your coworkers how much you appreciate them. If you work with someone who deserves special recognition for internal customer service, check out the We Care...You Care link to the guidelines, then fill out a nomination form and submit it to the supervisor of the person you are nominating.

We Care Guidelines: [click here](#)

We Care Nomination Form: [click here](#)



Schedule an Exit Interview

If you are leaving EHSD, please consider participating in an exit interview. This is an excellent way to provide feedback to the Employment & Human Services Department. These interviews with outgoing staff are confidential and go directly to EHSD Director **Marla Stuart**.

You can schedule one by contacting **Julie Peck**, EHSD Ombudsperson at jpeck@ehsd.cccounty.us or (925) 788-1722.



SERVICE AWARDS | NEW EMPLOYEES | RETIREES

SERVICE AWARDS

25 YEARS

Keisha M Stephney, Eligibility Work Supervisor, WFS
Veronica L Underwood, Sr Soc Svc Info Sys Analyst, Admin
Veronica Arreola, Soc Svc Program Assistant, CFS

15 YEARS

Martha Alvarez, Associate Teacher-Project QH, CSB
Jennifer C.L Garcia, Social Work Supvsr II, CFS

20 YEARS

Carolyn T McWalters, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS
Ke H Saepharn, Social Work Supvsr II, AAS
Krista M Holguin, Soc Svc Staff Dev Specialist, Admin
Kristina L Miller, Workforce Svcs Specialist, WFS
Linda A Taber, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS
Shirley A Rudy, Soc Svc Program Assistant, WFS

10 YEARS

Celia A Acu, Clerk-Senior Level, CFS
Joel A Rees, Info Sys Technician II TB, Admin



NEW EMPLOYEES

William Curotto , Clerk - Experience Level, CFS 1
Molly Almeida , ASA II, ADMIN
Zhongzhou (John) Zhu, Departmental Fiscal Officer, ADMIN
Narongrit Thammanat, Clerk - Experience Level Temp, WFS 3

Anjelicia Vega, Clerk - Experience Level Temp, WFS 3
Reyna Tercero , Teacher Assistant Trainee Temp, CSB
Jasmine Hood, Intermediate Clerk, CSB
Erika Griffin , Clerk - Experience Level, CFS 1
Aisha Teal , Workforce Services Specialist, WFS 2

RETIREES

Julie Rose, Program Integrity Assistant, Admin
Jane Lao, Clerk-Senior Level, CFS
Nataliya Zhyrova, Account Clerk-Experienced Lvl, AAS
Patricia Duncan, Comprehensive Svcs Asst Mgr-Pr, CSB
Freda Augustine, Teacher-Project, CSB

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, February 8th, 2024

EHSD Years of Service celebration for staff members who reached 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35-year milestones during 2023.

More info to come!

Are you planning a retirement celebration for a staff member and would like to present them with a retirement certificate? **If so, please contact Tish Gallegos at tgallegos@ehsd.ccounty.us or (925) 608-4808.**

SPREAD THE WORD

January 2024

- ELIGIBILITY WORKERS MONTH
- HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH
- NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH
- JANUARY 1 – New Year’s Day (holiday)
- JANUARY 11 – #WearBlueDay
- JANUARY 15 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day (holiday)
- JANUARY 18 – National Stalking Awareness Day of Action (wear something sparkly)

February 2024

- BLACK HISTORY MONTH
- TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
- FEBRUARY 2 – Groundhog Day
- FEBRUARY 2 – National Wear Red Day
- FEBRUARY 8 – EHSD Years of Service event
- FEBRUARY 10 – Lunar New Year
- FEBRUARY 14 – Valentine’s Day
- FEBRUARY 16 – Youth Hall of Fame nominations due
- FEBRUARY 19 – Presidents’ Day (holiday)
- FEBRUARY 22 – EHSD Live!
- FEBRUARY 28 – Linus Pauling Day

We Care... You Care

CLICK here to learn more about nominating a coworker.
 Updated We Care...You Care nomination form: [click here](#)
 and see page 17

Is there room in your home for one more?

Make a change in a child’s life and become a Resource Parent/ Family for a foster child. Contra Costa County needs your support to provide care for children 0–18 years of age. Please join us for a virtual orientation and learn more about becoming a caregiver.



FREE VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS

January 18 • 4 to 6 p.m.
 February 1 or 15 • 4 to 6 p.m.
 March 7 or 21 • 4 to 6 p.m.



For more information about becoming a Resource Parent visit us at www.ehds.org. If you belong to an organization or community group interested in learning more about Resource Family Approval/ foster parenting, we can schedule an individual session for your group, in English or Spanish.

To register for a class, please call (925) 655-4230 or email ResourceFamilies@ehsd.cccounty.us

Want to know what else we’re doing at EHSD?

Facebook and X @ContraCostaEHSD
 Instagram @HumanaCosta
 Like us on Facebook



MLK



SEE PAGE 6

The next Issue of Headlines will publish in early February. Email EHSD Headlines at Headlines@ehsd.cccounty.us, by **January 16th** if you have an upcoming event, article, or idea you would like to submit.