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# Bay Area to get two new SingleStops

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The Bay Area will add two new SingleStop locations in the fight against poverty.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced on Monday an expansion of the sites designed to help poor people and families access all available public support.

Each year, \$60 billion in government funds available to help those living in poverty goes uncollected — \$3 billion of it in California and \$300 million of it in San Francisco.

SingleStops help connect the needy with those resources — be they food stamps, health-insurance, childcare subsidies or tax credits, to name a few — in a single, convenient location. A trained counselor works with clients to fill out all necessary paperwork and also to connect them to additional legal or other services for which they are eligible.

**SingleStop USA** is a nonprofit that works with government, private funders and community-based organizations to connect as many as possible with these resources.

Tipping Point Community helped to open the Bay Area's first SingleStops in 2008, and last year it raised \$1.5 million to fund six of them. Four are already open at Communities of Opportunity, Homeless Prenatal Program and Wu Yee Children's Services in San Francisco and Healthy Oakland. Four more will open by the end of 2009.

In their first six months, the four Bay Area SingleStops have helped thousands of people claim \$4 million in public benefits and tax credits that would have gone uncollected.

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