

# **OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

## **MISSION**

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) was established in 1998 to strengthen services for and promote the well-being and safety of children and families.

## **ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING**

The Office is headquartered in Rensselaer with regional offices throughout the State. These offices provide operational support and policy direction to local social services districts and youth bureaus. By the end of 2010-11, OCFS will operate 23 residential facilities and five day placement programs statewide, serving approximately 1,200 youth. The Office will end the 2010-11 fiscal year with a workforce of 3,497 positions.

## **BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS**

The Executive Budget recommends **\$3.9 billion All Funds** (\$2.2 billion General Fund; \$1.7 billion Other Funds) for the Office of Children and Family Services. This is a net decrease of **\$34 million** (\$105 million General Fund increase; \$139 million Other Funds decrease) from the 2009-10 budget. This net change primarily reflects the elimination of the one-time Federal Stimulus child care appropriation as well as reductions to several program areas.

OCFS' staffing level for 2010-11 will be **3,497**, a decrease of **79** annual salaried positions from the 2009-10 budget. This reduction reflects the net impact of closing/downsizing three underutilized youth facilities (-251), an increase of 169 positions associated with implementing improvements to services for youth in OCFS operated youth facilities, a decrease of 33 non-health and safety related positions through attrition and, an increase of 36 to reflect projected fill levels of federal child care and Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped positions.

Major budget actions include:

- **Preserve Open-ended Funding for Child Welfare Services:** The centerpiece of the child welfare financing system is the provision of 64 percent State reimbursement for preventive and child protective services. In order to preserve this funding source, the Executive Budget reduces funding for Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS), which supports an array of non-mandated programs, as well as eliminates OCFS contracted preventive services for youth and families in the child welfare system. Since open-ended child welfare services funding is preserved at the 64 percent State/36 percent local level, districts can choose to use this funding source to support services for families and youth at imminent risk of foster care formerly provided by OCFS contracted preventive services providers. Additionally, local districts will be asked to develop and report on performance measures to improve outcomes for youth and families while generating efficiencies in the child welfare system.

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- **Preserve Adoption Subsidies:** The Executive Budget includes \$210 million, an increase of \$4 million, for the State's share of subsidies provided to families that adopt children with special needs. These funds will support approximately 46,000 children in adoptive homes.
- **Maintain Foster Care Block Grant:** The Foster Care Block Grant is maintained at \$436 million and provides counties with a clear incentive to reduce the number of children in foster care. Under the Block Grant, savings that result from reduced use of foster care can be reinvested in locally-designed child welfare initiatives that strengthen preventive services or better serve high-needs children.
- **Fully Implement the Bridges to Health Medicaid Waiver Program:** The Bridges to Health Medicaid Waiver Program, designed to enhance services to foster care children with multiple needs and prevent them from entering institutional care, will be fully-implemented in 2010-11. The program will grow from 1,565 slots to 3,305 slots in 2010-11.
- **Implement the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program:** This new program will enhance permanency for children in foster care while generating a cost avoidance for districts. This program will flow through the Foster Care Block Grant and will provide assistance on behalf of eligible foster children who are discharged from foster care to their relatives that had been caring for them while in foster care. While assistance payments will continue to be made to relative guardians, children will no longer be under the supervision of the district, which will reduce administrative oversight and costs.
- **Continue Support to Modernize CONNECTIONS:** The 2010-11 Executive Budget includes a second installment of bond financing to support modernization of CONNECTIONS, the State's child welfare information system. The current outdated CONNECTIONS infrastructure is fragile, inflexible and difficult to use for both caseworkers and local governments. Modernization will make the system more agile and user friendly, thereby easing administrative burdens and permitting case workers to spend more time with clients. CONNECTIONS modernization will be coordinated with systems development in other human services agencies to maximize service delivery and reduce costs.
- **Implement Child Care Unionization Agreements:** In October 2009, the State reached agreements with the Civil Service Employees Association and the United Federation of Teachers, the unions that represent home based child care providers. The 2010-11 Executive Budget includes \$3 million in appropriations pursuant to the agreements for quality improvement grants and a professional development fund for home-based child care providers.
- **Utilize Title XX Funding to Support the Adult Protective/Domestic Violence Program:** Currently, districts are allocated \$103 million annually in Federal Title XX funding, of which the State requires that \$66 million must be used to offset State and local AP/DV cost shares (49 percent State and 51 percent local). The 2010-11 Executive Budget would shift the remaining \$37 million in Title XX funds to the AP/DV program to reduce the State and local shares. In doing this, the State generates \$18 million in savings and reduces by \$19 million the direct cost to districts for providing mandated AP/DV services. Districts would lose \$37 million of discretionary Title XX funds, which currently reimburse local discretionary Title XX services.

- **Reduce or Eliminate Contract and Other Programs:** In order to ensure that scarce resources continue to be invested in core mandated programs, the Executive Budget would reduce the Child Welfare Quality Program by 50 percent and eliminate the portable information technology pilot. General Fund support would generally be reduced by 10 percent for other contract programs including Home Visiting, Child Fatality Review Teams, Child Protective Services Caseload Reduction, Kinship, Hoyt Children and Family Trust Fund, Alternatives to Detention and Residential Placement, Settlement Houses, and Post Placement services.
- **Right-Size Youth Facility Capacity:** The 2010-11 Executive Budget reflects \$2.9 million in net savings, growing to \$14.6 million in 2011-12, from the closure and downsizing of OCFS facilities. A total of three facilities will be closed/downsized as of January 19, 2011. These actions are consistent with a significant decline in the population at OCFS' non-secure and limited secure facilities that has led to a 70 percent system-wide utilization rate and more than 400 vacant beds. January 2011 actions will include the following: closure of Annsville non-secure center, downsizing the Tryon campus by closing the limited secure boys program and downsizing the Lansing non-secure center. These actions will reduce OCFS facility jobs by 251 annual salaried positions, of which 239 were filled as of November 2009.
- **Additional Agency Reductions:** The Executive Budget recommends an additional \$5.8 million reduction to OCFS operations. The reductions will be managed through various Personal Service and Non Personal Service actions including: not filling 33 non-health and safety positions that become vacant through attrition and reducing costs associated with supplies, travel, equipment and contractual services.
- **Improve OCFS Facility Operations:** The Executive Budget includes \$18.2 million to increase staff to youth ratios and to provide improved medical and mental health services for youth in facilities. This investment will improve conditions in the facilities and outcomes for youth as they return to their home communities. This action will result in an increase of 169 staff in the youth facility program.

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

The Office of Children and Family Services supervises the State's system of family support and child welfare services to help families live independently. County departments of social services and, in many cases, community-based local organizations, administer programs that identify and protect abused and neglected children; provide counseling and other services to strengthen families and avoid foster care; place children in foster care as needed; reunite children and families; find permanent adoptive parents for children who cannot be reunited with birth families; and prepare teens for independent living.

OCFS also oversees a variety of programs serving the State's most needy and vulnerable adult residents. Programs include oversight of locally administered adult protective services and programs providing services to victims of domestic violence, including emergency shelters and community-based crisis intervention.

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### **CHILD CARE**

The Office's Child Care Block Grant supports child care subsidies for public assistance and low-income families. Subsidized child care is guaranteed for public assistance recipients with children up to age 13 when such care is required for the parent/guardian to engage in work activities. Families transitioning from welfare to work are guaranteed subsidized child care for up to 12 months after leaving public assistance. The State also provides subsidized child care to families at risk of becoming dependent on public assistance.

### **YOUTH FACILITIES**

The Office operates a Youth Facilities Program which, by the end of 2010-11, will include 23 residential facilities and five day placement programs serving youth placed by the Family Courts or directed by the Criminal Courts. Through a broad array of programs, the Office provides rehabilitative services that include counseling, mental health, substance abuse, sex offender and education and vocational training designed to promote positive youth development and foster a youth's return to the community as a law-abiding, productive citizen.

### **CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE**

The Office operates the State Central Register Child Abuse Hotline, which is expected to receive over 375,000 calls reporting alleged child maltreatment or abuse in 2010-11. The State initiates investigations of these allegations, which are conducted by county protective services staff and/or local law enforcement agencies. The Register maintains a master database of those found culpable of child abuse so that employers, such as day care centers, can screen out potential employees with a history of child abuse.

#### **ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Available 2009-10</b>	<b>Appropriations Recommended 2010-11</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Reappropriations Recommended 2010-11</b>
State Operations	522,966,000	534,363,700	11,397,700	364,333,600
Aid To Localities	3,362,340,131	3,316,715,100	(45,625,031)	2,312,312,728
Capital Projects	37,675,000	37,675,000	0	144,542,000
Total	3,922,981,131	3,888,753,800	(34,227,331)	2,821,188,328

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

### **ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS**

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)			
<b>Program</b>	<b>2009-10 Estimated FTEs 03/31/10</b>	<b>2010-11 Estimated FTEs 03/31/11</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
Central Administration			
General Fund	331	310	(21)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2	2	0
Child Care			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	213	235	22
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped			
General Fund	11	11	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	148	162	14
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1	1	0
Family and Children Services			
General Fund	505	505	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	58	58	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	2	2	0
Maintenance & Improvement of Youth Facilities			
Capital Projects Funds - Other	7	7	0
Systems Support			
General Fund	164	153	(11)
Training and Development			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	61	60	(1)
Youth Facilities			
General Fund	2,073	1,991	(82)
Total	3,576	3,497	(79)

### **STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)**

<b>Fund Type</b>	<b>Available 2009-10</b>	<b>Recommended 2010-11</b>	<b>Change</b>
General Fund	277,571,000	287,088,000	9,517,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	140,162,000	142,165,700	2,003,700
Special Revenue Funds - Other	104,658,000	104,535,000	(123,000)
Enterprise Funds	475,000	475,000	0
Internal Service Funds	100,000	100,000	0
Total	522,966,000	534,363,700	11,397,700

# CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

## STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2009-10	Recommended 2010-11	Change
Central Administration			
General Fund	32,925,000	30,308,000	(2,617,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	528,000	6,528,000	6,000,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	3,534,000	3,534,000	0
Internal Service Funds	100,000	100,000	0
Child Care			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	45,356,000	49,583,700	4,227,700
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped			
General Fund	9,082,000	9,098,000	16,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	40,714,000	32,503,000	(8,211,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,914,000	1,919,000	5,000
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement			
General Fund	(27,985,000)	(27,990,000)	(5,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	34,485,000	34,490,000	5,000
Family and Children Services			
General Fund	44,428,000	43,884,000	(544,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	22,971,000	22,958,000	(13,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,344,000	1,343,000	(1,000)
Systems Support			
General Fund	57,087,000	56,968,000	(119,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	30,593,000	30,593,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	10,000,000	10,000,000	0
Training and Development			
General Fund	6,319,000	5,887,000	(432,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	53,381,000	53,249,000	(132,000)
Enterprise Funds	200,000	200,000	0
Youth Facilities			
General Fund	155,715,000	168,933,000	13,218,000
Enterprise Funds	275,000	275,000	0
Total	522,966,000	534,363,700	11,397,700

## STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2010-11 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	23,574,000	(707,000)	23,146,000	(694,000)
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	1,859,000	16,000	1,846,000	16,000
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement	(27,990,000)	(5,000)	(27,990,000)	(5,000)
Family and Children Services	30,980,000	909,000	28,380,000	833,000
Systems Support	10,950,000	(497,000)	10,780,000	(490,000)
Youth Facilities	121,802,000	(1,610,000)	108,460,000	(1,434,000)
Total	161,175,000	(1,894,000)	144,622,000	(1,774,000)

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	346,000	(10,000)	82,000	(3,000)
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	0	0	13,000	0
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement	0	0	0	0
Family and Children Services	0	0	2,600,000	76,000
Systems Support	0	0	170,000	(7,000)
Youth Facilities	3,542,000	(46,000)	9,800,000	(130,000)
Total	3,888,000	(56,000)	12,665,000	(64,000)

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

### STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2010-11 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

<b>Program</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>Supplies and Materials</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Central Administration	6,734,000	(1,910,000)	520,000	(147,000)
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	7,239,000	0	9,000	0
Family and Children Services	12,904,000	(1,453,000)	359,000	(40,000)
Systems Support	46,018,000	378,000	373,000	(12,000)
Training and Development	5,887,000	(432,000)	0	0
Youth Facilities	47,131,000	14,828,000	10,469,000	(1,218,000)
Total	125,913,000	11,411,000	11,730,000	(1,417,000)

<b>Program</b>	<b>Travel</b>		<b>Contractual Services</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Central Administration	206,000	(58,000)	5,086,000	(1,444,000)
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	0	0	7,230,000	0
Family and Children Services	338,000	(38,000)	12,142,000	(1,367,000)
Systems Support	196,000	1,000	43,940,000	360,000
Training and Development	0	0	5,887,000	(432,000)
Youth Facilities	453,000	(53,000)	17,533,000	(2,039,000)
Total	1,193,000	(148,000)	91,818,000	(4,922,000)

<b>Program</b>	<b>Equipment</b>		<b>Maintenance Undistributed</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Central Administration	922,000	(261,000)	0	0
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	0	0	0	0
Family and Children Services	65,000	(8,000)	0	0
Systems Support	1,509,000	29,000	0	0
Training and Development	0	0	0	0
Youth Facilities	482,000	(56,000)	18,194,000	18,194,000
Total	2,978,000	(296,000)	18,194,000	18,194,000

# CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

## STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2010-11 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	10,162,000	6,000,000	36,000	0
Child Care	49,583,700	4,227,700	0	0
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	34,422,000	(8,206,000)	50,000	5,000
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement	34,490,000	5,000	27,990,000	5,000
Family and Children Services	24,301,000	(14,000)	111,000	(1,000)
Systems Support	40,593,000	0	0	0
Training and Development	53,449,000	(132,000)	5,557,000	(119,000)
Youth Facilities	275,000	0	0	0
Total	247,275,700	1,880,700	33,744,000	(110,000)

  

Program	Nonpersonal Service		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	3,598,000	0	6,528,000	6,000,000
Child Care	0	0	49,583,700	4,227,700
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	1,869,000	0	32,503,000	(8,211,000)
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement	6,500,000	0	0	0
Family and Children Services	10,643,000	(13,000)	13,547,000	0
Systems Support	0	0	40,593,000	0
Training and Development	47,692,000	(13,000)	200,000	0
Youth Facilities	275,000	0	0	0
Total	70,577,000	(26,000)	142,954,700	2,016,700

## AID TO LOCALITIES ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2009-10	Recommended 2010-11	Change
General Fund	1,805,775,131	1,901,377,800	95,602,669
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,537,763,000	1,396,535,300	(141,227,700)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	18,802,000	18,802,000	0
Total	3,362,340,131	3,316,715,100	(45,625,031)

## AID TO LOCALITIES ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2009-10	Recommended 2010-11	Change
Child Care			
General Fund	146,198,000	142,351,700	(3,846,300)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	429,644,000	310,416,300	(119,227,700)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	343,000	343,000	0
Family and Children Services			
General Fund	1,643,477,927	1,753,510,300	110,032,373
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,088,900,000	1,066,900,000	(22,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	18,459,000	18,459,000	0
Training and Development			
General Fund	5,131,579	5,515,800	384,221
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	19,219,000	19,219,000	0
Community Projects			
General Fund	10,967,625	0	(10,967,625)
Total	3,362,340,131	3,316,715,100	(45,625,031)



## **CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)**

<b>Comprehensive Construction Program</b>	<b>Available 2009-10</b>	<b>Recommended 2010-11</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Reappropriations 2010-11</b>
Design and Construction Supervision				
Youth Facilities Improvement Fund	7,000,000	7,000,000	0	14,473,000
Maintenance and Improvement of Facilities				
Capital Projects Fund	1,825,000	1,825,000	0	9,063,000
Youth Facilities Improvement Fund	15,850,000	18,850,000	3,000,000	72,172,000
Executive Direction and Administrative Services				
Misc. Capital Projects	0	0	0	2,121,000
Program Improvement or Program Change				
Youth Facilities Improvement Fund	13,000,000	10,000,000	(3,000,000)	41,400,000
Youth Center				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	5,313,000
Total	<u>37,675,000</u>	<u>37,675,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>144,542,000</u>