

Highlights of Significant Budget Changes

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES												
	FY	Appropriation	Allocation	Formula/ NonForm	Category	Description	UGF	DGF	Other	Fed	Total Funds	Notes
4	FY06	Children's Services	Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship	F	Transfer		-3,700.0			3,700.0	0.0	Because federal funding from a Social Services Block Grant was received, \$3.7 million of Fed Rcpts was transferred from FLSW to this allocation, and \$3.7 million of UGF was transferred to Front Line Social Workers (FLSW).
5	FY14	Children's Services	Subsidized Adoptions & Guardianship	F		Foster Care Base Rate Adjustment	1,110.0			740.0	1,850.0	To address increased federal concern that states are not meeting the full costs of care for children in foster care custody, OCS recently completed a foster care rate study. Based on the findings of the study, additional funding was needed to: --increase the foster care base rate; --Adjust geographic differentials from the current system to the 2008 regional differentials currently used by Medicaid; and --adjust the foster care augmented rates to better cover the cost of care for special needs children, in out-of-home placements.
6	FY09	Children's Services	Foster Care Base Rate	F		Foster Care Base Rate Increase	2,786.9			378.6	3,165.5	This funding was needed to increase rates paid to foster parents. Since the current rate setting methodology was implemented there have been four rate adjustments: FY91--based on 1989 poverty guideline: \$20.49 FY92--Based on 1990 poverty guideline--\$21.48 FY99--Based on 1993 poverty guideline--\$23.84 FY09--Based on 2007 poverty guideline--\$34.98
7	FY09	Children's Services	Foster Care Base Rate	F		Increased Cost for Foster Parent Payment due to Caseload Growth	2,770.6	200.0		414.0	3,384.6	
67	FY14	Children's Services	Foster Care Base Rate	F		Foster Care Base Rate Adjustment	2,110.0			490.0	2,600.0	To address increased federal concern that states are not meeting the full costs of care for children in foster care custody, OCS recently completed a foster care rate study. Based on the findings of the study, additional funding was needed to: --increase the foster care base rate; --Adjust geographic differentials from the current system to the 2008 regional differentials currently used by Medicaid; and --adjust the foster care augmented rates to better cover the cost of care for special needs children, in out-of-home placements.

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68	FY06- FY10	Children's Services	Front Line Social Workers		Front Line Workload Study Recommendations	Front Line Social Work Expansion and Title IV-E Foster Care Realignment PCNs: A total of 52 PCNs were added FY06: 31 PFT positions added FY08: 6 PFT positions added FY09: 10 PFT positions added FY10: 5 PFT positions added	2,258.1		0.0	2,723.6	4,981.7	A 2002 federal review highlighted inadequacies ensuring the safety of children, finding children permanent homes and making sure their health, education and mental health needs were met. Much of this was attributed to high caseloads. A total of 52 PCNs and associated funding was added from FY06- FY10. The amount appropriated in FY10 fully implemented the study's recommendations. FY06: \$830.5 GF & \$2.2 million FF FY08: \$516.7 GF & 172.2 FF FY09: \$600.0 GF & \$260.9 FF FY10: \$310.9 GF & \$92.9 FF
69	FY07	Children's Services	Front Line Social Workers			Additional funding needed due to the Rosales Reversal - Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Decision	1,301.0			-1,301.0	0.0	
70	FY08	Children's Services	Front Line Social Workers		ARRA	Replace shortfall of federal funding associated with the Federal Deficit Reduction Act with general funds	1,872.6			-1,872.6	0.0	
71	FY08	Children's Services	Front Line Social Workers			Implement Targeted Case Management for Foster Care Administration (Reg Change)	-800.7			800.7	0.0	Alaska received a Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA) for approval to reimburse the Office of Children's Services (OCS) for targeted case management services provided to Medicaid eligible children who are in state custody and under the age of 21 years.
72	FY12	Children's Services	Front Line Social Workers		Workload	Increase Staff Support in Line with Workload - Citizen's Review Panel Recommendation	766.7			168.3	935.0	This funding was approved for 11 positions in Wasilla to meet workload needs. This office serves Mat-Su, Kenai, Homer, King Salmon, Kodiak, Seward, Glennallen, and Valdez. According to the department, the Southcentral office was working at an estimated 140% capacity--meaning with all case-carrying positions filled, the workload exceeded levels recommended by the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) by 40%.

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73	FY12	Children's Services	Front Line Social Workers			Social Worker Class Study Implementation	1,185.0			315.0	1,500.0	At the request of the ASEA union, DOA conducted a job classification study of the social worker job class. The study affected 288 caseworkers and focused on identifying and correcting inequities in like-pay for like-work. The case workers were in a dual job class structure: Children's Services Specialist (CSS) and Social Workers (SW). Social Workers were paid at a higher range because they were licensed. The study determined that licensure was not a requirement and a single protective services job class series was developed and implemented on July 1, 2012. The implementation resulted in a on- to two- range increase in many positions. This funding is needed to pay for the increased ranges.
74	FY06	Children's Services	Family Preservation		Child Advocacy Centers	Federal Authorization for Child Abuse Prevention & Training Act/Children's Justice Act (CAPTA/CJA) award				1,000.0	1,000.0	Federal awards for Child Abuse Prevention and Training Act/Children's Justice Act (CAPTA/CJA) doubled beginning October 2005. DHSS granted the funding to subawardees to enhance ongoing advocacy/justice activities.
75	FY09	Children's Services	Family Preservation		Child Advocacy Centers	Continued Support for Child Advocacy Centers	1,300.0			-1,872.6	-572.6	
76	FY10	Children's Services	Family Preservation		Child Advocacy Centers	Replace Federal Funds for Alaska Child Advocacy Centers -- Final Phase	1,123.8			-1,123.8	0.0	
77	FY11	Children's Services	Family Preservation		Curyung Lawsuit (Judgments and Settlements)	Judgments and Settlements Against the State for FY11 (Curyung lawsuit)	1,200.0				1,200.0	This appropriation is the FY11 portion of the settlement costs of a lawsuit filed by four Alaska Native tribes. The Curyung, Ekwok, Kwinhagak, and Chevak tribes alleged that the state violated provisions of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) when it (1) failed to notify the tribe when it took custody of a young tribal member; and (2) failed to meet placement preferences under ICWA; and (3) failed to provide proper and timely notice of placement changes for children (who are tribal members) that were taken from their parents due to abuse or neglect.

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78	FY10	Children's Services	Infant Learning Program Grants		Early Childhood Intervention/Learning	Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program	1,000.0				1,000.0	Funds provider rate increases. The intent of the funding is to adjust for inflation from 2003 for increases in therapy services, travel, fuel and personnel costs. The funding was expected to recover up to 20 providers and one training coordinator.
79	FY13	Children's Services	Infant Learning Program Grants		Early Childhood Intervention/Learning	Early Intervention for Young Children (Expansion of Services)	350.0		75.0		425.0	This increment expanded early childhood mental health consultation (ECMHC) services for young children (birth to five) with behavioral health challenges. Services to young children focus on the family system, on building protective factors, and improve outcomes for the whole family. Because the Anchorage early childhood therapeutic pre-school was full and had a waiting list, there had been requests to expand into Matsu. Most areas of the state do not yet have an ECMHC program.