



ANALYSIS OF THE NEW JERSEY BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

FISCAL YEAR

2014 - 2015

NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE

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DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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C-17, C-26, C-27; D-29 to D-40; F-3, F-
10; H-11, H-17

Fiscal Summary (\$000)

	Expended FY 2013	Adjusted Appropriation FY 2014	Recommended FY 2015	Percent Change 2014-15
State Budgeted	1,056,101	1,090,639	1,093,369	0.3%
Federal Funds	482,370	506,474	506,192	(0.1%)
<u>Other</u>	<u>52,174</u>	<u>52,069</u>	<u>51,409</u>	<u>(1.3%)</u>
Grand Total	\$1,590,645	\$1,649,182	\$1,650,970	0.1%

Personnel Summary - Positions By Funding Source

	Actual FY 2013	Revised FY 2014	Funded FY 2015	Percent Change 2014-15
State	4,786	4,739	4,872	2.8%
Federal	1,480	1,480	1,450	(2.0%)
<u>Other</u>	<u>331</u>	<u>321</u>	<u>321</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Positions	6,597	6,540	6,643	1.6%

FY 2013 (as of December) and revised FY 2014 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2015 data reflect the number of positions funded.

Link to Website: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/finance.asp>

Highlights

BUDGET OVERVIEW AND KEY DEVELOPMENTS

The Governor's Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Budget recommends a total of \$1.651 billion (gross) for the Department of Children and Families (DCF), for an increase of about \$1.8 million from the FY 2014 adjusted appropriation.

State funds account for \$1.093 billion (66.2 percent) of the total FY 2015 recommendation, representing an increase of \$2.7 million from FY 2014 adjusted State appropriations of \$1.091 billion. Anticipated federal funds account for \$506.2 million (30.7 percent) of the FY 2015 recommendation, which is slightly decreased from the FY 2014 adjusted appropriation of \$506.5 million. Anticipated Other Funds of \$51.4 million in FY 2015 are also slightly decreased from the FY 2014 adjusted appropriation of \$52.1 million.

Ongoing Child Welfare Reform

The department continues to receive federal monitoring under the Modified Settlement Agreement (MSA) reached in 2006, which resulted from a class action lawsuit regarding improvements to the State's child welfare system. Under the terms of the MSA, the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) was appointed by the U.S. District Court of New Jersey as the independent Federal Monitor to assess the compliance of DCF with the terms and conditions of the MSA, which required the implementation and evaluation of certain child welfare reforms.

The most recent CSSP monitoring report, from October 2013, determined that DCF had met 21 of 53 performance targets established under the MSA and had partially met eight additional targets. For a more detailed summary of the latest CSSP report, see the *October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report* background paper included within this analysis (page 15).

Continuing Integration of Populations into Children's System of Care

The department administers the Children's System of Care (CSOC), which is the State's single, comprehensive system of behavioral health services for children, youth, and young adults with emotional and/or behavioral health care challenges, substance abuse challenges, and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Governor's FY 2015 Budget recommends \$2.1 million in additional State funding for CSOC in FY 2015, contributing to a total funding recommendation of \$496.5 million (gross). The Governor's FY 2015 Budget indicates that the increased FY 2015 appropriations and \$22.3 million in proposed FY 2014 supplemental appropriations for CSOC are intended "to serve more individuals through family and community-centric supports."

Available information also suggests that the increases partially result from growth in service utilization and caseloads resulting from the new populations of children with developmental disabilities transferred from the Department of Human Services (DHS). In FY 2013, a Statewide reorganization of programs transferred certain adolescent substance abuse services and services for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities from DHS into CSOC.

Highlights (Cont'd)

Implementation of Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver

CSOC is also implementing several new programs under New Jersey's Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver. The Governor's FY 2014 Budget anticipated a total of \$19.4 million in State savings from the implementation of these new programs, due to additional, offsetting federal Medicaid revenues for previously State-funded services. The new programs include:

- *Intellectual Disabilities/Developmental Disabilities with Co-Occurring Mental Health Diagnoses (ID/DD-MI) Pilot Program*: Provides children who have developmental disabilities and co-occurring mental illnesses with a range of home- and community-based services. \$3.6 million in FY 2014 State savings were originally anticipated from implementing this program.
- *Program for Children Diagnosed with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED)*: Provides low-income children who have severe behavioral or emotional disturbances and who are at risk of being placed outside their homes with a special set of services intended to treat and maintain those children in their homes and promote certain life skills. \$15.9 million in FY 2014 State savings were originally anticipated from implementing this program.
- *Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD) Pilot Program (also known as the Autism Spectrum Disorder Pilot Program)*: Provides children under age 13 who are diagnosed with PDD with a package of additional home- and community-based habilitation and therapy services.

Available information suggests that the PDD program was to have been implemented in the first quarter of FY 2014 and that the ID/DD-MI and SED programs will be implemented by the end of FY 2014. The Governor's FY 2015 Budget does not indicate whether the apparent delay in implementing the ID/DD-MI and SED programs will result in any shortfall of anticipated FY 2014 federal Medicaid revenues.

Moreover, it is noted that, for CSOC line items associated with the ID/DD-MI and SED programs, the Governor's FY 2015 Budget assumes that total adjusted FY 2014 federal Medicaid funding is unchanged from the amounts originally anticipated in the Governor's FY 2014 Budget Recommendation. The relevant CSOC line items are:

- Care Management Organizations
- Out-of-Home Treatment Services
- Family Support Services
- Mobile Response
- Intensive In-Home Behavioral Assistance

Social Services Block Grant Disaster Relief Funding

DCF has received FY 2013 allocations totaling approximately \$21.7 million from federal Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) disaster relief funding provided in response to Super Storm Sandy (see page D-37 of the Governor's FY 2015 Budget). This amount is distributed across three program classifications:

Highlights (Cont'd)

- Child Protection and Permanency: \$6.7 million
- Children's System of Care: \$5.4 million
- Family and Community Partnerships: \$9.7 million

Although federal funds were received in FY 2013 (and will remain available to the department through September 30, 2015), expenditures did not commence until FY 2014. Informal information from the department indicates that the amounts above reflect budgeted needs for FY 2014.

For FY 2015, additional amounts will be allocated to DCF from the State's supplemental SSBG disaster relief funding award. Pursuant to the approved SSBG Supplemental Intended Use Plan and Pre-Expenditure Report, submitted in May 2013 by the Department of Human Services (the State's SSBG lead agency) to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, DCF proposed SSBG disaster relief activities in four program areas as follows:

- Strengthening Families and Preventing Child Abuse: \$19.4 million
- Preventing Violence and Exploitation: \$8.4 million
- Building Resiliency and Supporting Recovery: \$16.1 million
- Administration: \$1.5 million

Together with the initial \$21.7 million allocated for FY 2014, total federal funding of \$45.4 million is anticipated for DCF disaster relief activities. Informal information from the department indicates that the specific activities supported within each program area may be subject to change, as identified needs evolve.

The SSBG Supplemental Intended Use Plan and Pre-Expenditure Report is available at: [http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/home/New Jersey Supplemental SSBG Intended Use Plan.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/home/New_Jersey_Supplemental_SSBG_Intended_Use_Plan.pdf)

HIGHLIGHTS BY DIVISION

Division of Child Protection and Permanency Services

The Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) is the State's child welfare agency, with responsibilities to: investigate allegations of child abuse or neglect; assist, preserve, and strengthen families in crisis; provide out-of-home placements, when necessary, to protect the safety and well-being of children; facilitate family reunification, when possible; facilitate permanent adoptions or kinship legal guardianship placements for children who cannot return home; and support adolescent youth aging out of the State's foster care system.

The Governor's FY 2015 Budget recommends a total funding increase of \$0.9 million for the division, to \$935.0 million (gross).

Direct State Services funding is recommended to decrease by \$1.2 million, to \$450.9 million (gross). The overall decrease is primarily attributed to projected "salary savings" associated with adjusted projections of salary need.

Highlights (Cont'd)

Grants-in-Aid funding is recommended to increase by \$2.1 million, to \$484.1 million (gross). The overall decrease is attributable to:

- a \$1.1 million increase in Independent Living and Shelter Care, partially associated with increases in independent living stipends; and
- a \$1.7 million increase in Subsidized Adoption, associated with increasing numbers of families receiving subsidies.

In addition, the Governor's Budget recommends minor Grants-in-Aid increases in CP&P Restricted Federal Grants (\$0.2 million), offset by decreases in Out-of-Home Placements (\$0.7 million) and CP&P Family Support Services (\$0.2 million).

It is also noted that DCF is proposing FY 2014 supplemental appropriations totaling \$8.2 million in CP&P Grants-In-Aid funding, attributable to "Child Protection and Permanency Grants Trend," which this analysis assumes in the FY 2014 adjusted appropriations for the applicable accounts. The supplemental appropriations are allocated as follows:

- \$1.6 million for Independent Living and Shelter Care;
- \$5.0 million for CP&P Family Support Services; and
- \$1.6 million for Subsidized Adoption.

Division of Children's System of Care

The Division of Children's System of Care (CSOC) provides behavioral health services to children and adolescents with emotional and behavioral health challenges, substance abuse challenges, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. CSOC services include 24-hour mobile crisis response and stabilization, case management, in-home and out-of-home treatment services, and family support services.

The Governor's FY 2015 Budget recommends a funding increase of \$1.5 million for the division, to \$496.5 million (gross).

Direct State Services funding is recommended to remain unchanged, at \$2.2 million (gross). **Grants-in-Aid** funding is recommended to increase by \$1.5 million, to \$494.2 million (gross). The overall increase is primarily attributable to:

- a \$2.7 million net increase in Out-of-Home Treatment Services, associated with an increase of \$3.3 million reflecting growth in the number of clients and increased utilization of services, offset by a shifting of \$0.6 million to the Division of Family and Community Partnerships; and
- a decrease of approximately \$1.0 million in Intensive In-Home Behavioral Assistance, due to an anticipation of recent program growth leveling off.

In addition, the Governor's Budget recommends minor Grants-in-Aid increases in Mobile Response (\$0.9 million) and decreases in Care Management Organizations (\$0.5 million) and CSOC Family Support Services (\$0.7 million).

Highlights (Cont'd)

It is also noted that DCF is proposing FY 2014 supplemental appropriations of \$22.3 million in CSOC Grants-In-Aid funding, attributable to "Children's System of Care Grants Trend," which this analysis assumes in the FY 2014 adjusted appropriations for the applicable accounts. The supplemental appropriations are allocated as follows:

- \$1.9 million for Care Management Organizations;
- \$10.4 million for Out-of-Home Treatment Services;
- \$2.0 million for Mobile Response; and
- \$8.0 million for Intensive In-Home Behavioral Assistance.

Division of Family and Community Partnerships and Division on Women

The Division of Family and Community Partnerships (FCP) provides early childhood services, school-linked services, and family support services intended to prevent abuse and neglect and strengthen families and communities. FCP also provides services to victims of domestic violence, a responsibility shared with the closely linked Division on Women, which administers sexual violence programs, women's shelters, programs for displaced homemakers, and other services.

The Governor's FY 2015 Budget recommends that total funding for the two divisions remains virtually unchanged, at \$91.0 million (gross).

Direct State Services funding for the divisions is recommended to remain unchanged, at \$1.9 million (gross).

Grants-in-Aid funding for the divisions is also recommended to remain nearly unchanged, at \$89.1 million (gross). Contributing to this amount are offsetting changes involving:

- a shifting of \$0.6 million from the Division of Children's System of Care, into FCP Family Support Services, for a suicide prevention program targeting school-age youth;
- a net decrease of \$0.5 million in FCP Restricted Federal Grants, reflecting a \$0.4 million decrease for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grants and other, more minor changes to various federal grants; and
- an elimination of \$45,000 for Project S.A.R.A.H.

Education Services

The Office on Education administers and delivers educational services to: students with severe cognitive, emotional, and behavioral disabilities; pregnant and parenting teens; and other "at-risk" youth attending DCF Regional Schools and other State-operated and contracted facilities.

Highlights (Cont'd)

The Governor’s FY 2015 Budget recommends that total funding for Education Services remain virtually unchanged, at \$53.6 million (gross). **Direct State Services** funding is recommended to remain virtually unchanged, at \$26.4 million (gross). **Grants-in-Aid** funding is recommended to decrease by \$0.7 million, to \$27.2 million (gross) attributable to a reduction in Educational Program Services.

Administration and Support Services

Direct State Services funding for Administration and Support Services is recommended to remain unchanged, at \$62.2 million (gross).

Federal **Grants-in-Aid** funding of \$699,000 associated with the National Center for Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN) is recommended to decrease by \$50,000, to \$649,000. DCF uses NCCAN funds to support certain case management and staff development activities.

Other Services

The Governor’s FY 2015 Budget recommends no change to funding for the Child Welfare Training Academy Services and Operations and Safety and Security Services.

Background Papers

October 2013 Federal Monitor's Reportp. 15

Fiscal and Personnel Summary

AGENCY FUNDING BY SOURCE OF FUNDS (\$000)

	Expended FY 2013	Adj. Approp. FY 2014	Recom. FY 2015	Percent Change	
				2013-15	2014-15
General Fund					
Direct State Services	\$279,007	\$278,146	\$276,995	(0.7%)	(0.4%)
Grants-In-Aid	\$777,094	\$812,493	\$816,374	5.1%	0.5%
State Aid	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Capital Construction	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Debt Service	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Sub-Total	\$1,056,101	\$1,090,639	\$1,093,369	3.5%	0.3%
Property Tax Relief Fund					
Direct State Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Grants-In-Aid	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
State Aid	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Sub-Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Casino Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Casino Control Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
State Total	\$1,056,101	\$1,090,639	\$1,093,369	3.5%	0.3%
Federal Funds	\$482,370	\$506,474	\$506,192	4.9%	(0.1%)
Other Funds	\$52,174	\$52,069	\$51,409	(1.5%)	(1.3%)
Grand Total	\$1,590,645	\$1,649,182	\$1,650,970	3.8%	0.1%

PERSONNEL SUMMARY - POSITIONS BY FUNDING SOURCE

	Actual FY 2013	Revised FY 2014	Funded FY 2015	Percent Change	
				2013-15	2014-15
State	4,786	4,739	4,872	1.8%	2.8%
Federal	1,480	1,480	1,450	(2.0%)	(2.0%)
All Other	331	321	321	(3.0%)	0.0%
Total Positions	6,597	6,540	6,643	0.7%	1.6%

FY 2013 (as of December) and revised FY 2014 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2015 data reflect the number of positions funded.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DATA

Total Minority Percent	61.4%	59.5%	58.6%	---	---
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Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp.</u> <u>FY 2014</u>	<u>Recomm.</u> <u>FY 2015</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Page</u>
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(Note: The Governor's Budget displays the Department of Children and Families' budget line items in a gross budget format, indicating the aggregated total of State, Federal, and Other Funds. Below, the OLS disaggregates each line item into its various components, as applicable.)

CHILD PROTECTION AND PERMANENCY**DIRECT STATE SERVICES**

Child Protection and Permanency TOTAL	<u>\$452,093</u>	<u>\$450,942</u>	<u>(\$1,151)</u>	<u>(0.3%)</u>	<u>D-36</u>
General Fund	<u>\$209,507</u>	<u>\$208,356</u>	<u>(\$1,151)</u>	<u>(0.5%)</u>	<u>D-36</u>
Federal Funds	<u>\$242,174</u>	<u>\$242,174</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>D-36</u>
Other Funds	<u>\$412</u>	<u>\$412</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>D-36</u>
<hr/>					
Personal Services (GF)	<u>\$188,381</u>	<u>\$187,230</u>	<u>(\$1,151)</u>	<u>(0.6%)</u>	

Overall Direct States Services funding in the Child Protection and Permanency program classification is recommended to decrease by \$1.2 million from the FY 2014 adjusted appropriation, to \$450.9 million (gross) in FY 2015.

Entirely accounting for this decrease is a \$1.2 million reduction in State funding for Salaries and Wages. Available information indicates that this decrease is due to projected "salary savings" associated with revised projections of salary need from the FY 2014 adjusted appropriation. Although the Governor's FY 2015 Budget does not provide detail regarding the nature of these salary savings, informal information from the department suggests that such savings are primarily due to revised assumptions regarding the number and type of employees in no-pay status due to various situations (e.g., employees on family/medical leave, employees on other types of leave without pay, vacancies due to turnover, etc.).

It is noted that the January 2014 department-wide payroll count (6,540 positions) on page D-36 of the Governor's FY 2015 Budget is lower than the number of department-wide positions budgeted for FY 2015 (6,643 budgeted positions), which is unchanged from the number of positions originally budgeted in the Governor's FY 2014 Budget (6,643 positions). This suggests a certain number of employees in no-pay status at any given point in time across the department, including among Child Protection and Permanency staff, who represent a significant majority of department employees.

GRANTS-IN-AID

Independent Living and Shelter Care	<u>\$15,449</u>	<u>\$16,548</u>	<u>\$ 1,099</u>	<u>7.1%</u>	<u>D-38</u>
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Overall funding for Independent Living and Shelter Care is recommended to increase by \$1.1 million, to \$16.5 million (State) in FY 2015. The FY 2014 adjusted appropriation includes a proposed \$1.6 million supplemental appropriation.

Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000) (Cont'd)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp.</u> <u>FY 2014</u>	<u>Recomm.</u> <u>FY 2015</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Page</u>
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This program funds independent living placements and services for adolescents in foster care (\$8.9 million recommended for FY 2015) as well as temporary emergency placements for children in crisis (\$7.7 million recommended for FY 2015) who are transitioning to independence.

Evaluation data on page D-34 of the Governor’s FY 2015 Budget indicate that \$820,000 of the recommended increase is associated with independent living placements for adolescents. As the data indicate, the number of these placements is anticipated to increase by 2.3 percent, from 129 (revised estimate for FY 2014) to 132 (estimated for FY 2015). However, the average annual cost per client is also anticipated to increase by 7.7 percent, from \$62,271 (revised for FY 2014) to \$67,068 (estimated for FY 2015).

The increased costs per client appear to partially reflect a department initiative to increase board rates for independent living placements. According to the October 2013 Monitoring Report completed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy (the department’s court-appointed Federal Monitor), DCF updated its independent living stipend policy effective April 1, 2013. The previous independent living stipend rate, established in 1979, provided eligible youth with approximately \$340 per month (\$160 for food and \$180 for rent). The new policy provides youth with a total of \$940 per month: \$240 for food, \$600 for rent, and \$100 for incidentals (e.g., household and personal care items). According to the Monitoring Report, the policy change was intended to “increase the amount of funding available to be more comparable with current standards of living and to appropriately provide support for youth in independent living placements or receiving independent living services.”

The evaluation data on page D-34 also indicate that \$279,000 of the recommended increase is associated with an increase in the number of emergency placements. According to the data, the number of these placements is anticipated to increase by 3.5 percent, from 1,000 (revised estimate for FY 2014) to 1,035 (estimated for FY 2015).

CHILDREN’S SYSTEM OF CARE

GRANTS-IN-AID

**Out-of-Home
Treatment Services**

TOTAL	<u>\$273,617</u>	<u>\$276,351</u>	<u>\$ 2,734</u>	<u>1.0%</u>	D-38
General Fund	\$176,611	\$179,345	\$ 2,734	1.5%	
Federal Funds	\$97,006	\$97,006	0	—	

The Out-of-Home Treatment Services account funds a range of residential treatment services for children with behavioral health needs, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse needs. Residential treatment is generally provided to youth with the highest levels of need who cannot be maintained at home, and includes treatment homes, group homes, psychiatric community homes, residential treatment centers, intensive residential treatment, and other types of residential care.

Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000) (Cont'd)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2014</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2015</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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Net funding for Out-of-Home Treatment Services is recommended to increase by \$2.7 million, to \$276.4 million (gross) in FY 2015 from the \$273.6 million adjusted FY 2014 appropriation. It is noted that the FY 2014 adjusted amount includes a proposed \$10.4 million supplemental appropriation. Available information indicates that the ongoing growth in the number of clients and demand for services, driven in part by the new population of children with developmental disabilities, may be one factor contributing to the need for supplemental funding.

Available information attributes the net increase over the FY 2014 adjusted appropriation to the following:

- An increase of approximately \$3.3 million associated with ongoing growth in the number of clients and increased utilization of funded services, particularly driven by identifying and addressing the needs of the new populations of children with developmental disabilities transferred from the Department of Human Services in FY 2013 and currently being served by the Children’s System of Care in DCF.
- A decrease of approximately \$0.6 million associated with an internal realignment of funds for a suicide prevention program targeting school-age youth from Out-of-Home Treatment Services to the Family Support Services account in the Division of Family and Community Partnerships (FCP). Available information indicates that the program was determined to be more appropriately administered through FCP, as that division administers other school-based programs.

In addition to the residential care programs indicated above, this account also provides services to children participating in two demonstration programs under the State’s Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver: the Program for Children Diagnosed with Serious Emotional Disturbance and the Intellectual Disabilities/Developmental Disabilities with Co-Occurring Mental Health Diagnoses (ID/DD-MI) Pilot Program. The account also funds certain adolescent substance abuse services previously provided through the Department of Human Services.

GRANTS-IN-AID

Mobile Response					
TOTAL	<u>\$24,760</u>	<u>\$25,662</u>	<u>\$ 902</u>	<u>3.6%</u>	D-39
General Fund	\$16,165	\$17,067	\$ 902	5.6%	
Federal Funds	\$8,595	\$8,595	0	—	

Funding for Mobile Response is recommended to increase by \$902,000, to \$25.7 million (gross). The FY 2014 adjusted appropriation includes a proposed supplemental appropriation of \$2.0 million.

This program provides 24-hour mobile response and stabilization services to children and youth who are experiencing emotional or behavioral crises. The program includes services to children participating in the Program for Children Diagnosed with Serious Emotional Disturbance under the State’s Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver.

Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000) (Cont'd)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp.</u> <u>FY 2014</u>	<u>Recomm.</u> <u>FY 2015</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Page</u>
GRANTS-IN-AID					
Intensive					
In-Home Behavioral					
Assistance TOTAL	<u>\$57,528</u>	<u>\$56,575</u>	<u>(\$ 953)</u>	<u>(1.7%)</u>	D-39
General Fund	<u>\$30,909</u>	<u>\$29,956</u>	<u>(\$ 953)</u>	<u>(3.1%)</u>	
Federal Funds	<u>\$26,619</u>	<u>\$26,619</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>—</u>	

Funding for Intensive In-Home Behavioral Assistance is recommended to decrease by \$953,000, to \$56.6 million (gross). The FY 2014 adjusted appropriation includes a proposed supplemental appropriation of nearly \$8.0 million.

This program delivers therapeutic interventions in a child's home or community and is designed to stabilize children in their home environment and reduce the need for out-of-home treatment services. The program includes services to children participating in the Program for Children Diagnosed with Serious Emotional Disturbance under the State's Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver.

FY 2015 funding (when including the FY 2014 supplemental appropriation) is recommended to decrease by 1.7 percent over the FY 2014 adjusted appropriation. This coincides with a 1.7 percent decrease in the number of total service hours estimated for FY 2015 (614,950 hours), relative to the revised FY 2014 estimate (625,300 hours), as shown in evaluation data on page D-35.

However, it is noted that the revised FY 2014 estimate of 625,300 service hours is 10 percent greater than the 570,000 service hours originally estimated in the Governor's FY 2014 Budget. Informal information from the department indicates that there was a significant increase in program utilization in FY 2014 (resulting in the need for the proposed supplemental appropriation) but that more recent trend data indicate that program growth may be leveling off.

Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000) (Cont'd)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2014</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2015</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

GRANTS-IN-AID

Project S.A.R.A.H.	\$45	\$0	(\$ 45)	(100.0%)	D-39
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The Governor’s FY 2015 Budget eliminates \$45,000 in State funding for Project S.A.R.A.H., which was added by a Legislative budget resolution to the FY 2014 Appropriations Act.

The program is administered by the Jewish Family Service and Children’s Center of Clifton-Passaic and provides intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance to: adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault; family and household members of such victims; and those collaterally affected by the victimization, excluding the perpetrator. Informal information from the department indicates that the \$45,000 supports Project S.A.R.A.H. staff salary and fringe costs.

In addition to the line item appropriation for Project S.A.R.A.H. contained within the DCF budget, information from the State accounting system indicates that the provider is also the recipient of STOP Violence Against Women federal grant funds and Victims of Crime Act federal grant funds through the Department of Law and Public Safety in FY 2014.

Significant Language Changes

OMB Approval for Independent Living and Shelter Care Rate Changes

Revision

2014 Handbook: p. B-16
2015 Budget: p. D-40

The amounts hereinabove appropriated for Foster Care ~~and~~, Subsidized Adoption, and Independent Living and Shelter Care are subject to the following condition: any change by the Department of Children and Families in the rates paid for ~~foster care and adoption subsidy~~ these programs shall be approved by the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting.

Explanation

The revised language would require DCF to obtain approval from the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting (the Office of Management and Budget) for any changes in board rates for independent living placements and emergency placements funded by the Independent Living and Shelter Care appropriation. Previously, this requirement only applied to board rates and adoption subsidies funded by the Foster Care and Subsidized Adoption appropriations.

It is noted that DCF updated its independent living stipend policy effective April 1, 2013 and increased board rates for independent living placements, which are supported by the Independent Living and Shelter Care appropriation.

Marriage and Civil Union License Fees

Revision

2014 Handbook: p. B-19
2015 Budget: p. D-40

Of the amount hereinabove appropriated for the Domestic Violence Prevention Services, ~~\$1,100,000~~ \$1,150,000 is payable out of the Marriage and Civil Union License Fee Fund. If receipts to that fund are less than anticipated, the appropriation shall be reduced by the amount of the shortfall.

Explanation

The Governor’s FY 2015 Budget anticipates DCF revenues of \$1.15 million from the Marriage and Civil Union License Fee Fund in both FY 2014 (revised) and FY 2015 (estimated), as indicated in Schedule 1 (page C-3). Accordingly, the modified language would increase the recommended appropriation from the fund for Domestic Violence Prevention Services, from \$1,100,000 in the current year to \$1,150,000 in FY 2015.

The OLS notes that the appropriation for Domestic Violence Prevention Services has been consolidated with other items under the “Women’s Services” appropriation (displayed on page D-39 in the Governor’s FY 2015 Budget Recommendation).

EXPLANATION: FY 2014 language not recommended for FY 2015 denoted by strikethrough.
Recommended FY 2015 language that did not appear in FY 2014 denoted by underlining.

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report

In July 2006, the State reached a Modified Settlement Agreement (MSA) in a class action lawsuit regarding improvements to the State's child welfare system. Under the terms of the MSA, the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) was appointed by the U.S. District Court of New Jersey as the independent Federal Monitor to assess the compliance of the Department of Children and Families (DCF) with the terms and conditions of the MSA. The MSA required the implementation and evaluation of certain child welfare reforms, as follows:

- Phase I (through December 2008) required systematic reforms to improve the State's child welfare system, including: development and implementation of a new case practice model; improved delivery of critical services; reduced caseloads; improved caseworker training; improved recruitment and licensing of foster/kinship care resource families; and improved use and publication of performance data.
- Phase II (beginning January 2009) required the measurement of certain performance indicators to evaluate the Phase I reforms and assess the State's overall compliance with the MSA. The required performance targets were established either in the MSA or by the Federal Monitor in consultation with the State and other parties involved in the lawsuit.

The MSA provides that the lawsuit may be dismissed at any time after 2010, once the State achieves and maintains the established performance targets.

To date, the Federal Monitor has issued thirteen monitoring reports assessing the State's compliance with the MSA, which are available at:
<http://www.state.nj.us/dcf/about/welfare/federal/>.

OCTOBER 2013 MONITORING REPORT

Past monitoring reports were typically released in December and June of each year, containing six months of performance data for a period ending six months prior to the report's release. The October 2013 Monitoring Report states that, due to the impact of Super Storm Sandy on the State and its ability to provide services, the report contains nine months of performance data covering the period from July 2012 to March 2013, pursuant to an agreement among the parties to the lawsuit and the Court.

The October 2013 Report indicates that, as of March 2013, 21 out of 53 Phase II performance targets had been met and eight targets had been partially met. Twenty-three performance targets were not met, and one performance indicator could not be assessed.¹ The table below compares this period's overall performance outcomes to those reported in: the December 2011 Monitoring Report, covering the January-June 2011 period; and the December 2012 Monitoring Report, covering the January-June 2012 period.

¹ The performance indicator not assessed was "Services to Older Youth," which assesses the percentage of youth between the ages 18 and 21 receiving services similar to services previously available to them unless the youth, having been informed of the implications, formally request that DCF close their cases. The October 2013 Report indicates that a methodology to determine performance was finalized in late July 2013 and that findings will be provided in the next monitoring report.

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

Status of Phase II Performance Measures	December 2011 Report (January-June 2011)	December 2012 Report (January-June 2012)	October 2013 Report (July 2012-March 2013)
Met	24 (46%)	21 (42%)	21 (40%)
Partially Met	3 (6%)	3 (6%)	8 (15%)
Not Met	25 (48%)	26 (52%)	23 (44%)
<i>Total assessed</i>	52 (100%)	50 (100%)	52 (100%)
<i>Unable to be assessed</i>	3	4	1

AREAS OF CONCERN AS OF MARCH 2013

The October 2013 Monitoring Report identified a number of areas where DCF had either met the MSA performance standard or achieved significant progress since the prior reporting period. However, the Report highlighted certain areas as representing remaining challenges and concerns, including:

- 1. Investigative practice and implementation of case practice model.** Under the MSA, the department must meet certain performance standards for investigations of alleged child abuse and neglect. DCF must also implement a new Case Practice Model that requires better engagement with children, youth, and families and more individualized service planning.

The October 2013 Report found that DCF demonstrated many strengths in its investigative practice and significantly improved performance in certain process- and quantity-oriented aspects of case practice, but continued to confront challenges in improving the quality of investigative practice and the quality of case practice in areas such as: family engagement, effective use of Family Team Meetings, and the quality of case planning with children, youth, and families.

Performance measures most relevant to these concerns include:

- Timeliness of Completion
 - Quality Investigative Practice
 - Family Involvement and Effective Use of Family Team Meetings
 - Quality of Case Planning and Service Planning
 - Educational Needs
- 2. Repeat maltreatment.** DCF is responsible for ensuring the safety of children under its supervision, including preventing children from experiencing additional abuse and neglect (i.e., "repeat maltreatment") when receiving in-home services or out-of-home placements. The October 2013 Report states that DCF's performance on the MSA's repeat maltreatment performance measures is below the acceptable performance standard and has declined from the previous monitoring period, "raising important concerns that may be related to the quality of investigations and some of the case practice issues [noted elsewhere in the report]."² The October 2013 Report also

² Technically, the repeat maltreatment performance measures represent maximum incidence levels for repeat maltreatment that the department must fall below to meet MSA standards.

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

identified the rate of children and youth who re-enter placement within one year of leaving foster care as a concern.

Performance measures most relevant to these concerns include:

- Repeat Maltreatment (children remaining in home)
- Repeat Maltreatment (children reunified with their families)
- Re-entry to placement

- 3. Timely permanency through reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship.** The October 2013 Report notes that, with the exception of performance on finalizing adoptions within nine months of an adoptive placement, DCF's performance in meeting permanency goals and discharging children to permanency (i.e., reunification with family, legal guardianship, or adoption) has remained the same or declined and does not meet the levels required by the MSA final targets.

Performance measures most relevant to these concerns include:

- Discharged to permanency
- Total time to adoption
- Progress toward adoption
- Child specific adoption recruitment

- 4. Services to older youth.** The October 2013 Report found that significant challenges remain in ensuring that older youth in foster care are appropriately assessed, engaged, and linked to needed resources and supports and that those youth exiting care without permanency have housing and are employed or are in an educational or training program.

Performance measures most relevant to these concerns include:

- Youth Exiting Care
- Services to Older Youth (not assessed)

MSA PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The October 2013 Monitoring Report also provides more detailed information regarding DCF's performance on the Phase II performance measures.

Below, Tables 1, 2, and 3 summarize, for the July 2012-March 2013 reporting period, the performance targets that DCF did not meet, partially met, or fully met, respectively. The tables present, for each performance measure, the performance target established by the MSA, the date by which DCF was supposed to achieve each target, and the department's previous and current performance relative to each target.

It is also noted that DCF is required to maintain acceptable caseloads for intake caseworkers, permanency caseworkers, adoption caseworks, and Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit (IAIU) investigators.³ Although technically not included among the 53

³ Intake caseworkers perform initial investigations of child abuse and neglect. Permanency caseworkers provide services to families with children remaining at home under DCF protective supervision or with children who are removed from home due to safety concerns. Adoption caseworkers locate permanent homes for children who

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

Phase II performance measures, caseload standards are included within a set of ongoing, additional Phase I and Phase II MSA requirements that must be met by DCF and that are routinely reported by the Federal Monitor. Thus, caseload standards are discussed and included within the tables below.

Table 1. July 2012-March 2013: Performance Targets Not Met

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
Meeting the Caseload Standards				
Percentage of adoption workers meeting the <u>individual caseload standard</u> of no more than 15 children.	Ongoing monitoring	95%	90%	87%
State Central Registry, Investigative Practice, and Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit				
<u>Timeliness of Completion</u> : Percentage of investigations of alleged child abuse and neglect completed within 60 days.	June 2010	98%	65%	72%
<u>Quality Investigative Practice</u> : Percentage of investigations meeting quality standards.	Dec. 2009	90%	Data Not Available	78%
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Family Team Meetings				
<u>Family Involvement and Effective Use of Family Team Meetings</u> : ⁴				
a. Percentage of children newly entering placement who have a Family Team Meeting within 30 days.	a. June 2010	a. 90%	a. 35%	a. 56%
b. Percentage of other children in placement who have a Family Team Meeting at least once per quarter.	b. June 2010	b. 90%	b. 33%	b. 46%
c. Percentage of cases rated at least minimally acceptable on "family teamwork" indicators.	c. June 2011	c. 90%	c. 30%	c. 24%

cannot safely return to their parents, prepare children for adoption, and finalize adoptions. IAIU investigators investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect in institutional settings (e.g., treatment facilities, correctional and detention facilities, schools, shelters, hospitals, etc.)

⁴ The June 2012 performance levels for this measure only apply to local offices having completed case practice immersion training; as of March 2013, all offices had completed the immersion training. The October 2013 Monitoring Report also notes that the June 2012 performance level is lower than what was previously reported (in

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Case Planning				
<u>Quality of Case Planning and Service Planning:</u> Percentage of case plans rated "acceptable" on Qualitative Review indicators assessing the development and adjusting of case plans to meet child and family needs.	Dec. 2011	90%	48%	39%
<u>Educational Needs:</u> Percentage of cases rated "acceptable" on Qualitative Review indicators assessing meeting of children's educational needs.	Dec. 2011	90%	76%	77%
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Caseworker Visits				
<u>Caseworker Visits with Children in State Custody (Initial Placements):</u> Percentage of children with at least twice per month caseworker visits during first two months of an initial or subsequent placement.	Dec. 2010	95%	53%	84%
<u>Caseworker Visits with Children in State Custody (Ongoing Placements):</u> Percentage of children with at least one visit per month.	June 2010	98%	91%	94%
<u>Caseworker Visits with Parents/Family Members (Non-Reunification Goal):</u> Percentage of families with at least once per month caseworker visits when goal is other than family reunification.	Dec. 2010	85%	59%	78%
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Family Visitations				
<u>Visitation between Children in Custody and Parents:</u> Percentage of children in custody with weekly parent visits when goal is family reunification.	Dec. 2010	85% biweekly visits; 60% weekly visits.	68% biweekly visits; 42% weekly visits.	80% biweekly visits; 59% weekly visits.
<u>Visitation between Children in Custody and Siblings Placed Apart:</u> Percentage of children in custody with monthly visits to siblings with whom they are not residing.	Dec. 2010	85%	52%	63%
Placements of Children in Out-of-Home Care				
<u>Placing Sibling Groups of Four or More Together:</u> Percentage of such siblings in custody placed together.	July 2011	40%	35% in CY 2011	25% in CY 2012

December 2012) due to a revised calculation that: reflects Family Team Meetings (FTMs) that actually occurred; and no longer excludes instances in which a parent was reported as unavailable or declined to attend an FTM.

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
<u>Stability of Placement:</u> Percentage of children entering an out-of-home placement with two or fewer placements during a 12-month period.	June 2009	88%	84% in CY 2010	85% in CY 2011
Repeat Maltreatment and Re-Entry into Out-of-Home Care				
<u>Repeat Maltreatment:</u> Percentage of children remaining in home after substantiation of abuse or neglect who have another substantiation of abuse or neglect in the next 12 months.	July 2009	Less than 7.2%	6.3% in CY 2010	7.8% in CY 2011
<u>Repeat Maltreatment:</u> Percentage of children reunified with their families who have another substantiation of abuse or neglect in the following 12 months.	July 2009	Less than 4.8%	6.0% in CY 2010	8.4% in CY 2011
<u>Re-entry to Placement:</u> Percentage of children re-entering custody within one year of being discharged (excluding runaways).	July 2011	Less than 9%	13% in CY 2010	13% in CY 2011
Permanency				
<u>Discharged to Permanency:</u> Percentage of children discharged from foster care to permanency (i.e., reunification, permanent relative care, adoptions, or guardianship) who were: a. Discharged to permanency within 12 months after entering foster care for the first time and remaining in care for eight or more days. b. Discharged to permanency within 12 months, or prior to their 21 st birthdays, if they had been in care for 13-24 months on the first day of the 12-month period. c. Discharged to permanency within 12 months, or prior to their 21 st birthdays, if they had been in care for 25 or more months on the first day of the 12-month period.	a. CY 2011 b. CY 2011 c. CY 2011	a. 50% (45% for CY 2010) b. 47% c. 47%	a. 45% in CY 2010 b. 47% in CY 2011 c. 34% in CY 2011	a. 45% in CY 2011 b. 42% in CY 2012 c. 33% in CY 2012
<u>Total time to adoption:</u> Percentage of children discharged from foster care to adoption within 30 months of removal from home.	CY 2011	60%	48% in CY 2011	44% in CY 2012

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
<u>Progress toward adoption:</u> Percentage of children with a goal of adoption who have a petition to terminate parental rights filed within 60 days of the goal change to adoption.	Jan. 2010	90%	69% to 81% ⁵	71%
<u>Child specific adoption recruitment:</u> Percentage of children with a goal of adoption and without an identified adoptive home who have a child-specific recruitment plan developed within 30 days of the goal change to adoption.	Jan. 2010	90%	54%	46%
<u>Placement in an adoptive home:</u> Percentage of children with a goal of adoption and without an adoptive home identified at time of termination of parental rights who are placed in an adoptive home within nine months of the termination of parental rights.	July 2009	75%	35%	59%
Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement				
<u>Health Passports:</u> Percentage of children whose parents/caregivers received current Health Passport within five days of child's placement.	June 2011	95%	58%	63%
Services to Families				
<u>Services to Support Transitions:</u> Percentage of cases where services were appropriately provided to families to support successful transitions (e.g., age-appropriate or school transitions, transition from non-relative to relative caretakers, case closures, etc.).	Dec. 2011	90%	56%	52%
Services to Older Youth				
<u>Youth Exiting Care:</u> Percentage of youth exiting care without achieving permanency who have housing and are employed or in training or in an educational program.	Dec. 2011	95%	Data Not Available	86% had housing and 52% were employed or enrolled in education/training

Source: CSSP October 2013 Report.

⁵ The OLS notes that the December 2012 Monitoring Report reported a range for this performance outcome.

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

Table 2. July 2012-March 2013: Performance Targets Partially Met

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS PARTIALLY MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
Meeting the Caseload Standards				
Percentage of intake workers meeting the individual caseload standard of no more than 12 open cases and no more than eight new case assignments per month.	Ongoing monitoring	95%	76%	86%
State Central Registry, Investigative Practice, and Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit				
<u>Timeliness of response:</u> a. Percentage of abuse and neglect investigations received by the field in a timely manner	a. July 2009	a. 98%	a. 98%	a. 99%
b. Percentage of investigations commenced within the required response time.	b. July 2009	b. 98%	b. 93%	b. 96%
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Safety and Risk Assessments				
<u>Safety and Risk Assessments:</u> a. Percentage of investigation cases where a safety assessment is completed within 30 days prior to closure.	a. Dec. 2010	a. 98%	a. 100%	a. 100%
b. Percentage of investigation cases where a risk-of-harm assessment is completed within 30 days prior to closure.	b. Dec. 2010	b. 98%	b. 100%	b. 100%
c. Percentage of non-investigation cases where a risk of harm reassessment is completed within 30 days prior to closure.	c. Dec. 2010	c. 98%	c. 49%	c. 59%
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Case Planning				
<u>Timeliness of Initial Plans:</u> Percentage of case plans developed within 30 days for children entering out-of-home placements.	June 2010	95%	45%	96%
<u>Timeliness of Current Plans:</u> Percentage of case plans reviewed and modified at least every six months for children in out-of-home placements.	June 2010	95%	63%	99%

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS PARTIALLY MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Caseworker Visits				
<u>Caseworker Visits with Parents/Family Members (Reunification Goal):</u> Percentage of families with at least twice per month caseworker visits when goal is family reunification.	Dec. 2010	95%	54%	96% (final target was met for only one month of monitoring period)
Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement				
<u>Required Medical Examinations:</u> Percentage of children in DCF care for one year or more who receive medical examinations in compliance with Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) guidelines.	June 2010	98% of all children in care	91% ages one to two; 93% older than two years	93% ages one to two; 93% older than two years⁶
<u>Semi-Annual Dental Examinations:</u> a. Percentage of children ages three and older who are in DCF care six months or more and who receive <i>annual</i> dental examinations. b. Percentage of children ages three and older who are in DCF care six months or more and who receive <i>semi-annual</i> dental examinations.	a. Dec 2011 b. Dec 2011	a. 98% b. 90%	a. 97% b. 86%	a. 98% b. 85%
<u>Immunization:</u> Percentage of children in custody who are current with immunizations.	Dec. 2011	98%	95%	95%

Source: CSSP October 2013 Report.

⁶ Although the October 2013 Monitoring Report noted that this performance level was technically below the required target, the report also indicated that the State’s recent performance on this measure represents sustained access to health care and is a significant achievement.

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

Table 3. July 2012-March 2013: Performance Targets Met⁷

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
Meeting the Caseload Standards				
Percentage of <u>permanency workers meeting the individual caseload standard of no more than 15 families and no more than 10 children in out-of-home care.</u>	Ongoing monitoring	95%	92%	94%
Percentage of Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit (IAIU) investigators <u>meeting the individual caseload standard of no more than 12 open cases and no more than eight new case assignments per month.</u>	Ongoing monitoring	95%	98%	97%
State Central Registry, Investigative Practice, and Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit				
<u>Responding to Calls to the State Central Registry (SCR)</u>	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	In compliance
<u>Quality of SCR response to callers</u>	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	In compliance
<u>Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit (IAIU) Practices: Percentage of IAIU investigations completed within 60 days.</u>	June 2007	80%	87%	85%
Implementation of Case Practice Model: Deputy Attorneys General Staffing				
<u>Adequacy of DAsG Staffing: Percentage of allocated positions filled among Deputy Attorneys General (DAsG) staff.</u>	June 2012	98%	92%	99%
Placements of Children in Out-of-Home Care				
<u>Appropriateness of Placement: Percentage of placements rated at least "minimally acceptable" according to appropriateness criteria.</u>	June 2010	90%	97%	99%
<u>Placing Children with Families: Percentage of children in custody placed in a family setting.</u>	July 2009	85%	88%	89%

⁷ According to the October 2013 Monitoring Report, a performance target is deemed to be met when, in CSSP's judgment and based on available information, DCF has substantially fulfilled its obligations regarding the applicable MSA performance requirement for the majority of months during the July 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013 monitoring period. CSSP also deems a performance target to be met where DCF is within one percentage point of the performance target or where there is a small number (less than three) of cases causing the failure to meet the target. Thus, CSSP may deem certain performance targets to be met even when DCF's performance appears to technically fall below the required performance level.

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
<u>Placing Sibling Groups of Two or Three Together</u> : Percentage of such siblings in custody placed together.	July 2012	80%	79% in CY 2011	82% in CY 2012
<u>Placement Limitations</u> : Percentage of resource homes exceeding certain capacity standards.	June 2009	Less than 5%	Less than 1%	Less than 1%
<u>Inappropriate placements</u> :				
a. Number of children under age 13 placed in shelters.	a. Dec. 2008	a. No children under 13 in shelters.	a. One child under 13 in a shelter.	a. No children under 13 in a shelter.
b. Percentage of children 13 and over placed in shelters where the shelters are in compliance with MSA standards.	b. Dec. 2009	b. 90%	b. 97%	b. 97%
Repeat Maltreatment and Re-Entry into Out-of-Home Care				
<u>Abuse and Neglect of Children in Foster Care</u> : Percentage of children in out-of-home placement who were victims of abuse or neglect during 12 month period.	July 2010	Less than 0.49%	0.22% in CY 2011	0.21% in CY 2012
Permanency				
<u>Adoption</u> : Percentage of children becoming legally free for adoption who are discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption less than 12 months after becoming legally free for adoption.	CY 2011	60%	78% in CY 2010	80% in CY 2011
<u>Final Adoptive Placements</u> : percentage of adoptions finalized within nine months of adoptive placement.	July 2009	80%	88%	94%
Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement				
<u>Pre-Placement Medical Assessment</u> : Percentage of children receiving medical assessment in an appropriate setting.	Dec. 2009	98%	99%	99%
<u>Initial Medical Examinations</u> : Percentage of children entering out-of-home care who receive full medical examinations within 60 days.	Jan. 2009	98%	98%	98%
<u>Follow-up Care and Treatment</u> : Percentage of children receiving timely, accessible, and appropriate follow-up health care and behavioral health care	Dec. 2011	90%	96%	95%

Background Paper: October 2013 Federal Monitor's Report (Cont'd)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level June 2012	DCF Level March 2013
Mental Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement				
<u>Mental Health Assessments:</u> Percentage of children with a suspected mental health need who receive assessments.	Dec. 2011	90%	92%	90%
<u>Provision of In-Home and Community-Based Mental Health Services:</u> DCF shall continue to support community-based services to prevent children from entering DCF custody and to reunify children with their parents.	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	In compliance
Services to Families				
<u>Continued Support for Family Success Centers:</u> DCF shall continue to support its network of Family Success Centers.	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	In compliance
<u>Post-Adoption Supports:</u> DCF shall make post-adoption services and subsidies available to families adopting a child.	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	In compliance
<u>Provision of Domestic Violence Services:</u> DCF shall continue to support domestic violence liaisons and programs that assist families involved with protective services.	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	In compliance
Services to Older Youth				
<u>Independent Living Assessments:</u> percentage of youth age 14-18 in out-of-home placements for at least six months who have an Independent Living Assessment completed.	Dec. 2011	95%	84%	98%

Source: CSSP October 2013 Report.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The Office of Legislative Services provides nonpartisan assistance to the State Legislature in the areas of legal, fiscal, research, bill drafting, committee staffing and administrative services. It operates under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Services Commission, a bipartisan body consisting of eight members of each House. The Executive Director supervises and directs the Office of Legislative Services.

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Individuals wishing information and committee schedules on the FY 2015 budget are encouraged to contact:

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