

# Song-Brown Program

In 1973 Governor Ronald Reagan signed legislation establishing the Song-Brown Program to award grants to primary care residency and training programs in California. The legislation also established The California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (Commission), a 15-member body, to advise the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development Executive Director on awarding grants to residency and training programs. The Song-Brown Program aims to address the shortage and maldistribution of primary care providers, and diversify the healthcare workforce.



Research suggests that primary care providers who are from an underserved area, or are a member of an underrepresented group, are more likely to care for the underserved. The Song-Brown Program maximizes the funding going to residency and training programs that demonstrate success:

- Locating practice sites in medically underserved areas
- Placing graduates in medically underserved areas
- Attracting and admitting members of underrepresented groups

The Song-Brown Program has demonstrated success in meeting these objectives for a variety of primary care disciplines including: Family Nurse Practitioners; Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology, and Pediatricians; Physician Assistants; and Registered Nurses. Over the years, the Song-Brown Program has leveraged both public and private dollars to sustain and increase healthcare workforce residency and training programs.



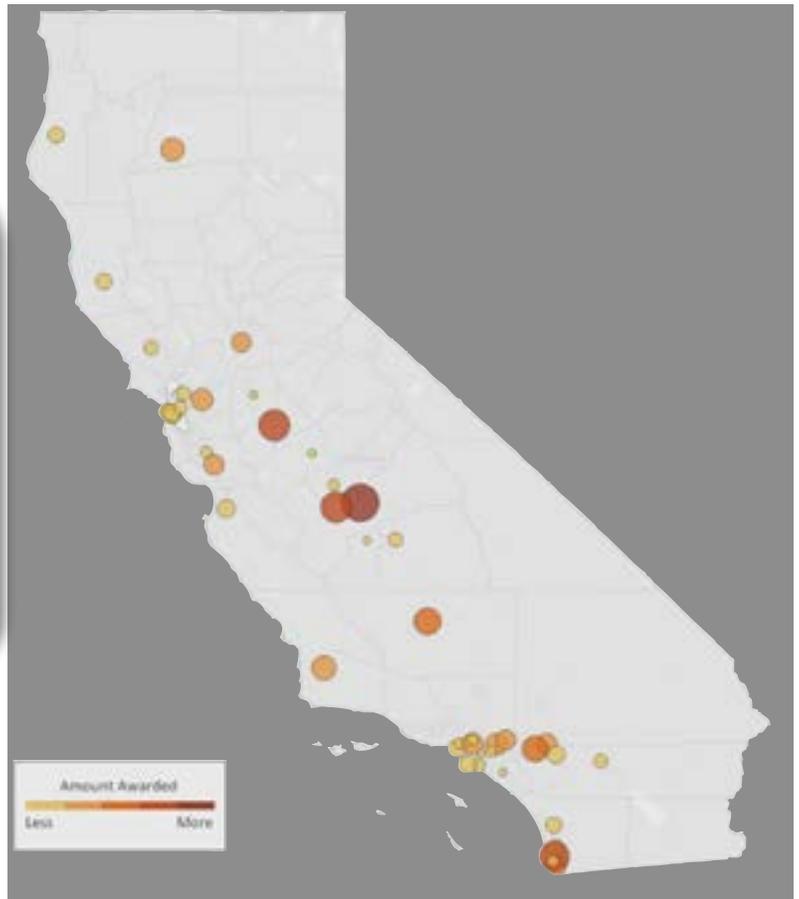
Researchers at the University of California San Francisco project California will have a shortfall of primary care providers in the future, with the Central Valley, Central Coast, and Southern

Border regions experiencing the worst shortages. To address this shortfall, the FY 2017-18 Governor's Budget increased Song-Brown grant funding for primary care residency programs by \$31 million: \$24.4 million to sustain existing primary care residency programs and \$6.6 million to increase the number of first year residents.



## FY 2017-18 Song-Brown Primary Care Residency Funding Distribution

During the FY 2017-18 grant cycle, Song-Brown successfully awarded nearly \$30.6 million to primary care residency programs. Song-Brown award funding was concentrated in regions most likely to experience the greatest shortages: Central Valley, Central Coast, and Southern Border.

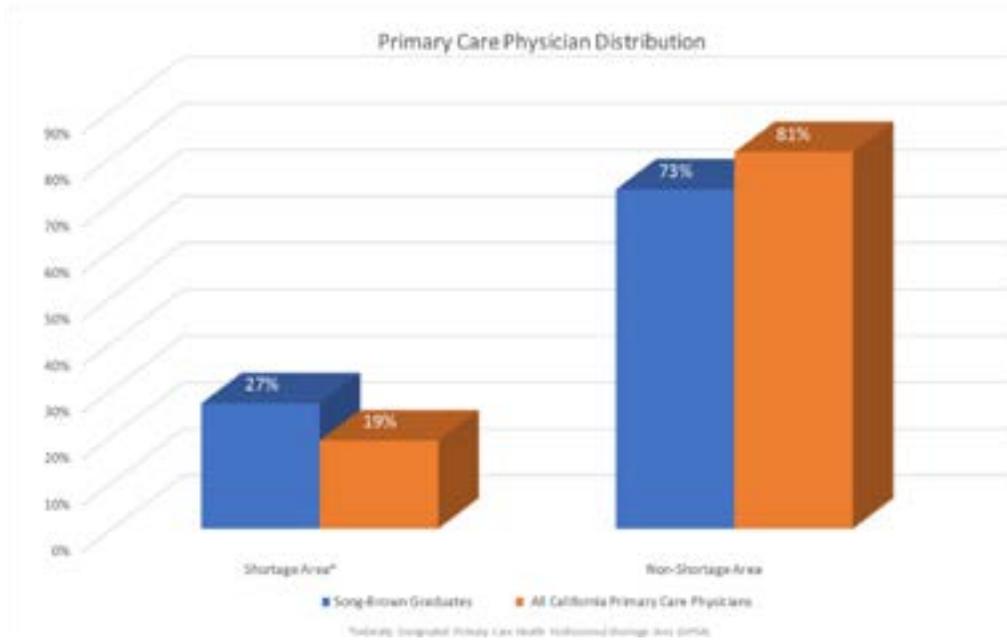


## Training Sites for Song-Brown Primary Care Residency Awardees

Song-Brown expands the primary care workforce capacity by supporting residency programs with practice sites in medically underserved areas. In FY 2017-18, Song-Brown awards sustained 557 first year residents and increased the number of first year residents by 72.



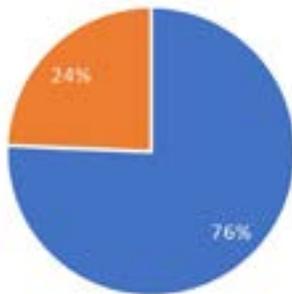
## Placing Graduates in Underserved Areas



Song-Brown ameliorates primary care shortages, with graduates who are more likely to practice in primary care shortage areas. FY 2017-18 Song-Brown applicants reported that 27 percent of their most recent graduates are practicing in an underserved area, compared to 19 percent of all primary care physicians in California.

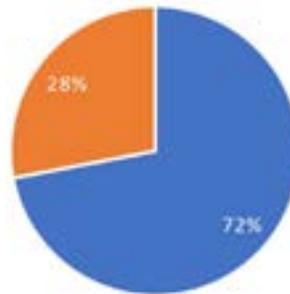
## Attracting and Admitting Members of Underrepresented Groups

All California Primary Care Physicians



■ All Others ■ Underrepresented Groups

Song-Brown Awardee First-Year Residents



■ All Others ■ Underrepresented Groups

Song-Brown supports delivery of culturally and linguistically appropriate health care, with residents who are more reflective of California's diverse population. Twenty-eight percent of Song-Brown first-year residents are from underrepresented groups, compared to 24 percent of all primary care physicians in California.

## Song-Brown's Dedicated Commissioners



### Dr. Katherine Flores, M.D. - Governor's Appointee

I was fortunate to do my Family Medicine Residency and Fellowship training, through the UCSF Fresno program in 1979-1983.

Having been born into an immigrant farmworker family and raised in Fresno, it was important to me to return to where I started and provide healthcare to the underserved populations in my community with a culture and language that they were most comfortable with. It wasn't until many years later that I learned that Song-Brown had provided funding for my training and it was because of Song-Brown

that the opportunity existed.

While in medical school, I soon learned that the vision and passion for serving the poor and the reality of the economics of our healthcare system were at odds. I began to question whether I could develop the skills to work in under-resourced communities as a primary care doctor and still provide optimal care. But training at a site that is committed to the care of the underserved, who support the importance of primary care in these communities and who provide faculty who guide you through the challenges of providing care to these populations is critical for young trainees and can make all the difference. Song-Brown provides that opportunity.

I now serve as a Song-Brown Commissioner and it is an honor and privilege to work with a program that continues to support primary care residency training for providers who are committed to serving vulnerable populations.

#### **OSHPD Director**

Robert P. David

#### **Song-Brown Executive Secretary**

Stacie S. Walker

#### **Governor's Appointments**

Jasmeet K. Bains, MD

Roslynn Byous, DPA, PA-C

Elizabeth Dolezal, Vice Chair

Katherine Flores, MD

William Henning, DO, Chair

Cathryn L. Nation, MD

Joseph Provenzano, DO

Deanna Stover, PhD., RN

#### **Assembly Speaker Appointments**

Angelica Millan, DNP, RN/NP, FAAN

Debra Sung, MSPT

#### **Senate Rules Committee Appointments**

Sandra L. Baker, DNP, RN, CNE, ANEF

Carol Jong, PhD., RD

Catherine Kennedy, RN

#### **Special thanks to the Song-Brown team:**

Courtney Ackerman, Kalanie Coleman, Trisha Duchaine, Rachel Fong, Tyfany Frazier, Hovik Khosrovian, Ross Lallian, Colin Martin, Liz Martin, Melissa Omand, Caryn Rizell, Dorian Rodriguez, Nancy Samra, Douglas Truong, Evan Wallis, Steffi Wong

### **Song-Brown Program**

<https://oshpd.ca.gov/HWDD/Song-Brown-Program.html>

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