

State of Alaska FY2009 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services Children's Services Management Component Budget Summary

Component: Children's Services Management

Contribution to Department's Mission

The Children's Services Management component provides comprehensive technical, managerial and financial support to OCS programs and workers. It also provides the program support required for 140 outgoing grants as well as 40 incoming grants.

This component further seeks to reduce the incidence and severity of abuse and neglect experienced by the target children and families enrolled in the Early Intervention/Infant Learning program and to provide permanent placements for children in state custody through Subsidized Adoptions and Guardianships.

Core Services

The Children's Services Management component is composed of the Director's Office; Resource Family Section; Service Array Section; Administrative Support Unit; Program Eligibility Unit; Tribal Relations Unit; and the Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program. The Children's Services Management component also supports Subsidized Adoptions and Guardianships as well as the Online Resources for the Children of Alaska (ORCA) computer system.

The Children's Services Management Director's Office provides oversight and guidance on program development and division policy implementation.

Children's Services Management staff performs program development and field support in the licensing of foster homes, assistance in investigations, revocations, litigation, and regulations development. This unit ensures statewide consistency in practice by providing technical assistance to the field, analysis of proposed legislation, preparation of draft position papers and regulations, and development of policies and procedures to carry out the division's responsibilities. This unit writes and administers grants related to program improvements, coordinates with other divisions and departments on child and family services issues, and prepares and publishes the division's annual report.

The Resource Family Section supervises foster care licensing and quality assurance activities, criminal background checks, adoptions, and foster parent recruitment.

The Service Array Section is comprised of OCS representation for the statewide Bring the Kids Home initiative, residential care facilities, the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, and the participation and coordination of the Children's Justice Act Task Force, Child Advocacy Centers, differential response grants, family support grants, family preservation grants, and the Time Limited Family Reunification Program.

The Early Intervention/Infant Learning programs provide prevention services to communities and target groups statewide. The program screens newborns for potential learning problems and offers families with positive screens and assessment of eligibility for voluntary home visiting services. Paraprofessional home visitors offer families of pregnant women and newborns who have significant life stressors, intensive services designed to enhance the parent's ability to provide a safe and nurturing environment for the infant(s).

The Program Eligibility and Tribal Relations Units develop and maintain flexible funding mechanisms to maximize federal funding resources.

FY2009 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2009 Component Budget: \$8,173,400	Personnel:	
	Full time	38
	Part time	1
	Total	39

Key Component Challenges

Permanent Placements: The OCS continues to respond to federal and state mandates and legislation to move children who can no longer live with their parent(s) into permanent placements.

Continued Development, Implementation, and Maintenance of the Online Resources for the Children of Alaska (ORCA) Information Management System: The ORCA information system is an ongoing project requiring operation and maintenance, constant enhanced reporting capabilities, changes due to federal and state mandates, and changes in child protection practice. It was first thought that the state would be able to take ownership of the project, but it has since had to modify that plan. It has become evident that the ORCA project, as in all other states, will need to rely on its contractor for most system development in response to ever changing state and federal law as well as any resulting changes in field practice.

Child and Family Services Review: In September of 2008, the OCS will be required to participate in a second round of on-site reviews mandated by the federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The purpose of these mandated Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) is to help states improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children and families who receive services through the child welfare system and to monitor compliance with the requirements of Title IV-B of the Social Security Act.

CFSRs also provide greater transparency about how systems in the state are operating, increase public knowledge and scrutiny by important stakeholders, and states learn about each others' systems by analyzing the results of the reviews. CFSRs offer states a new way to manage their child welfare systems: a focus on continuous improvement, and therefore compliance standards are set for each measure at 95% to 100%.

This second round of reviews began in early spring of 2007. Any state determined not to be in substantial conformity with specific outcomes and specific systemic factors must develop and implement a Program Improvement Plan. Approximately 10 states have been reviewed a second time, and each of the second round reviews has resulted in a Program Improvement Plan (PIP).

Reviews are conducted jointly by federal and state representatives, with federal staff providing overall guidance during the planning and implementation of the review. Reviews require participation of a Statewide Assessment Team comprised of approximately 65 people: 23 federal reviewers, 23 state reviewers, three team leaders (two federal and one state representative), and up to four local review site leaders for each of the four units that operate in three sites.

After completion of the statewide assessment, the federal team will provide the state with a final report and recommendation. The expected outcome, a PIP, will be developed by both state staff and community stakeholders. The PIP Development Team will have 90 days to submit its plan for federal approval.

Once approved, the PIP will provide the road map for continued changes within the child welfare system. State leadership will need to make investments in improving the children system. Otherwise significant financial penalties may be assessed for failure to make the improvements needed to achieve substantial conformity.

The OCS has submitted a request for one-time capital funding to support this massive undertaking.

Children's Services outcomes pivot upon the ability to provide direct services required to keep children safe. Funding in the Children's Services Management component is essential to the division's ability to meet all department and division level performance measure outcomes. This funding is central to the division's ability to continue changes in practice on

the front line geared toward safety and family. It is also key to the OCS's ability to continue to build and retain front line staff.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2009

The Online Resources for the Children of Alaska (ORCA) child protection services case management system is a federally mandated system required to support child protective services case management and federal reporting.

As part of the overall implementation and operating strategy, sole responsibility by state personnel for ORCA was anticipated within one year of implementation. Since that time, the agency has learned that the ORCA environment is far larger and far more complex than anticipated. It has become clear that the agency must continue to rely on contractual services to augment state resources. Without augmented contractual services, the need for ongoing ORCA system changes related to federal mandates, new state law, and related practice changes cannot be met.

Alaska is not alone in the need for contracted services. Most states have the desire to take ownership of their State Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS), but few, if any, have the capacity to do so.

A compliant system is a key factor in the ability to collect \$25 million in federal revenue and to maintain compliancy; adequate, stable resources with the skills and knowledge required to work in the ORCA environment are a necessity.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2007

Professional Review and Analysis: Children's Services Management personnel provided professional reviews and analysis on changes in State and Federal requirements; assisted in implementation of decisions; analyzed and testified on proposed legislation; reviewed and revised necessary regulatory changes; and responded to inter-governmental and public inquiries.

Financial Management: Children's Services Management personnel controlled the Office of Children's Services financial resources; prepared the office's budget request; audited accounting data for compliance with contracts and grants criteria; provided financial projections and statistical, cost and budget analyses; prepared financial reports; provided payment services to OCS foster care and adoption providers. In FY 2007 the administrative unit established a quality assurance unit for pre-review of foster care special need expenditures in order to better monitor costs and to provide alternative solutions for services that can be provided by other resources such as community providers.

ORCA's (*Online Resources for the Children of Alaska*) complex financial and payment system and the provider payment unit have overcome a multitude of unforeseen problems and required enhancements within the system that resulted in the need for labor-intensive ORCA data clean up and work-around projects. In FY 2007 necessary changes to the way ORCA allows payments to process has alleviated the need for many of the labor intensive work-around projects.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 47.05.010 Duties of the department
AS 47.14.100 Powers and duties of department over care of child
AS 18.05.010-070 Administration of Public Health and Related Laws
AS 47.14.980 Grants-in-aid
AS 44.29.020 (a) Duties of Department
Social Security Act, Title IV-A, IV-E, Title XIX
Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)
Children's Justice Act

Contact Information

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Children's Services Management Component Financial Summary			
		<i>All dollars shown in thousands</i>	
	FY2007 Actuals	FY2008 Management Plan	FY2009 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	2,975.5	3,516.5	3,653.8
72000 Travel	204.8	17.9	17.9
73000 Services	2,453.8	1,824.4	1,851.1
74000 Commodities	106.7	97.0	97.0
75000 Capital Outlay	22.1	72.0	72.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	325.0	2,481.6	2,481.6
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	6,087.9	8,009.4	8,173.4
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	2,551.8	5,365.2	5,460.3
1003 General Fund Match	688.5	651.3	671.7
1004 General Fund Receipts	2,398.2	1,486.1	1,527.5
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	215.0	442.7	449.8
1037 General Fund / Mental Health	234.4	64.1	64.1
Funding Totals	6,087.9	8,009.4	8,173.4

Estimated Revenue Collections				
Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2007 Actuals	FY2008 Management Plan	FY2009 Governor
Unrestricted Revenues				
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Revenues				
Federal Receipts	51010	2,551.8	5,365.2	5,460.3
Interagency Receipts	51015	215.0	442.7	449.8
Restricted Total		2,766.8	5,807.9	5,910.1
Total Estimated Revenues		2,766.8	5,807.9	5,910.1

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2008 Management Plan to FY2009 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2008 Management Plan	2,201.5	5,365.2	442.7	8,009.4
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-ETS Chargeback Redistribution	26.7	0.0	0.0	26.7
-FY 09 Health Insurance Increases for Exempt Employees	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.8
-FY 09 Bargaining Unit Contract Terms: General Government Unit	34.5	94.9	7.1	136.5
FY2009 Governor	2,263.3	5,460.3	449.8	8,173.4

**Children's Services Management
Personal Services Information**

Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs		
	<u>FY2008</u> <u>Management</u> <u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2009</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	38	38	Annual Salaries	2,300,020
Part-time	1	1	COLA	131,082
Nonpermanent	0	0	Premium Pay	9,226
			Annual Benefits	1,231,610
			<i>Less 0.49% Vacancy Factor</i>	<i>(18,100)</i>
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	39	39	Total Personal Services	3,653,838

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Assistant I	0	0	1	0	1
Administrative Clerk II	1	0	1	0	2
Administrative Clerk III	1	0	1	0	2
Assoc Coordinator	0	0	1	0	1
Division Director	1	0	0	0	1
Elig Technician III	0	0	1	0	1
Health Program Mgr II	1	0	0	0	1
Medical Assist Admin I	0	0	1	0	1
Program Coordinator	0	0	1	0	1
Project Manager	1	0	0	0	1
Public Health Spec II	1	0	0	0	1
Research Analyst III	1	0	1	0	2
Research Analyst IV	0	0	1	0	1
Secretary	1	0	1	0	2
Social Services Associate II	0	0	2	0	2
Social Services Prog. Admin.	1	0	1	0	2
Social Svcs Prog Coord	0	0	13	0	13
Social Svcs Prog Officer	0	0	3	0	3
System Reform Administrator	0	0	1	0	1
Totals	9	0	30	0	39