Presentation and Update on CalKIDS Data Sharing Project

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Problem Statement

Many students have money for college in a CalKIDS account but don't know it.

❖ SIB knows which students have unclaimed accounts, but not where the students go to college.
❖ Colleges know which students are enrolled, but not which students have unclaimed accounts.
❖ Reference Member Phuong's 2024 Proposal: Track Child Savings Accounts Data

C2C as a Data Sharing Solution

C2C can bridge the knowledge gap between SIB and colleges.

❖ C2C can link K-12, higher education, and CalKIDS account data to determine where students with unclaimed accounts are enrolled in college

❖ Collaboration across data providers led to a legal agreement and technical solution

CalKIDS: Building Early Wealth for California's Children

Update to the California Cradle-to-Career Board

ScholarShare Investment Board Board

CalK DS
California Kids Investment and
Development Savings Program

Purpose of Today's Update

- Provide context on the CalKIDS project
- Share how CalKIDS is helping Californians
- Explain why this work is important for California
- Acknowledge the great wins achieved through partnership

What is CalKIDS?

- A statewide early wealth-building initiative
- Automatically provides scholarship accounts to eligible children
- Administered by the **ScholarShare Investment Board**
- Designed to reduce financial barriers to postsecondary education and training

Why CalKIDS Was Created

- Too many students face financial barriers *before* financial aid is available

- Lack of assets limits postsecondary access and persistence

- Research shows early assets:
  - Increase expectations
  - Improve educational outcomes
  - Normalize college and career pathways

- CalKIDS is an **upstream intervention** in the Cradle-to-Career continuum

Who CalKIDS Serves

- Low-income public-school students
- Newborns across California
- Foster youth
- Homeless youth

How CalKIDS Helps Californians

- Automatic scholarship accounts—no action required to receive funds

- Real dollars available for:
  - College
  - Career and technical education
  - Training programs

- Encourages earlier engagement with education planning

Impact to Date (High Level)

- Hundreds of thousands of accounts claimed by California families

- Tens of millions of dollars already used for education and training

- Strong uptake across diverse regions and populations

- Demonstrated demand for early, simple, and trusted supports

Why This Work Matters for California

- Strengthens California's future workforce

- Supports postsecondary access and completion

- Reduces reliance on student debt

- Advances equity and economic mobility

- Positions California as a **national leader in early wealth-building**

Alignment with Cradle-to-Career

- Directly supports Cradle-to-Career goals:
  - Postsecondary access
  - Completion
  - Economic mobility

- Operates as part of a connected statewide ecosystem

- Reinforces the importance of coordinated, cross-agency strategies

The Power of Partnership

- Cradle-to-Career has helped:
    - Elevate CalKIDS within statewide strategy conversations
    - Strengthen cross-system alignment
    - Reinforce data-informed, equity-centered approaches
- This partnership demonstrates how systems coordination drives real outcomes

Celebrating Shared Wins

- Scaled a complex statewide program quickly

- Increased visibility and engagement across sectors

- Built durable infrastructure for long-term impact

- Created a foundation to expand and deepen early wealth-building efforts

Looking Ahead

- Continue increasing awareness and claiming

- Deepen integration with Cradle-to-Career priorities

- Strengthen data, feedback, and continuous improvement

- Focus on long-term outcomes—not just program participation

In Closing

- Thank you to the California Cradle-to-Career Data System Board for your leadership and partnership

- CalKIDS works best as part of a coordinated Cradle-to-Career system

- Together, California isn't just preparing students for the future — **we're investing in it!**

Thank you!

CalKIDS
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Project Impact

- ❖ Initial C2C data linking between SIB, CDE, and CCCCO resulted in finding 40K community college students with over $20M in unclaimed scholarships
- ❖ C2C shared results with CCCCO, who will partner with SIB and community college districts on student outreach
- ❖ First use of the master data exchange agreement and business use case proposal

Next Steps

- ❖ C2C to continue to partner with SIB, CDE, and CCCCO to support student outreach
- ❖ Prepare an updated list of students with unclaimed accounts to share with CCCCO after the next data submission window
- ❖ Scale data sharing project to other higher education segments

Member Questions and Comments