



**ANALYSIS OF THE NEW JERSEY BUDGET**

**DEPARTMENT OF  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**FISCAL YEAR**

**2015 - 2016**

# NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE

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# DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Budget Pages..... C-3, C-9, C-16, C-25, C-26,  
D-31 to D-42, F-3, F-10

## **Fiscal Summary (\$000)**

	Expended FY 2014	Adjusted Appropriation FY 2015	Recommended FY 2016	Percent Change 2015-16
State Budgeted	\$1,078,451	\$1,110,337	\$1,100,470	( 0.9%)
Federal Funds	\$538,913	\$524,901	\$542,209	3.3%
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$52,533</u>	<u>\$52,024</u>	<u>\$52,276</u>	<u>0.5%</u>
Grand Total	\$1,669,897	\$1,687,262	\$1,694,955	0.5%

## **Personnel Summary - Positions By Funding Source**

	Actual FY 2014	Revised FY 2015	Funded FY 2016	Percent Change 2015-16
State	4,786	4,718	4,486	( 4.9%)
Federal	1,454	1,521	1,828	20.2%
<u>Other</u>	<u>318</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>329</u>	<u>1.2%</u>
Total Positions	6,558	6,564	6,643	1.2%

FY 2014 (as of December) and revised FY 2015 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2016 data reflect the number of positions funded.

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

## Highlights

The Governor's Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Budget Recommendation provides a total of \$1.695 billion (gross) for the Department of Children and Families (DCF), for an increase of about \$7.7 million (0.5 percent) from the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation.

State funds account for \$1.10 billion (64.9 percent) of the total FY 2016 recommendation, representing a decrease of approximately \$9.9 million FY 2015 adjusted State appropriations. Anticipated federal funds, which account for \$542.2 million (32.0 percent) of the FY 2016 recommendation, increase by \$17.3 million from the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation. \$52.3 million in anticipated Other funds are also slightly increased from the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation of \$52.0 million.

The DCF budget features three main focus areas: *Child Protection and Permanency*, the *Children's System of Care*, and *Family and Community Partnerships* and the *Division on Women*. It also includes four related program classifications: *Education Services*, *Child Welfare Training Academy Services and Operations*, *Safety and Security Services*, and *Administration and Support Services*.

### Child Protection and Permanency

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 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. Governor Christie's administration has retained counsel to help dismiss the MSA and end the federal oversight of the State's child welfare system. However, the Governor's Budget Recommendation does not presume any changes regarding a possible modification or dismissal of the MSA.

The most recent CSSP monitoring report, published in January 2015 and reporting on the period from January to June 2014, determined that DCF had met 21 out of 53 performance targets and had partially met ten additional targets. (During the January to June 2014 period, only 43 targets were assessed, of which 19 were met and eight partially met.) For a more detailed summary of the latest CSSP report, see the *Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15* background paper (page 14 of this analysis).

The Governor's FY 2016 Budget recommends a total funding increase of \$4.3 million for CP&P, to \$952.4 million (\$634.3 million State, \$310.9 million federal, and \$7.3 million Other funds). The net increase includes several elements:

## Highlights (Cont'd)

- *Salaries and Wages* are recommended to increase by \$3.0 million, to \$414.2 million (gross). The increase is primarily driven by trends in the number of children receiving services from CP&P, and the work of child welfare caseworkers and other DCF social workers. A technical reallocation of federal Social Services Block Grant funds replaces approximately \$25.2 million in General Fund dollars with federal funds in this account, with opposite effects in several other accounts in various other departments.
- Appropriations of \$1.2 million for the *Child Collaborative Mental Health Care Pilot Program* and \$850,000 for *Court Appointed Special Advocates*, both added to the FY 2015 Appropriations Act pursuant to Legislative budget resolutions, are eliminated from the Governor's FY 2016 Budget Recommendation.
- Forecasts of spending need based on trend analysis explain recommended increases of \$3.4 million for *Subsidized Adoption* and \$2.0 million for *Foster Care*, as well as reductions of \$1.4 million for *Independent Living and Shelter Care* and \$826,000 for *Out-of-Home Placements*.

### Children's System of Care

The 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. Most CSOC services are included within the Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare program, and receive federal matching funds through Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

The Governor's FY 2016 Budget recommends a total of \$511.6 million (gross), an increase of \$5.9 million from the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation. This includes \$337.1 million from the General Fund, \$174.3 million in federal funds, and \$150,000 in other funds. In addition, \$7.9 million in federal Substance Abuse Block Grant funds that were appropriated to the CSOC in FY 2015 are appropriated in the Department of Human Services in FY 2016, but will be transferred to CSOC during the fiscal year. The overall increase is driven by expected service utilization and associated costs, based on the department's trend analysis. Changes in overall anticipated spending, including State, federal, and Other funds, include:

- \$4.8 million more for *Care Management Organizations*;
- \$4.3 million more for *Out-of-Home Treatment Services* (including \$7.1 million that will be transferred during the fiscal year);
- \$4.4 million more for *Intensive In-Home Behavioral Assistance*; and
- \$268,000 less for *Outpatient* treatment services (including \$711,000 that will be transferred during the fiscal year).

**Highlights (Cont'd)**

**Family and Community Partnerships  
and Division on Women**

Family and Community Partnerships (FCP) services focus on 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, aid to women’s shelters, programs for displaced homemakers, and other services.

The Governor’s FY 2016 Budget recommends \$101.7 million in gross funding, representing a net decrease of \$3.1 million from the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation. This includes \$64.3 million from the General Fund, \$36.1 million in federal funds, and \$1.3 million in Other funds. The decrease includes two significant elements:

- Decreases of \$2.2 million for *Women’s Services* and \$45,000 for *Project S.A.R.A.H.*, which were both added to the FY 2015 Appropriations Act pursuant to Legislative budget resolutions.
- A decrease of \$960,000 for *School-Linked Services*, related to the termination of a contract for family counseling services. These funds are reallocated to substance abuse services provided through the CSOC.

**Safety and Security Services**

The Safety and Security Services program classification provides funding for private security and Human Services Police responsible for securing DCF regional offices and providing escort and intervention services for department staff and clients. The FY 2015 adjusted appropriation includes a reallocation of \$700,000 in federal funds over the original appropriation, and the FY 2016 Budget Recommendation includes an additional \$200,000, for a total FY 2016 recommended appropriation of \$4.7 million. According to the department, these increases are needed to fund improved security at DCF regional offices, which includes the acquisition of firearms and metal detector wands for private security guards who protect DCF offices.

The Governor’s FY 2016 Budget Recommendation does not include any significant changes for the Education Services, Child Welfare Training Academy Services and Operations, or Administration and Support Services program classifications.

**Background Papers**

Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15 ..... p. 14

**Fiscal and Personnel Summary**

**AGENCY FUNDING BY SOURCE OF FUNDS (\$000)**

	Expended FY 2014	Adj. Approp. FY 2015	Recom. FY 2016	Percent Change	
				2014-16	2015-16
<b>General Fund</b>					
Direct State Services	\$277,976	\$290,241	\$263,882	( 5.1%)	( 9.1%)
Grants-In-Aid	\$800,475	\$820,096	\$836,588	4.5%	2.0%
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%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$1,078,451</b>	<b>\$1,110,337</b>	<b>\$1,100,470</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>( 0.9%)</b>
<b>Property Tax Relief Fund</b>					
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%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Casino Revenue Fund</b>	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Casino Control Fund</b>	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
<b>State Total</b>	<b>\$1,078,451</b>	<b>\$1,110,337</b>	<b>\$1,100,470</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>( 0.9%)</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>	\$538,913	\$524,901	\$542,209	0.6%	3.3%
<b>Other Funds</b>	\$52,533	\$52,024	\$52,276	( 0.5%)	0.5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,669,897</b>	<b>\$1,687,262</b>	<b>\$1,694,955</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>

**PERSONNEL SUMMARY - POSITIONS BY FUNDING SOURCE**

	Actual FY 2014	Revised FY 2015	Funded FY 2016	Percent Change	
				2014-16	2015-16
State	4,786	4,718	4,486	( 6.3%)	( 4.9%)
Federal	1,454	1,521	1,828	25.7%	20.2%
All Other	318	325	329	3.5%	1.2%
<b>Total Positions</b>	<b>6,558</b>	<b>6,564</b>	<b>6,643</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.2%</b>

FY 2014 (as of December) and revised FY 2015 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2016 data reflect the number of positions funded.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DATA**

Total Minority Percent	59.3%	49.1%
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**Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000)**

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget 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 (CP&P)****DIRECT STATE SERVICES****Child Protection and  
Permanency**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$462,329</u></b>	<b><u>\$464,106</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,777</u></b>	<b><u>0.4%</u></b>	<b>D-38</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$221,602</b>	<b>\$195,243</b>	<b>(\$26,359)</b>	<b>( 11.9%)</b>	<b>D-38</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$240,315</b>	<b>\$268,451</b>	<b>\$28,136</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>D-38</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>\$ 412</b>	<b>\$ 412</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>D-38</b>

**Salaries and Wages**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$411,181</u></b>	<b><u>\$414,158</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,977</u></b>	<b><u>0.7%</u></b>	
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$199,276</b>	<b>\$174,117</b>	<b>(\$25,159)</b>	<b>( 12.6%)</b>	
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$211,905</b>	<b>\$240,041</b>	<b>\$28,136</b>	<b>13.3%</b>	

**Special Purpose:  
Child Collaborative  
Mental Health Care  
Pilot Program**

<b>\$1,200</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>(\$1,200)</b>	<b>( 100.0%)</b>	<b>D-39</b>
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Overall funding for Direct State Services in the Child Protection and Permanency program classification is recommended to increase by \$1.8 million from the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation, to \$464.1 million (gross) in FY 2016.

The overall change is due to an increase of \$3.0 million in Salaries and Wages, which is partially offset by a decrease of \$1.2 million for the *Child Collaborative Mental Health Care Pilot Program*. The 0.7 percent increase in Salaries and Wages is consistent with trends in the number of children receiving services from CP&P, and the work of child welfare caseworkers and other DCF social workers. The Governor recommends discontinuing the \$1.2 million General Fund appropriation for the *Child Collaborative Mental Health Care Pilot Program*, which was added to the FY 2015 Appropriations Act pursuant to a Legislative budget resolution.

Due to a reallocation of federal Social Services Block Grant funds that is built into the Governor's FY 2016 Budget Recommendation, approximately \$25.2 million in federal funds are reallocated from various accounts to Salaries and Wages in Child Protection and Permanency, and an identical amount of General Fund appropriations are shifted to those accounts that had previously received Social Services Block Grant funds. According to the

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

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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Executive, this reorganization is being done to achieve accounting efficiencies and simplify federal oversight.

**GRANTS-IN-AID****Court Appointed**

<b>Special Advocates</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,150</b>	<b>(\$ 850)</b>	<b>( 42.5%)</b>	<b>D-40</b>
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The Governor's FY 2016 Budget Recommendation includes \$1.15 million for *Court Appointed Special Advocates* (CASA), reversing the addition of \$850,000 that was included in the FY 2015 Appropriations Act pursuant to a Legislative budget resolution. The CASA appropriation is paid entirely from the General Fund. The line item funds a contract with CASA of New Jersey, Inc., which funds the organization's activities related to advocacy and training of volunteers.

It is noted that certain training-related activities supported by the appropriation are eligible for federal matching funds under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, but the State currently allocates these reimbursement funds to other areas of the DCF budget.

**GRANTS-IN-AID****Independent Living  
and Shelter Care**

<b>(General Fund)</b>	<b>\$16,492</b>	<b>\$15,078</b>	<b>(\$1,414)</b>	<b>( 8.6%)</b>	<b>D-40</b>
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**Out-of-Home  
Placements**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$15,301</u></b>	<b><u>\$14,475</u></b>	<b><u>(\$ 826)</u></b>	<b><u>( 5.4%)</u></b>	<b>D-40</b>
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<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$13,147</b>	<b>\$12,321</b>	<b>(\$ 826)</b>	<b>( 6.3%)</b>	
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<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>\$ 2,154</b>	<b>\$ 2,154</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	
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**Foster Care**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$98,379</u></b>	<b><u>\$100,416</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,037</u></b>	<b><u>2.1%</u></b>	<b>D-40</b>
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<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$88,679</b>	<b>\$90,716</b>	<b>\$ 2,037</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	
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<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	
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<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>\$ 4,700</b>	<b>\$ 4,700</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	
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**Subsidized Adoption**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$135,913</u></b>	<b><u>\$139,346</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 3,433</u></b>	<b><u>2.5%</u></b>	<b>D-40</b>
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<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$135,736</b>	<b>\$139,169</b>	<b>\$ 3,433</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	
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<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$ 177</b>	<b>\$ 177</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	
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**Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000) (Cont'd)**

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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For most grants-in-aid appropriations in CP&P, recommended changes from FY 2015 to FY 2016 reflect anticipated funding need based on the department’s trend analysis, and do not signify any changes in eligibility for services or provider reimbursement policy. Only the larger year-to-year changes are discussed here.

- Funding for *Independent Living and Shelter Care* is recommended to decrease by \$1.4 million, to \$15.1 million (General Fund). This program funds independent living placements and services for adolescents in foster care (\$11.0 million recommended for FY 2016) as well as temporary emergency placements for children in crisis (\$4.1 million recommended for FY 2016) who are transitioning to independence.
- Funding for *Out-of-Home Placements* is recommended to decrease by \$826,000, to \$14.5 million. The line item supports residential treatment, group home, and treatment home placements that are funded by CP&P. (Similar services provided through the Children’s System of Care are funded under a separate appropriation.)
- Gross appropriations for *Foster Care* are recommended to increase by \$2.0 million, to \$100.4 million. It is noted that the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation includes a projected supplemental appropriation of \$1.0 million.
- Appropriations for *Subsidized Adoption* are recommended to increase by \$3.4 million, to \$100.4 million. It is noted that the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation includes a projected supplemental appropriation of \$1.4 million.

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Children’s System of Care (CSOC)

**GRANTS-IN-AID  
Care Management  
Organizations**

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$74,053</u>	<u>\$78,833</u>	<u>\$ 4,780</u>	<u>6.5%</u>	<b>D-40</b>
General Fund	\$42,858	\$47,638	\$ 4,780	11.2%	
Federal Funds	\$31,195	\$31,195	\$ 0	—	

**Out-of-Home  
Treatment Services**

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$278,301</u>	<u>\$275,473</u>	<u>(\$2,828)</u>	<u>( 1.0%)</u>	<b>D-40</b>
General Fund	\$179,345	\$183,618	\$ 4,273	2.4%	
Federal Funds	\$98,806	\$91,705	(\$7,101)	( 7.2%)	
Other Funds	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 0	—	

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

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
<b>Intensive In-Home Behavioral Assistance</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$59,425</b>	<b>\$63,868</b>	<b>\$ 4,443</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>D-40</b>
General Fund	\$29,956	\$34,399	\$ 4,443	14.8%	
Federal Funds	\$29,469	\$29,469	\$ 0	—	
<b>Outpatient</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,128</b>	<b>\$13,149</b>	<b>(\$ 979)</b>	<b>( 6.9%)</b>	<b>D-40</b>
General Fund	\$13,417	\$13,149	(\$ 268)	( 2.0%)	
Federal Funds	\$ 711	\$ 0	(\$ 711)	( 100.0%)	

As in CP&P, most changes in Grants-in-Aid appropriations in CSOC from FY 2015 to FY 2016 reflect anticipated funding need based on the department's trend analysis, and do not signify any policy changes. Notable changes include:

- Funding for *Care Management Organizations* is recommended to increase by \$4.8 million, to \$78.8 million. Care management organizations provide unified behavioral health case management services to youth across a continuum of moderate-to-high levels of need. The program supports 15 care management organizations, with one for each of New Jersey's court vicinages. (Care management organizations often work in cooperation with juvenile courts).
- The Governor recommends decreasing appropriations for *Out-of-Home Treatment Services* by \$2.8 million in FY 2016, to \$275.5 million. However, the \$7.1 million decrease in federal funds appropriated to *Out-of-Home Treatment Services* would be replaced by a transfer of the same amount from the Department of Human Services. Thus, the total recommended funding for the account for FY 2016 is \$282.6 million, an increase of \$4.3 million, or 1.5 percent over the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation. This account funds a range of residential treatment services for children with behavioral health needs, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders. 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. (Similar services provided through Child Protection & Permanency are funded under a separate appropriation.)
- The Governor's FY 2016 Budget Recommendation would increase funding for *Intensive In-Home Behavioral Assistance* by \$4.4 million, to \$63.9 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.

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

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp.</u> <u>FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm.</u> <u>FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Page</u>
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- *Outpatient* treatment services (including partial care and partial hospitalization) would have funding reduced by approximately \$1.0 million in FY 2016, to \$13.1 million. Of the decrease, \$0.7 million in federal funds would be replaced by a transfer of funds from the Department of Human Services. The program funds various nonresidential, therapeutic treatment services for seriously emotionally disturbed youth in community-based mental health settings or hospital-based settings.

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**Family and Community Partnerships (FCP)**  
**and the Division on Women (DOW)**

**GRANTS-IN-AID****School Linked Services  
Program**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$31,253</u></b>	<b><u>\$30,293</u></b>	<b><u>(\$ 960)</u></b>	<b><u>( 3.1%)</u></b>	<b>D-40</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$24,251</b>	<b>\$23,291</b>	<b>(\$ 960)</b>	<b>( 4.0%)</b>	
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$ 7,002</b>	<b>\$ 7,002</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	

General Fund support for the School Linked Services Program is recommended to decrease by \$1.0 million, for a total State and federal funding level of \$30.3 million. The line item includes funding for 164 school linked service program sites that provide social, health, and wrap-around services on school campuses; 22 child assault prevention programs, and five health centers.

According to the department, the decrease of \$960,000 results from the termination of a contract for family counseling services that were provided as an add-on to other school-linked services. The Governor's FY 2016 Budget Recommendation reallocates these funds to substance abuse services provided through the CSOC.

**GRANTS-IN-AID****Women's Services**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$22,372</u></b>	<b><u>\$20,132</u></b>	<b><u>(\$ 2,240)</u></b>	<b><u>( 10.0%)</u></b>	<b>D-40</b>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$19,536</b>	<b>\$17,296</b>	<b>(\$ 2,240)</b>	<b>( 11.5%)</b>	
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$ 1,683</b>	<b>\$ 1,683</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	
<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>\$ 1,153</b>	<b>\$ 1,153</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	

The Governor's FY 2016 Budget eliminates \$2.24 million in State funding for Women's Services, which was added by a Legislative budget resolution to the FY 2015 Appropriations Act. An associated language provision directed \$1.84 million of this increase to the lead

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

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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domestic violence agencies in the State and to the New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women to offset costs of providing core domestic violence services, and \$0.4 million to offset the costs of providing direct services for victims of sexual violence. Evaluation data on page D-37 indicates that no decrease in the number of programs funded of the number of clients served is anticipated as a result of the decreased funding. However, these data report a lower number of clients served in both FY 2015 and FY 2016 than those served in FY 2014, despite increased funding in FY 2015, suggesting that these data may not clearly measure the impact of funding changes.

**GRANTS-IN-AID**

<b>Project S.A.R.A.H.</b>	<b>\$ 45</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>(\$ 45)</b>	<b>( 100.0%)</b>	<b>D-41</b>
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The Governor’s FY 2016 Budget eliminates \$45,000 in State funding for Project S.A.R.A.H., which was added by Legislative budget resolutions to both the FY 2014 Appropriations Act and FY 2015 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.

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**Safety and Security Services**

**DIRECT STATE SERVICES**

**Safety and Security  
Services**

<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4,475</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 4,675</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 200</u></b>	<b><u>4.5%</u></b>	<b><u>D-38</u></b>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 3,775</b>	<b>\$ 3,775</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>D-38</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$ 700</b>	<b>\$ 900</b>	<b>\$ 200</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>D-38</b>

The Governor recommends appropriating an additional \$0.2 million in federal funds to Safety and Security Services, for a total gross appropriation of \$4.7 million.

Informal information provided by the department indicates that this \$200,000, along with \$700,000 incorporated into the FY 2015 adjusted appropriation, is being used to fund improved security at DCF regional offices, which includes the acquisition of firearms and metal detector wands for private security guards who protect DCF offices.

**Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000)**

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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**Mandatory Application for NJ FamilyCare**

Revision

2015 Handbook: p. B-18  
2016 Budget: p. D-42

Notwithstanding the provisions of any law or regulation to the contrary, no funds hereinabove appropriated for Out-of-Home Treatment Services, Care Management Organizations, Youth Incentive Program, Behavioral Assistance and In-Home Community Services, Family Support Services, except those services provided pursuant to the Family Support Act, N.J.S.A. 30:6D-33 to -41, and Mobile Response shall be expended for any individual served by Children's System of Care, with the exception of court-ordered placements or to ensure services necessary to prevent risk of harm to the individual or others, unless that individual makes a full and complete application for ~~Medicaid or~~ NJ FamilyCare, ~~as applicable~~. Individuals receiving services from appropriations covered by the exceptions above shall apply for ~~Medicaid or~~ NJ FamilyCare, ~~as applicable~~, in a timely manner, as shall be defined by the Commissioner of Children and Families, after receiving services.

**Explanation**

This language revision would allow families to receive family support services without being required to apply for Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare. According to the department, this would affect approximately 20,000 families, most of which are not eligible for Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare, and would not benefit from applying for Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare. The department also notes that requiring these families to apply puts an unnecessary strain on county welfare agencies, many of which are struggling with backlogs of applications for Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare and other public assistance programs. Furthermore, family support services are not eligible to receive federal matching funds, so the State sees no fiscal benefit from requiring recipients of these services to apply for Medicaid/NJ FamilyCare.

**Elimination of Language Allocating Increased Women’s Services Funding**

Deletion

2015 Handbook: p. B-19  
2016 Budget: N/A

~~Of the amount hereinabove appropriated for Women's Services, there is allocated to the lead domestic violence agencies in the State and to the New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women the amount appropriated for FY 2014 to those agencies plus \$1,840,000 to offset costs of providing core domestic violence services, and there is allocated to the 21 county-based sexual violence service organizations and the New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault the amount appropriated for FY 2014 to those agencies plus \$400,000 to offset the costs of providing direct services for victims of sexual violence.~~

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

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp.</u> <u>FY 2015</u>	<u>Recomm.</u> <u>FY 2016</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Page</u>
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**Explanation**

This language provision allocates and directs the use of \$2.24 million that was added to the appropriation for Women’s Services in the FY 2015 Appropriations Act by a Legislative budget resolution. The Governor does not recommend continuing this additional funding, so the language pertaining to that funding is also recommended for deletion.

The language directs \$1.84 million to the lead domestic violence agencies in the State and to the New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women, and \$400,000 to the 21 county-based sexual violence services organizations and the New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault, in addition to their base appropriations.

## Background Paper: Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15

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.**

It should be noted that as of January 2015, Governor Christie's administration has retained counsel to help dismiss the MSA and end the federal oversight of the State's child welfare system. According to DCF Commissioner Allison Blake, the reforms implemented over the past years have drawn praise from the Federal Monitor and have prepared DCF to be a self-monitoring institution. Although counsel has been retained, no specific changes to the settlement have been proposed.

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

### PERIOD 15 MONITORING REPORT

Pursuant to an agreement among the parties to the lawsuit and the Court, the last two monitoring reports, issued April 2013 and October 2013, each contained nine months of performance data covering the period from July 2012 to December 2013. This was due to the impact of Super Storm Sandy on the State and its ability to provide services. The Period 15 Monitoring Report, released in January 2015, contains six months of performance data covering the period from January to June 2014.

The Period 15 Report indicates that, as of June 2014, 19 out of 43 Phase II performance targets had been met and eight targets had been partially met. Sixteen performance targets

## Background Paper: Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15 (Cont'd)

were not met, and one performance indicator was newly met.<sup>1</sup> The table below compares this period's overall performance outcomes to those reported in the Period 13 Monitoring Report, covering the July 2012- March 2013 period; and the Period 14 Monitoring Report, covering the April – December 2013 period.

Status of Phase II Performance Measures	Period 13 Report (July 2012 - March 2013)	Period 14 Report (April - Dec. 2013)	Period 15 Report (Jan. - June 2014) <sup>2</sup>
Met	21	23	19
Partially Met	8	7	8
Not Met	23	23	16
Total assessed	52	53	43
Not assessed during the period	1	0	10

### AREAS OF CONCERN AS OF JUNE 2014

The Period 15 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 Period 15 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 and meeting the educational needs of children, 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

<sup>1</sup> The newly met performance indicator was "Risk Reassessment Within 30 Days of Case Closure in Non-investigative Cases" (Performance Measure 8c). This indicator requires that in order to ensure safe case closure, workers reassess the risk to a child(ren) prior to ending a case.

<sup>2</sup> Ten performance measures are assessed annually, rather than in every six-month reporting period, and were not assessed for the Period 15 monitoring report. Including measures that were not assessed in this period, DCA has met 21 of the 53 Phase II targets and partially met an additional 10 targets.

## Background Paper: Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15 (Cont'd)

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 Period 15 Report did not assess DCF's performance on the MSA repeat maltreatment performance measures as they will be measured at the end of the calendar year.<sup>3</sup> However, as in prior reports, the Period 15 report indicated that DCF's performance on the MSA's repeat maltreatment performance measures is below the acceptable performance standard. The Period 15 Report also identified the percentage of children and youth who re-enter placement within one year of leaving foster care as an area of 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 Period 15 Report notes that, although DCF did not meet MSA compliance levels, DCF showed improved performance in the development of child-specific recruitment plans and the placement of children in adoptive homes within nine months of termination of parental rights. DCF's performance in meeting permanency goals and discharging children to permanency (i.e., reunification with family, legal guardianship, or adoption) improved slightly but did not meet the levels required by the MSA final targets. The Period 15 report also noted that DCF continued to meet the MSA target on finalization of adoptions within nine months of an adoptive placement. DCF performance on the remaining permanency performance measures is not assessed in the Period 15 report and this data will not be available until early 2015.<sup>4</sup>

*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 Period 15 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. Despite efforts to improve services for older youth, performance on various MSA measures have slightly declined or remained the same during this monitoring period.

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<sup>3</sup> DCF's more recent performance will be assessed in the next monitoring period since the CY2014 data for Performance Measures 31, 32 (repeat maltreatment), and 33 (re-entry to placement) will be available in early 2015.

<sup>4</sup> The performance measures that were not assessed in the Monitoring Report were: Performance Measure 34 e. (Discharged to permanency); Performance measure 32 a. (Adoption); and Performance Measure 34 c. (Total time to adoption).

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor’s Report, Period 15 (Cont’d)**

*Performance measures most relevant to these concerns include:*

- Youth Exiting Care
- Services to Older Youth

**MSA PERFORMANCE SUMMARY**

The Period 15 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 January to June 2014 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, permanency, and adoption caseworkers, and Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit (IAIU) investigators.<sup>5</sup> Although technically not included among the 53 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 are routinely reported by the Federal Monitor. Thus, caseload standards are discussed and included within the tables below. The June 2014 Report identified an increase in IAIU investigator and intake and adoption caseworker case loads. These increases did not meet DCF individual caseload standards and were of particular concern to the Monitor.

**Table 1. January to June 2014: Performance Targets Not Met**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<b>Meeting the Caseload Standards</b>				
Percentage of <u>adoption workers meeting the individual caseload standard</u> of no more than 15 children.	Ongoing monitoring	95%	87%	<b>83%</b>
<b>State Central Registry, Investigative Practice, and Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit</b>				
<u>Timeliness of Completion:</u> Percentage of investigations of alleged child abuse and neglect completed within 60 days.	June 2010	98%	63%	<b>76%</b>

<sup>5</sup> 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 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.)

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15 (Cont'd)**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<u>Quality Investigative Practice</u> : Percentage of investigations meeting quality standards.	Dec. 2009	90%	78%	<b>Data Not Available</b>
Percentage of <u>Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit (IAIU) investigators meeting the individual caseload standard</u> of no more than 12 open cases and no more than eight new case assignments per month.	Ongoing monitoring	95%	100%	<b>92%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Family Team Meetings</b>				
<u>Family Involvement and Effective Use of Family Team Meetings:</u> <sup>6</sup>				
a. Percentage of children newly entering placement who have a Family Team Meeting within 30 days.	a. June 2010	a. 90%	a. 69%	<b>a. 74%</b>
b. Percentage of other children in placement who have a Family Team Meeting at least once per quarter.	b. June 2010	b. 90%	b. 54%	<b>b. 60%</b>
c. Percentage of cases rated at least minimally acceptable on "family teamwork" indicators.	c. June 2011	c. 90%	c. 32%	<b>c. 37%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Case Planning</b>				
<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%	41%	<b>56%</b>
<u>Educational Needs</u> : Percentage of cases rated "acceptable" on Qualitative Review indicators assessing meeting of children's educational needs.	Dec. 2011	90%	67%	<b>88%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Caseworker Visits<sup>7</sup></b>				
<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%	74%	<b>78%</b>

<sup>6</sup> The Monitoring Report notes that, consistent with the previous monitoring period, the Monitor will continue to assess performance on Family Team Meetings (FTMs) by counting only those FTMs that actually occurred, and the report's documented progress includes the number of FTMs that have actually taken place.

<sup>7</sup> Actual performance for both December 2013 and June 2014 is likely to be better because reported performance did not exclude caseworker visits when a parent was unavailable or contact was not required.

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15 (Cont'd)**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<u>Caseworker Visits with Parents/Family Members (Non-Reunification Goal):</u> Percentage of families with at least one per month caseworker visits when goal is other than family reunification.	Dec. 2010	85%	66%	<b>65%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Family Visitations</b>				
<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%	71%	<b>68%</b>
<b>Placements of Children in Out-of-Home Care</b>				
<u>Placing Sibling Groups of Four or More Together:</u> Percentage of such siblings in custody placed together.	July 2011	40%	26% in CY 2013	<b>Data Not Available</b>
<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%	82% in CY 2012	<b>Data Not Available</b>
<b>Repeat Maltreatment and Re-Entry into Out-of-Home Care</b>				
<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%	7.6% in CY 2012	<b>Data Not Available</b>
<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%	8.5% in CY 2012	<b>Data Not Available</b>
<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 2012	<b>Data Not Available</b>
<b>Permanency</b>				
<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%	45% in CY 2013	<b>Data Not Available</b>
<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%	74%	<b>68% to 85%<sup>8</sup></b>

<sup>8</sup> The OLS notes that the Monitoring Report reported a range for this performance outcome.

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15 (Cont'd)**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS NOT MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<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%	37%	<b>67%</b>
<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%	24%	<b>62%</b>
<b>Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement</b>				
<u>Health Passports:</u> Percentage of children whose parents/caregivers received current Health Passport within five days of child's placement.	June 2011	95%	65%	<b>62%</b>
<b>Services to Families</b>				
<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%	49%	<b>55%</b>
<b>Services to Older Youth</b>				
<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%	96%	<b>90%</b>
<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%	<b>95% had housing and 65% were employed or enrolled in education/training</b>	<b>84% had housing and 63% were employed or enrolled in education /training</b>

Source: CSSP Period 15 Monitoring Report.

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor’s Report, Period 15 (Cont’d)**

**Table 2. January-June 2014: Performance Targets Partially Met**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS PARTIALLY MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<b>Meeting the Caseload Standards</b>				
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%	87%	<b>85%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Case Planning</b>				
Timeliness of Initial Plans: Percentage of case plans developed within 30 days for children entering out-of-home placements.	June 2010	95%	97%	<b>92%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Caseworker Visits</b>				
Caseworker Visits with Children in State Custody (Initial Placements): Percentage of children with at least twice per month caseworker visits during first two months of an initial or subsequent placement.	Dec. 2010	95%	89%	<b>92%</b>
Caseworker Visits with Children in State Custody (Ongoing Placements): Percentage of children with at least one visit per month.	June 2010	98%	94%	<b>93%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Family Visitations</b>				
Visitation between Children in Custody and Parents: Percentage of children in custody with weekly parent visits when goal is reunification.	Dec. 2010	85% biweekly visits; 60% weekly visits	78% biweekly visits; 56% weekly visits	<b>83% biweekly visits; 68% weekly visits</b>

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor’s Report, Period 15 (Cont’d)**

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS PARTIALLY MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level Dec. 2013	DCF Level June 2014
<b>Placements of Children in Out-of-Home Care</b>				
<u>Inappropriate placements:</u> a. Number of children under age 13 placed in shelters.  b. Percentage of children 13 and over placed in shelters where the shelters are in compliance with MSA standards.	a. Dec. 2008  b. Dec. 2009	a. No children under 13 in shelters.  b. 90%	a. No child under 13 in a shelter.  b. 96%	a. <b>Four children under 13 in a shelter.</b>  b. <b>98%</b>
<b>Permanency</b>				
<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.  d. Discharged to permanency within 12 months, or prior to their 21 <sup>st</sup> birthdays, if they had been in care for 13-24 months on the first day of the 12-month period.  e. Discharged to permanency within 12 months, or prior to their 21 <sup>st</sup> birthdays, if they had been in care for 25 or more months on the first day of the 12-month period.	a. CY 2011  d. CY 2011  e. CY 2011	a. 50% (45% for CY 2010)  d. 47%  e. 47%	a. 46% in CY 2012  d. 46% in CY 2013  e. 36% in CY 2013	a. <b>Data not available</b>  d. <b>Data not available</b>  e. <b>Data not available</b>
<b>Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement<sup>9</sup></b>				
<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	92% ages one to two;  92% older than two years	<b>89% ages one to two;</b>  <b>91% older than two years</b>

<sup>9</sup> Although the 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: Federal Monitor’s Report, Period 15 (Cont’d)**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS PARTIALLY MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<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.	a. Dec 2011	a. 98%	a. 99%	<b>a. 98%</b>
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.	b. Dec 2011	b. 90%	b. 84%	<b>b. 83%</b>
<u>Immunization:</u> Percentage of children in custody who are current with immunizations.	Dec. 2011	98%	94%	<b>95%</b>

Source: CSSP Period 15 Monitoring Report.

**Table 3. January-June 2014: Performance Targets Met<sup>10</sup>**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<b>Meeting the Caseload Standards</b>				
Percentage of <u>permanency workers meeting the individual caseload standard</u> of no more than 15 families and no more than 10 children in out-of-home care.	Ongoing monitoring	95%	95%	<b>96%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Safety and Risk Assessments</b>				
<u>Safety and Risk Assessments:</u>				
a. Percentage of investigation cases where a safety assessment is completed prior to closure.	a. Dec. 2010	a. 98%	a. 100%	<b>a. 100%</b>
b. Percentage of investigation cases where a risk-of-harm assessment is completed prior to closure.	b. Dec. 2010	b. 98%	b. 100%	<b>b. 100%</b>
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. 92%	<b>c. 98%</b>

<sup>10</sup> According to the 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 January 1 to June 30, 2014 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: Federal Monitor's Report, Period 15 (Cont'd)**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<b>State Central Registry, Investigative Practice, and Institutional Abuse Investigations Unit</b>				
<u>Responding to Calls to the State Central Registry (SCR)</u>	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	<b>In compliance</b>
<u>Quality of SCR response to callers</u>	Ongoing monitoring	Ongoing monitoring	In compliance	<b>In compliance</b>
<u>Timeliness of response:</u> a. Percentage of abuse and neglect investigations received by the field in a timely manner.  b. Percentage of investigations commenced within the required response time.	a. June 2009  b. June 2009	a. 98%  b. 98%	a. 100%  b. 97%	<b>a. 99%</b>  <b>b. 98%</b>
<u>IAIU Practice for Investigations for Placements:</u> IAIU investigations in resource homes, group homes, or other congregate care settings are completed within 60 days.	June 2007	80%	85%	<b>85%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Case Planning</b>				
<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%	98%	<b>98%</b>
<b>Implementation of Case Practice Model: Deputy Attorneys General Staffing</b>				
<u>Adequacy of DAsG Staffing:</u> Percentage of allocated positions filled among Deputy Attorneys General (DAsG) staff.	June 2012	98%	98%	<b>100%</b>
<b>Placements of Children in Out-of-Home Care</b>				
<u>Appropriateness of Placement:</u> Percentage of placements rated at least "minimally acceptable" according to appropriateness criteria.	June 2010	90%	99%	<b>96%</b>
<u>Placing Children with Families:</u> Percentage of children in custody placed in a family setting.	July 2009	85%	89%	<b>91%</b>
<u>Placing Sibling Groups of Two or Three Together:</u> Percentage of such siblings in custody placed together.	July 2012	80%	77% in CY 2013	<b>Data Not available</b>
<u>Placement Limitations:</u> Percentage of resource homes exceeding certain capacity standards.	June 2009	Less than 5%	Less than 1%	<b>Less than 1%</b>

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor’s Report, Period 15 (Cont’d)**

<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS MET)</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Date</b>	<b>MSA Final Target Level</b>	<b>DCF Level Dec. 2013</b>	<b>DCF Level June 2014</b>
<b>Repeat Maltreatment and Re-Entry into Out-of-Home Care</b>				
<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%	0.32% in CY 2013	<b>Data not available</b>
<b>Permanency</b>				
<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%	74% in CY 2013	<b>Data not available</b>
<u>Final Adoptive Placements:</u> Percentage of adoptions finalized within nine months of adoptive placement.	July 2009	80%	100%	<b>97%</b>
<b>Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement</b>				
<u>Pre-Placement Medical Assessment:</u> Percentage of children receiving medical assessment in an appropriate setting.	Dec. 2009	98%	100%	<b>100%</b>
<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%	<b>97%</b>
<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%	95%	<b>94%</b>
<b>Mental Health Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement</b>				
<u>Mental Health Assessments:</u> Percentage of children with a suspected mental health need who receive assessments.	Dec. 2011	90%	99%	<b>99%</b>
<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	<b>In compliance</b>
<b>Services to Families</b>				
<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	<b>In compliance</b>

**Background Paper: Federal Monitor’s Report, Period 15 (Cont’d)**

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (TARGETS MET)	MSA Final Target Date	MSA Final Target Level	DCF Level Dec. 2013	DCF Level June 2014
<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	<b>In compliance</b>
<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	<b>In compliance</b>

Source: CSSP Period 15 Monitoring 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 2016 budget are encouraged to contact:

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