CalSAWS | Buzz

The Power of 58!
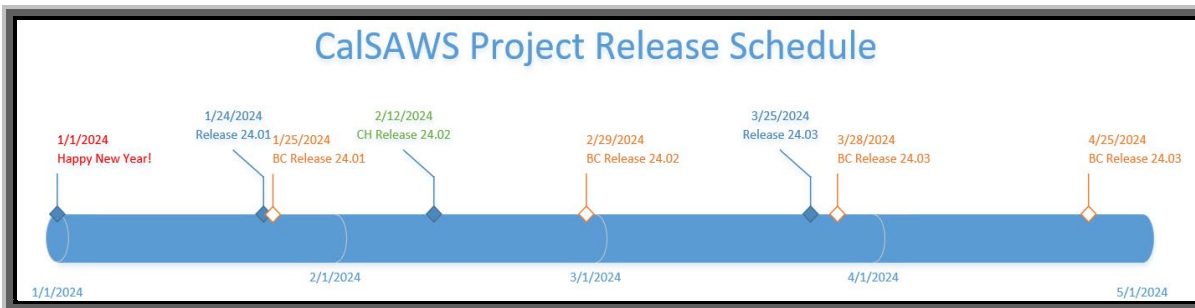
Volume 6 | Issue 2:

Springing Forward

Happy Spring CalSAWS!

Like Spring CalSAWS is blooming. It is time for starting new things and in our case, setting up Maintenance and Enhancements (M&E) to grow our processes to be successful for all 58 counties. 🐝

CalSAWS Project Release Schedule

CalSAWS		
CalHEERS		
BenefitsCal		

1/1/2024 Happy New Year!

1/24/2024 Release 24.01

1/25/2024 BC Release 24.01

2/12/2024 CH Release 24.02

2/29/2024 BC Release 24.02

3/25/2024 Release 24.03

3/28/2024 BC Release 24.03

4/25/2024 BC Release 24.03

1/1/2024   2/1/2024   3/1/2024   4/1/2024   5/1/2024

In This Issue

Benito (above) represents San Benito County, the largest producer of honey in California, and Barbara (below) is just waiting to hear from you, so if you have a question or suggestion, Ask Barbara. In this edition find Barbara identifying key important dates.

Question of the Quarter: What would you like to learn or see in the next edition of the Buzz. Send your response to askcalsaws@calsaws.org.

Do you have a question for us? 'Ask Barbara' at askcalsaws@calsaws.org and we will post the Q&A in the next edition of The Buzz.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Project Steering Committee	03/21/2024
Joint Powers Authority	04/12/2024
Project Steering Committee	04/18/2024
R6 Management Site Visit	04/23/2024
Joint Powers Authority	05/10/2024
Project Steering Committee	05/16/2024
2nd Quarterly PPOC/RCM/SME Forum	06/28/2024
Joint Powers Authority	

The Six CalSAWS Regions

Region	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Farewell Dorothy, Happy Retirement!

Lorena Montes, Angelo Salazar, **Dorothy Avila**, Laura Chavez, Monica Gonzalez

Dorothy Avila began her County career with the Department of Public Social Services on November 13, 1984. As an Information Technology Manager, she was instrumental in the creation of the Los Angeles County Eligibility Automated Determination Evaluation Reporting (LEADER) system and

throughout the progression of the LEADER Replacement System to the California Statewide Automated Welfare System (CalSAWS).

She earned the respect, admiration, and gratitude of colleagues where her distinctive personality, leadership, and positive energy profoundly influenced organizational culture, leaving a lasting impression and impact on the lives of many people who will deeply miss her presence. We congratulate Dorothy in her retirement and thank her for the 40 years she dedicated to the residents of Los Angeles County. We wish her the best in her new journey! 🐝

Monica Gonzalez Retirement Party

Michael Sylvester & Dorothy Avila

Dorothy Avila- Employee Appreciation Day

CalSAWS Release and Policy Update

Timeline markers: 3/2/24, 3/5/24, 3/7/24, 3/25/24, TBD, 5/20/24, TBD, 6/6/24, 6/15/24, 7/22/24

	March 2024	April	May	June	July
Major Releases	⭐ **R24.03 - 3/25/24** Key Highlights • ACL 23-80 - Increase ABAWD Age Limit and Add Exemptions • ACL 23-13 - Update EBT 2259 - Theft Replacement Form • ACWDL 21-22 - Suspension of MC Benefits for Incarcerated Beneficiaries		⭐ **R24.05 - 5/20/24** Key Highlights • ACL 23-30 - Paid Family Leave CW Time Limit Exemption • ACL 22-67 - STAT 47 to Match CalFresh E&T Rule • ACL 19-19 - Increase the Threshold for CW Overpayments Phase II • ACL 23-83 - Homeless Assistance Additional at Risk Populations		⭐ **R24.07 - 7/22/24** Key Highlights • ACL 18-43 - Revise CalWORKs M40-107D • ACL 21-140 - Changes in CW Pregnancy Verification and Pregnancy Special Need • ACWDL 17-36 - NOA Snippets for Medi-Cal Inmate Program • ACL 19-102 - Update Fraud Determination When Suspending CW Recovery Accounts
Minor Releases	◆ **R.24.03.02 – 3/2/24** Key Highlights • 2024 FPL COLA Batch (No system downtime) ◆ **R.24.03.05 – 3/5/24** Key Highlights • Turn on DCF for San Diego County ◆ **R.24.03.07 – 3/7/24** Key Highlights • Mas Replacement CF Benefits for Feb 3rd to 4th Storms	◆ **R.24.04.xx –TBD** Key Highlights • MEDIL I 22-01 - Turn off Second Medi-Cal Reminder Notice Batch Job at Conclusion of CCU *(tentative)*	◆ **R.24.05.xx – TBD** Key Highlights • ACL 22-85 & 21-25 - Update CalFresh Reports *(tentative)*	◆ **R.24.06.06 – 6/6/24** Key Highlights • 2024 IIK COLA Values ◆ **R.24.06.15 – 6/15/24** Key Highlights • 2024 IIK COLA Batch	

Tulare Celebration 2/27/24

The Region 4 Regional Managers from the CalWIN migration travelled to Tulare County on February 27th to take part in a celebration acknowledging all of the hard work that had gone into Tulare's migration during wave 2. The 27th was exactly one year after they had gone live, and the sentiment shared in the room was positive, appreciative and congratulatory. Tulare's leadership team took time to recognize the many staff and their specific contributions that helped make the migration a success. The RMs were honored to be recognized for their efforts during this ceremony as well and wanted to send a heartfelt thank you to Tulare County for inviting us. We always love meeting with our counties in person and it was nice to be able to take a step back from our day-to-day work, acknowledge this huge undertaking that we endeavored in, and acknowledge all of the wonderful people and things that come together to make that happen.

Happy 1 year anniversary to Tulare and the rest of wave 2! 🐝

"Spring is the time of plans and projects."   Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina

Training Schedule and Updates

2024 Baseline Release Schedule for Training Staging and Training Production Environments

Release #	Unavailable after 7pm (Friday)	Code Deployment Completion Date (Sunday)	Training Staging Release Date (Monday)*	Training Production Release Date (Monday)*
24.01	1/19/2024	1/21/2024	1/22/2024	1/22/2024
24.03	3/22/2024	3/24/2024	3/25/2024	3/25/2024
24.05	5/17/2024	5/19/2024	5/20/2024	5/20/2024

coming soon

Coming Soon! Lookout for two CITs from the Training team: CalSAWS LMS Alternate Homepage and CalSAWS Training Manuals – Service Arrangements for Employment Services!

Communication Corner

- **CIT 0023-24** CalSAWS Contact Center Regional Support Model Updates
- **CIT 0024-24** BenefitsCal Quick Guide: Two-Step Verification
- **CIT 0029-24** Verify Lawful Presence (VLP) – Updated Job Aid and One-Time County List
- **CIT 0033-24** Posted Lists for CA-257069 2024 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) COLA Batch
- **CIT 0035-24** CalSAWS Web Portal Quick Reference Guide
- **CIT 0039-24** CalWIN M&O County Reallocations SFY 2023-24 v3
- **CIT 0040-24** CalSAWS Project Draft County Allocations for SFY 2024-25
- **CIT 0042-24** List for CA-270706: 2024 Medicare Catastrophic Coverage Act Spousal Impoverishment Caps
- **CIT 0044-24** CalSAWS AWS SSO/APPSTREAM LOGIN PROCEDURE UPDATES

See **CalSAWS Web Portal** under **Resources** for the *CalSAWS Handbook* and *CalSAWS Maintenance and Operations (M&O) Plans*.

CalSAWS YouTube Channel https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0Wl06iVeuvCjIFt7i26ZHA/videos

Watch for the CalSAWS Roadshows hosted by your Regional Managers

BenefitsCal

During the month of Feb 2024:

222k Applications Submitted

58k Periodic Reports Submitted

2.4 Million Documents Uploaded

55k Changes Reported.

70k Renewals Submitted

Since Go-live over 4.08 Million Applications submitted

Update on the top three experiences highlighted by customers

	DOCUMENT UPLOAD	CASE LINKING	ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT
Improvements Implemented	• Update Dropdown list to display RE/SAR 7 categories on the top during (Jan 2024) • Additional Conditions added to display RE/SAR7 forms in dropdown during Doc Upload Flow (Jan 2024)	• To enhance security, disable Case Link on BenefitsCal (Feb 2024)	• Enable Two Step Verification (MFA) for New & Existing Customers Login (Feb 2024)
Items on the Horizon	• Additional revisions to update document type/upload feature (Apr 2024) • UCD Research for Document Upload – Multiple Docs in Anonymous Application Flow (May 2024)	• Enable Auto-Case Link functionality (Apr 2024) • Additional improvements for Auto-Case Link functionality (May 2024) • Provide inline help text for Customers when Case does NOT link automatically (May 2024)	• Usability Updates to MFA for Login in BenefitsCal (Mar 2024) • 2 Technical Changes to enhance security by updating APIs between BenefitsCal & Partner systems (Apr 2024)