



## *Happy Holidays to CADEM's Children's Caucus ...*

The end of 2025 is closing in fast, with a flurry of churn and irony and contradiction. Prop 50 was attained and then-some, broadcasting a mandate for change that was seemingly clarion, only to be followed by negotiations and capitulations. Taxes and cuts, federal departments and lawsuits are on again-off again; up is down.

CADEM's Children's Caucus will convene one last time this year, during the holiday season, to bear witness to and better understand the perennial scourge of our time: hunger among children, made so much worse today by political turbulence and partisan kleptocracy.

Food insecurity, EBT funds, homelessness – will California, the fourth largest economy globally, be able to sustain the funding consequences of Trump's Big-Ugly-Bill? What do we do; what are others doing; what can the government do to protect?

*JoinUs*

Saturday

morning, to

hear from

some of

California's

most

respected  
advocates  
for the rights  
of the poor,  
to dispel  
hunger in  
children and  
families:

**12/6/25  
at 9:30 am**

# **Food Insecurity: *the BigBadUgly* during Holiday Season**

**JoinUS, CademCC -  
for our final  
program of 2025!**

- **Jessica Bartholow** ~ *SEIU CA Legislative Director, policy advocate, Western Center on Law and Poverty (fmr)*
- **Susie Shannon** ~ *Chair, DNC Poverty Council, City of Los Angeles Health Commissioner*
- **TBA**



**Saturday, Dec 6, 2025 @ 9:30am**

Zoom registration:  
[tinyurl.com/CademCCHunger](https://tinyurl.com/CademCCHunger)  
[CADEMChildrensCaucus.org](https://CADEMChildrensCaucus.org)



Stay tuned for additional guests, perhaps reporting on state or federal legislation around CalFresh or Title 1 funds.

Please register **NOW** (before you forget, or the meeting is actually getting under way) for the Zoom link: [tinyurl.com/CademCCHunger](https://tinyurl.com/CademCCHunger)

## **CADEM Conventions and Eboards**

**Monterey's executive board meeting** provided for spectacularly scenic canvassing!

The Children's Caucus gathered in person for a successful, joint networking-social with four other CADEM caucuses: **Black**, **Computer-Internet**, **Small Business and Professionals**, **Seniors**

The regular caucus meeting in association with Monterey's Eboard may be reviewed on our youtube channel :

**10/21/25 video recording,  
CademCC membership meeting**

**Federal Impacts on Policy and the Political  
Landscape for California's Families and Children**

Agenda:  
[tinyurl.com/MontAgda](https://tinyurl.com/MontAgda)

🐾 **Corrin Buchanan**; Undersecretary, CalHHS  
🐾 **Reginald Carter**; Deputy Director, LAC DCFS

CADEM's **Spring Endorsing Convention** will convene **February 20-22, 2026**, in San Francisco at the **Moscone West**.

*HoldTheDate* for our remote, regular caucus meeting in association with the Convention on the preceeding **Monday, February 16, 2025**

Tentatively scheduled for **Friday evening, 7:30pm** at the Moscone Center, please consider joining us in person to hear candidate introductions expressly filtered through a lens of **CADEM Children's Caucus issues**.

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## ***Making Your Voice Heard***

### ***CademCC Platform***

The new CDP Platform will be ratified at February's Endorsing Convention. Stay vigilant to changes proposed around children's issues. Stay engaged with these edits by ensuring you are **signed onto our email loop** or follow our **Facebook page**.

### ***CademCC Legislation Study Group***

Submit legislation around children's issues of interest for CademCC's next Study Group, which will convene upon receipt of 4-6 bills.

Submit legislation  
to study here

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As a chartered caucus of the CA Democratic Party, CademCC itself takes no independent position on legislation, resolutions or the Platform; but CademCC's constituent individuals may. The Caucus may advocate as a collective entity for the Party's official, democratically-voted position. The caucus may convene to share information and resources among its membership.

If you would like help with or more information about CADEM internal processes, or to urge caucus advocacy for **CADEM-supported legislation**, CADEM **resolutions** or the **CDP Platform**, please email **chair.cademcc@gmail.com**.

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## ***California Rural Schools Under Threat***

Small, remote schools, and school districts across California are facing a twin squeeze: steady federal cuts to school programs that directly support rural education, and rollbacks to broadband and digital-equity funding that schools need to keep students connected. The result is fewer dollars for classroom programs, fewer staff, deferred repairs, and students who can't access reliable internet for homework, telehealth, or

supplemental learning.

Congress recently let lapse a long-standing lifeline for rural counties. For years, the *Secure Rural Schools Act* has helped districts pay for after-school programs, bus repairs, and facility needs. In California that has translated to roughly \$35–40 million a year for 39 counties. Now, without this support, small districts are scrambling to avoid layoffs and shuttered services.

At the same time, federal budget maneuvers this year have stripped or reprioritized digital-equity and broadband programs, putting connectivity projects on shaky ground. Grants and initiatives that would have expanded internet access in rural areas - the very projects that let students join classes from home or let buses and hotspots provide service to far-flung communities - have been scaled back or targeted in the federal budget. That gap hits rural students hardest: many districts rely on federal support to extend connectivity where private providers won't build.

Cuts at the Department of Education and large staff reductions have made statewide and local responses harder too. Lawsuits and political fights over these reductions are underway, but in the meantime school districts report delays in grant processing and fewer federal resources for compliance and support adding administrative strain to already thin local teams.

What this looks like in practice: teachers doubled up on duties, special-education services routed far from students, roof repairs and bus maintenance postponed, and students who lack home broadband left without reliable access to coursework or mental-health teleservices. For rural Californians, where distances are large and tax bases small, those practical losses are also community losses.

### **What you can do:**

- Contact your member of Congress and your state legislators to urge restoration of Secure Rural Schools Act funding and support for digital-equity grants.
- Ask local districts what broadband projects or grant applications they need help amplifying; share and support their appeals on social media and with your networks.

Support or help create local bond measures or county efforts that shore up school facilities (where feasible) and volunteer or donate to after-school programs that serve rural kids.

*-Matthew Hilliard, Northern CA Vice-Chair, CADEM Children's Caucus*



Find the forum video on our youtube page, [here](#).



And our advance caucus discussion about [the post of SSPI](#) queued up [here](#).

## Your Children's Caucus

...is healthy and growing! Our new steering committee meets monthly – hop in with your own ideas (email the chair [here](#)) ~ and join the planning. We'll conduct special meetings and **Conversations** with our elected officials and Party leaders all year long. JoinUS on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [youtube](#), [Linktr.ee](#), via [newsletter](#), [email](#) and [website](#), or however you might prefer and wish to help us as we continue to forward information, resources and support around children's issues.

### CademCC Executive Board:

Sara Roos, Chair  
Matthew Hilliard, NoCal ViceChair  
Wade Kyle, SoCal ViceChair  
Tiffany Sickler, Treasurer  
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- Ann Crosbie, Nelson Tam

### Elections Chair:

- Koreen Cea

### Operations Team:

- Liz Kane, James Moffat, Ahmanise Sanati

### Programming:

- Sam Davis, Vinita Verma

### Statewide Networking:

- Genice Jacobs

Your dues support caucus infrastructure and communications, and membership dues for those in need. Our pin-membership drive has been a great success; please be in touch if we still owe you yours, or if you'd like to learn how to obtain one ([chair.cademcc@gmail.com](mailto:chair.cademcc@gmail.com)).

A shout-out in gratitude to those who have contributed beyond the standard level:

### Benefactor

🐼 Lanier Coles

🐼 Renay Grace Rodriguez

🐼 Clint Weirick

### Mentor

👤 Mike Bullock  
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👤 Vinita Verma  
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👤 Cassandra Wilson  
👤 Jeannine Wisnosky  
👤 Jimmie Woods-Gray  
👤 Billie Joe Wright  
👤 Renee Zeimer

CademCC's current membership numbers 351, an increase of 228% over last year's! Our members hail from all but 8 assembly districts: {36, 43, 45, 47, 48, 53, 54, 58}. Can you extend our reach to the far corners of CA?

To join the Children's Caucus for 2026, click [here](#) to pay membership dues (press on the fifth "+" down), or [here](#) to request waiver of membership dues.

Dues paid after October 2025 shall be grandfathered for 2026, but *dues waivers must be resubmitted for and in each new calendar year.*

**Thank you all for renewing your CademCC membership right now!**

Standard Dues  
(\$15/annum)

Patron-level Dues  
(\$25/annum)

Mentor-level Dues  
(\$50/annum)

### **Update Your Caucus Membership ~**

Dues support our hybrid programming costs - media and communications subscriptions, conference meeting facilities

Pre-registered Democrat  
(Youth; \$5/annum)

Benefactor-level Dues  
(Lifetime; \$500)


Request of  
Dues Waiver

## CademCC Statement On ICE Incursions

The raids throughout California – from Elementary School graduations, children's CIF finals, grocery stores, growing fields and immigration courts – unveil an agenda of terror, intimidation, and menace. America's democracy morphs into totalitarianism before the eyes of our children.

**CHIRLA** - 213.353.1333  
**Los Angeles** - 888.624.4752  
**Boyle Heights (L.A.)** - 323.805.1049  
**San Bernardino/Riverside** - 909.361.4588  
**ORALE (Long Beach)** - 562.276.0267  
**Orange County** - 714.881.1558  
**Sta Barbara/Ventura/SLO** - 805.870.8855  
**Central Valley** - 559.206.0151  
**Kern County** - 661.432.2230  
**San Francisco** - 415.200.1548  
**Contra Costa** - 925.900.5151  
**Alameda** - 510.241.4011  
**Sacramento** - 916.382.0256  
**Immigrant Defenders** - 213.833.8283  
**GI Rights hotline** - 877.447.4487

If you see ICE/HSI,  
call your Rapid  
Response Network  
to alert and  
protect your  
community



**CADEM**  
CHILDREN'S CAUCUS

Follow your Rapid Response Network on social media for information,  
training, e.g.: @chirla\_org, @ocrrn, @rrn\_kern

The Children's Caucus of the Democratic Party of California condemn the attacks upon our communities. We call for calm and control by our elected, bi-cameral leaders, who must halt the overreach of our executive branch. Please feel free to share these phone numbers for reporting immigration citings or requesting community assistance.

### Pass It On ...

Immigrant and civil rights are very much on the minds of our members, working closely with children and families at risk.



[Here](#) is a “red card” of information for you to keep on hand, with printer's instructions, from the [Immigrant Legal Resource Center](#).

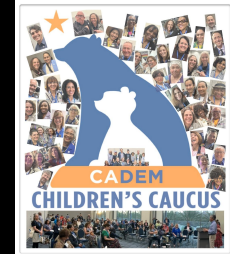
### More Caucus links

- Socials:
  - 🐦 Locate our growing [WEBSITE here](#)
  - 🐦 Find CDP Children's Caucus on [Facebook here](#)
  - 🐦 Follow us on [Instagram @childrenscaucus here](#)
  - 🐦 Watch our [youtube channel @cdpchildrenscaucus here](#)
  - 🐦 Gaze [@cdpchildrenscaucus.bsky.socials here](#)
  - 🐦 Peruse CademCC's Linktr.ee [@cademchildrenscaucus here](#)
- Engagement:

- 🔔 Download missed newsletters [here](#) and [here](#)
- 🔔 Prioritize a working committee [here](#)
- 🔔 Signup for the email listserv with fellow caucus members [here](#)  
...then communicate directly with the membership via [email](#)
- Caucus business:
  - 🔔 Review the 2024 Annual Children's Caucus Report [here](#)
  - 🔔 View 2024's recertified Bylaws [here](#)
  - 🔔 Submit this year's caucus dues [here](#); (request dues waiver [here](#))

## A note on membership and inclusion

\* You needn't be an elected or appointed delegate to the CDP to belong to the CDP Children's Caucus!  
We require only your interest in supporting children's issues. \*



CDP caucus membership is accessible to all California Democrats. And meeting attendance does not require Convention or Eboard Meeting registration. It is a good way to engage the state Party, without being a voting delegate to it. Dues are collected annually [here](#); request a hardship waiver [here](#). Direct questions to: [chair.cademcc@gmail.com](mailto:chair.cademcc@gmail.com). If you no longer wish to receive news from the Children's Caucus, please accept our apologies for troubling you, and simply unsubscribe through the automated link below.



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CADEM Children's Caucus | 1830 9th St | Sacramento, CA 95811 US

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