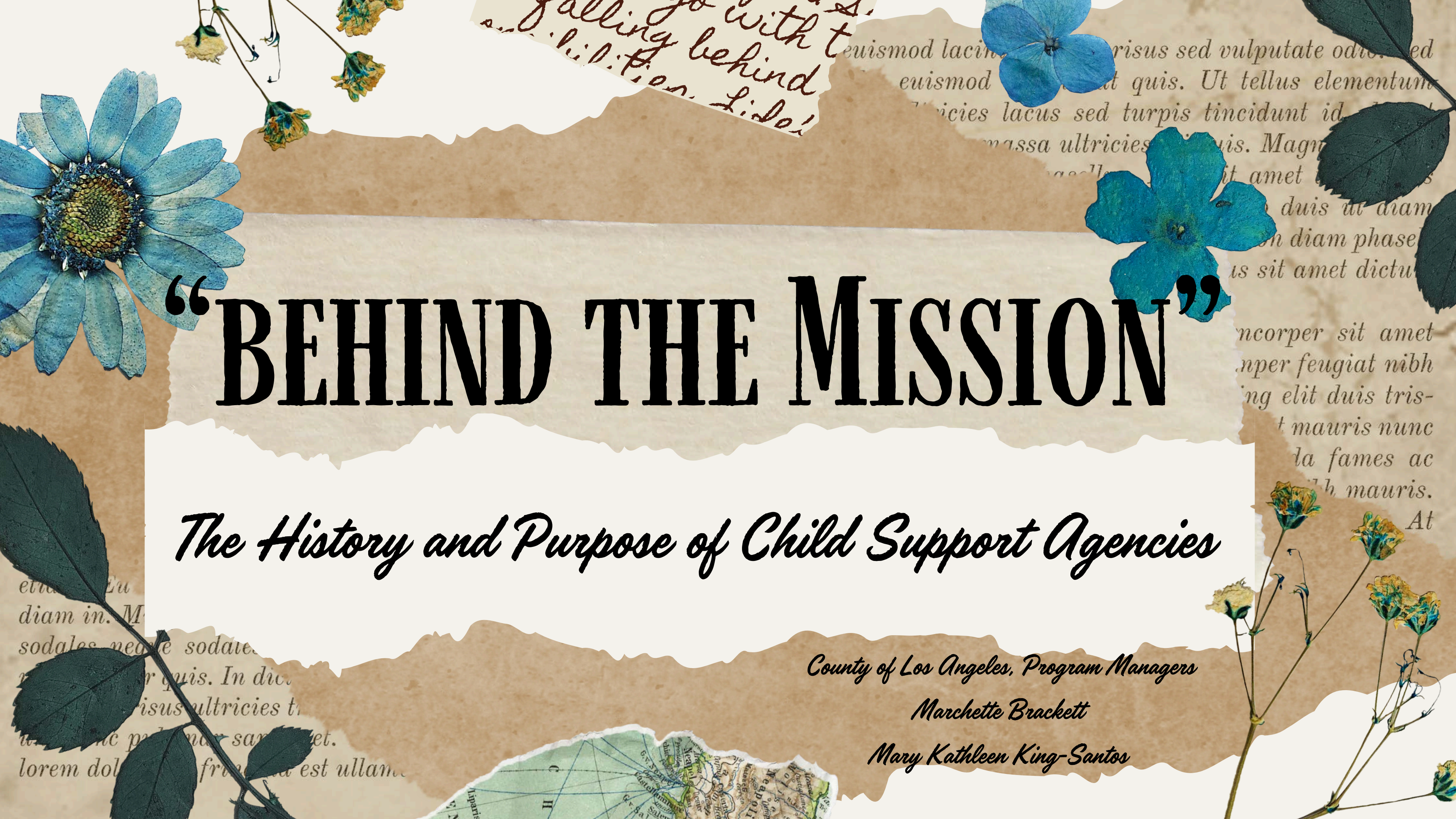




# “BEHIND THE MISSION”

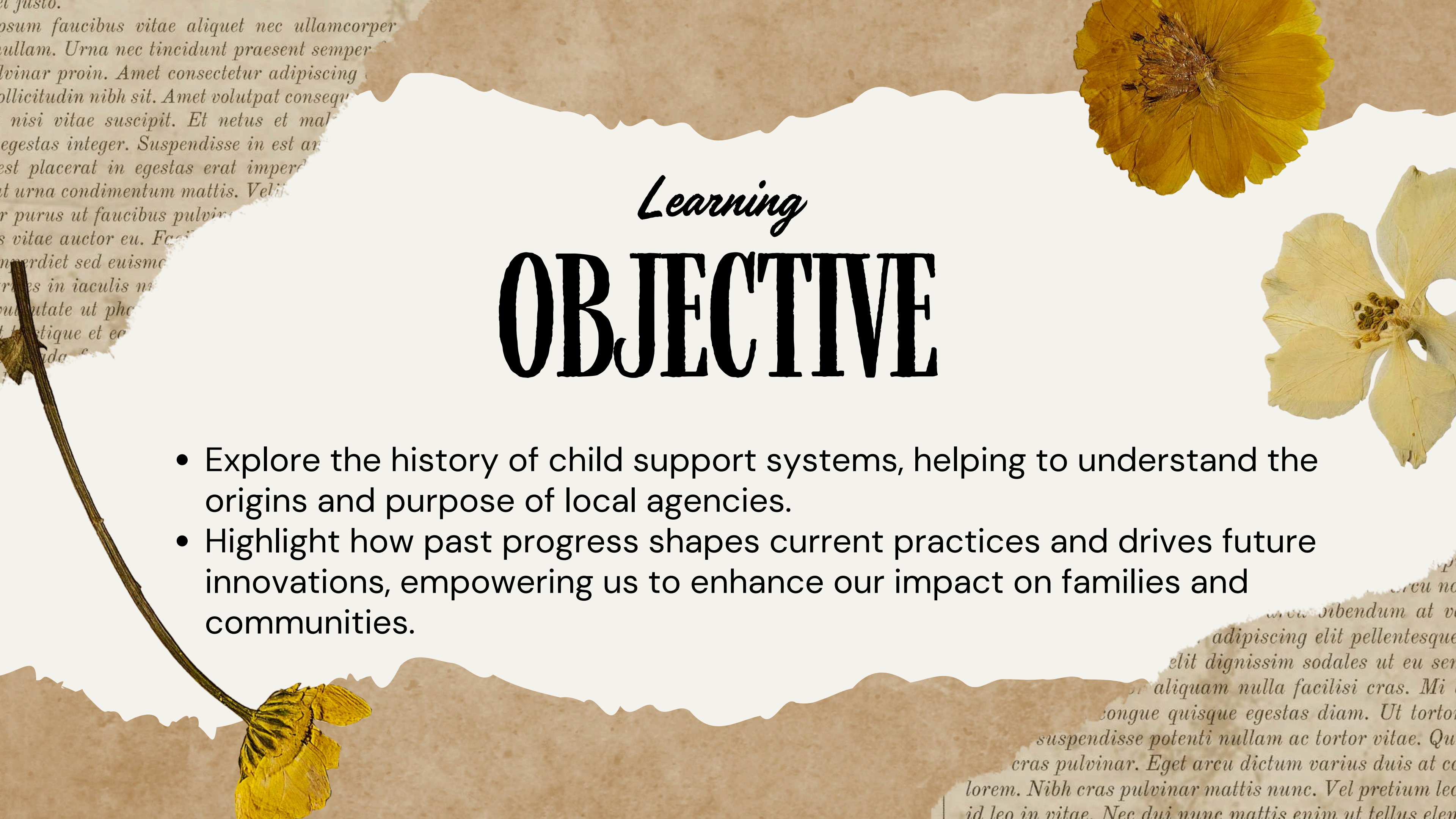
## *The History and Purpose of Child Support Agencies*

*County of Los Angeles, Program Managers*

*Marchette Brackett*

*Mary Kathleen King-Santos*





# *Learning* **OBJECTIVE**

- Explore the history of child support systems, helping to understand the origins and purpose of local agencies.
- Highlight how past progress shapes current practices and drives future innovations, empowering us to enhance our impact on families and communities.



# THE ORIGIN OF CHILD SUPPORT...

*...is derived from "The Elizabethan Poor Law of 1601, which authorized local parishes to recover the money they spent in aiding single mothers and children from a non-supporting father.*

*BUT this statute was triggered only when the family involved was absolutely destitute.*



# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND...

Early Beginnings: Colonial to Early 20th  
Century

## *Historical Context*

In the earliest days of America, support for children whose parents couldn't care for them was primarily a local matter.

## *Government Movements*

- Almshouses
- The Poor Law Act
- Mothers' Pensions



# SHAPED THE PROGRAM...

Mid-20th Century: The Foundation Years

## *Historical Context*

- Civil War
- Industrial Revolution
- The Great Depression

## *Government Movements*

- 1935: Social Security Act (SSA)
- 1950: Federal Child Support Legislation Begins



WHEN DID WE BEGIN...

1950



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# Historical TIMELINE 1950'S TO 1984

First Child  
Support  
Enforcement  
Legislation

1950

1967

SSA Act of 1967:

- Federal-State Cooperation
- Use of IRS for Child Support Collection
- Mandatory welfare reimbursement

Created Title  
IV-D of the  
Social Security  
Act: Child  
Support  
Program was  
established

1975

1981

States use the  
IRS to withhold  
income tax  
refunds and  
unemployment  
benefits

Child Support  
Enforcement  
Amendments,  
resources  
expanded to all  
cases

1984

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# Historical TIMELINE 1980'S TO 1998

**1988**

The Family Support Act – Support guidelines, establishment of paternity, IWO's mandatory and Employer responsibility

**1992**

Child Support Recovery Act (CSRA), Penalties for Interstate Cases, Federal Crime

**1993 – 1994**

OBRA '93  
-----  
1994  
States, required to enforce out-of-state court child support orders and report late payments to credit agencies

**1996**

PRWORA,  
• New Hire Reporting,  
• Welfare Reform,  
• Tribal TANF authorized for IV-D funding,  
• State Disbursement Unit (SDU)

**1998**

New felony offenses for crossing state lines or leaving the county to attempt to evade child support debt

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*Historical*  
**TIMELINE**  
**2000'S**

**2005**  
Federal Deficit Reduction Act (FDRA): changed the way payments we distributed for families receiving public assistance

**2014**  
Public Law 113-183, the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act

**2016**  
Ratification of Hague Child Support Convention, the first global child support treaty by the United States

**2016**  
Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization Final Rule (FEM)

**Future**  
To attract the best students for market uses

Federal Deficit Reduction Act (FDRA) :  
changed the way payments we distributed for families receiving public assistance

A horizontal timeline with a black line and circular markers at each end. An orange, pill-shaped bubble is centered on the line, containing the year "2005" in bold black text.

Ratification of  
Hague Child  
Support  
Convention, the  
first global child  
support treaty by  
the United States

A horizontal timeline graphic with a dark blue bar. The year "2016" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font in the center of the bar. The bar has rounded ends and a small dark blue triangle pointing upwards from the top center.

Public Law 113-183,  
the Preventing Sex  
Trafficking and  
Strengthening  
Families Act

Flexibility,  
Efficiency, and  
Modernization  
Final Rule (FEM)



Future





# WHERE WE ARE TODAY...

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# EVOLVING IN CALIFORNIA...

Flexibility, Efficiency and Modernization in  
Child Support Programs (FEM) Final Rule

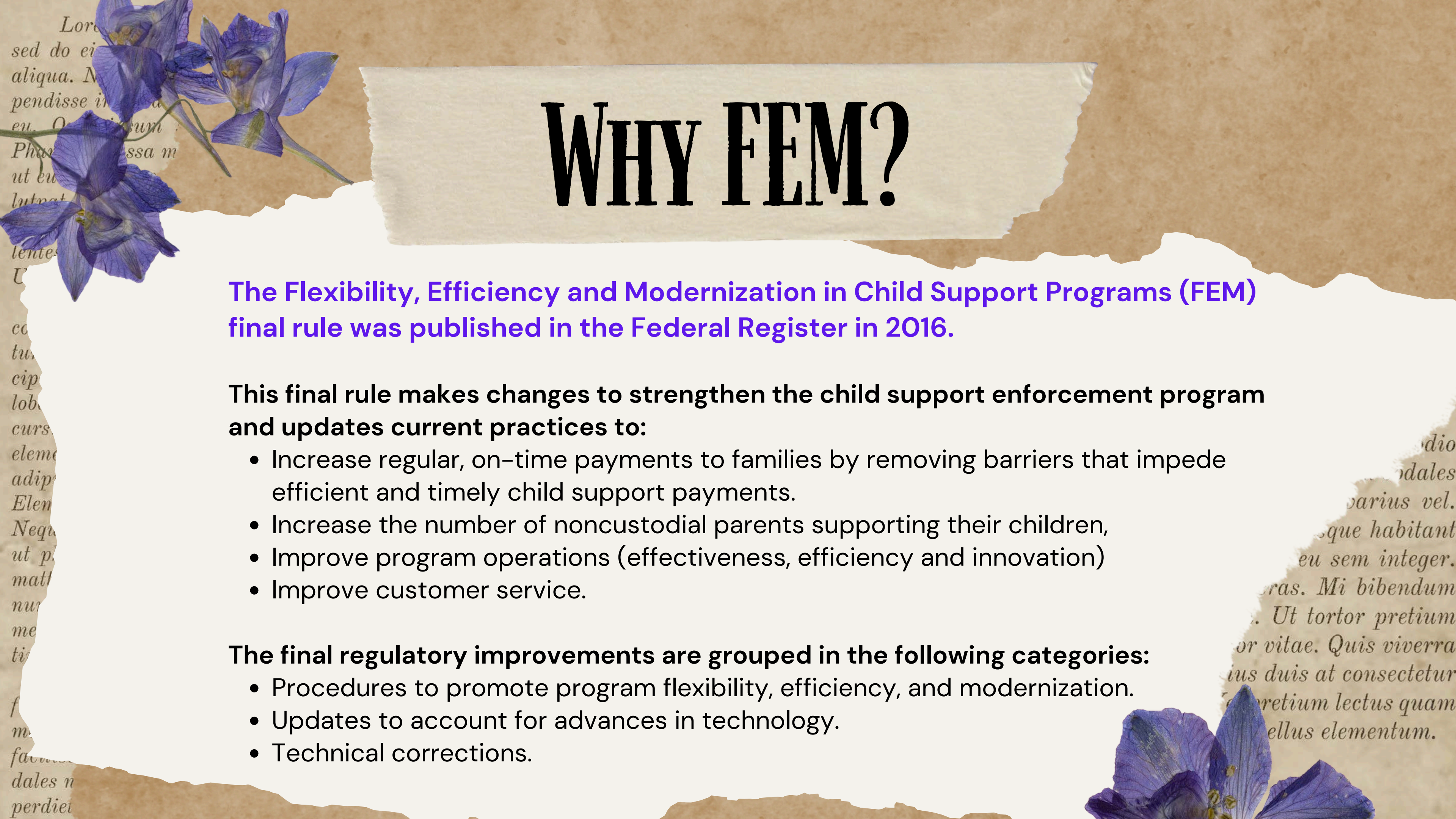
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# WHY FEM?

**The Flexibility, Efficiency and Modernization in Child Support Programs (FEM) final rule was published in the Federal Register in 2016.**

**This final rule makes changes to strengthen the child support enforcement program and updates current practices to:**

- Increase regular, on-time payments to families by removing barriers that impede efficient and timely child support payments.
- Increase the number of noncustodial parents supporting their children,
- Improve program operations (effectiveness, efficiency and innovation)
- Improve customer service.

**The final regulatory improvements are grouped in the following categories:**

- Procedures to promote program flexibility, efficiency, and modernization.
- Updates to account for advances in technology.
- Technical corrections.



## *Uncollectable Debt*

Assembly Bill 135 passed in July 2021 amended Family Code 17400 (a)(2)(C) mandating CSSD cease enforcement of the c/s arrearages assigned to the state, including fees and costs owed to the state, shall be deemed uncollectable beginning January 1, 2023, when the sole source of income for the PPS is one of four sources defined by statute.

## *Foster Care*

Effective January 1, 2023, Family Code 17552 was amended to include a presumption that the payment of support by parents is likely to pose a barrier to proposed reunification in foster care cases.

## *Incarceration*

Assembly Bill 1148 amended Family Code 4007.5 as of January 2024 on the Administrative Adjustment of Support for Incarcerated/Involuntary Institutionalized PPS'.

## *Guideline Calculations*

CA Senate Bill 343 amended guidelines to set accurate child support obligations based on the noncustodial parents' income and ability to pay.

## *SLMS*

Beginning August 1, 2024, in accordance with Senate Bill (SB) 1055, LCSAs will no longer submit DMV licenses for suspension even if effective date of bill is not until January 2025.

## *Pass-Through*

To ensure self sufficiency by making child support a more reliable source of income, Formerly Assisted PRS will receive money owed to PAA accounts as of May 1, 2024



# SHARED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



## *Impact of Tech*

- Interface: Improve efficiency and accuracy in services
- Statewide Automated Systems: Streamlining operations and enhancing communication

## *Outside Partnership*

- Outreach: Collaborating with community organizations
- Partnerships with other government agencies

## *Whole Family Perspective*

- Focusing on the well-being of the entire family, not just enforcement
- Shift from enforcement to family reconciliation

## *Emotional*

### *Intelligence*

- Empathy: Building compassionate, understanding relationships with clients







# “CASE MANAGMENT” IMPACT & INFLUENCE

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# INNOVATION IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY



1. Data-Driven Decision Making:
  - Addressing Service Needs
  - Training and Policy Updates
2. Change Management:
  - Absorbtion
  - Application
  - Checking for Understanding
3. Motivational Interviews:
  - Helping participants find their intrinsic motivation for change.
  - Addressing fears and resistance to change with empathy.





# GRANTS... MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

## OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

### *Advancing Equity in Child Support*

This two-year project will examine child support policies and services. Minnesota is collaborating with Michigan and California (together, known as Lead States)

### *Charting a Course for Economic Mobility and Responsible Parenting*

This three-year demonstration is to educate and motivate teens and young adults to postpone parenthood until after they complete their education, start a career, and engage in a committed relationship.

### *Intergovernmental Case Processing Innovation*

The two-year demonstration project will allow grantees to improve their existing processes and systems to test innovations likely to increase payments on intergovernmental cases, and implement procedures to increase their efficiency and customer service.

### *Digital Marketing Project*

The two-year demonstration project will allow grantees to test digital marketing approaches and partnerships to reach parents that could benefit from child support services, and create or improve two-way digital communication and engagement with parents





# THE REASON WHY...

Children with a Parent Living Outside the Household: As of 2023, approximately 25% of children under 18 have a parent living outside the household, impacting around 22 million children.

## *Single-Parent Households and Child Poverty*

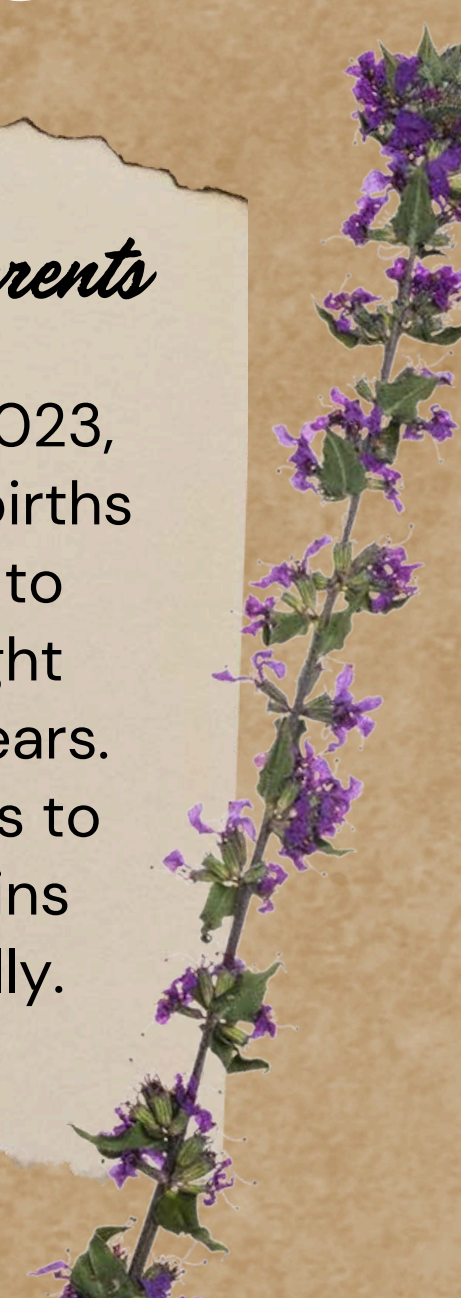
Single-parent households continue to experience higher poverty rates compared to two-parent households. As of 2023, the poverty rate for children in single-parent families is approximately 30%, compared to around 8% for those in two-parent families.

## *Divorce Rates*

The U.S. divorce rate is about 2.5 per 1,000 people, reflecting a continued trend of lower divorce rates in recent years. However, the marriage rate has also declined, which may influence this figure.

## *Births to Unmarried Parents*

As of the latest data, in 2023, approximately 40% of all births in the United States are to unmarried women, a slight increase from previous years. The total number of births to unmarried women remains around 1.5 million annually.





# RESOURCE LIST

- Timeline Data: 2012 Green Book, Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. House of Representatives, Chapter 8, <http://greenbook.waysandmeans.house.gov/2012-green-book/child-support-enforcement-cover-page/legislative-history>
- Historical Background and Development of Social Security. Social Security Administration.
- Social Security Amendments of 1950, Pub. L. No. 81-734, 64 Stat. 477.
- Social Security Amendments of 1965, Pub. L. No. 89-97, 79 Stat. 286.
- Social Security Amendments of 1967, Pub. L. No. 90-248, 81 Stat. 821.
- Social Security Amendments of 1974, Pub. L. No. 93-647, 88 Stat. 2351.
- 42 U.S.C. §§ 651–669 (2018) (§ 658 repealed 1998, §§ 661–2 repealed 1996)
- U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). \*Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC). Retrieved from (<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps.html>)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (2023).



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# RESOURCE LIST (CON'T)

- Pew Research Center. (2023). Divorce Rates and Marriage Trends in the United States. Retrieved from (<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2023/02/13/divorce-and-marriage-trends/>)
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- The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kids Count Data Center. (2023). Children in Single-Parent Families by Race and Ethnicity. Retrieved from (<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/>)
- National Center for Family & Marriage Research. (2023). Divorce Rate in the U.S.: Geographic Variation, 2023. Retrieved from (<https://www.bgsu.edu/ncfmr.html>)
- National Vital Statistics Reports. Retrieved from (<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>)
- H.R.1892 – Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, 115th Congress (2017–2018) <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1892/text>
- Office of Child Support Services; An Office of the Administration for Children & Families, (<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/grants/current-grants>)



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