

Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget Request Hearing
December 07, 2016

During the 2016 sessions, what did the department testify would be the effects of the FY 17 budget on services, staffing, and contracts?

DCFS 2017 Budget: \$4.0 million Reduction

The Governor's Budget was evidenced by the Division of Administration - Office of Planning and Budget. Amendments were submitted to the House Appropriations Committee (HAC) to restore \$93.6 million to DCFS budget. The proposed amendments would have restored \$97.0 million in State General Fund, \$27.4 million in Federal Funds, and a reduction of \$30.9 million in Interagency Transfer (addressing TCM), for a net effect of \$93.6 million.

The HAC-submitted amendments to restore \$93.6 million to DCFS budget; but \$4.0 million in State General Fund was reduced, decreasing DCFS' ability to match Federal funds and showing the reduction in a manner inconsistent with DCFS priorities. The total funding the Governor's Budget proposed for DCFS was \$694.9 million but HAC only approved \$690.9 million for FY 17.

Listed Below is the \$4.0 million impact to DCFS for FY 17:

Program	Impact of Reduction	Reduction of State General Fund	Reduction of Federal Funds	Total Reduction
Administrative and Executive Support	Emergency Preparedness - Eliminating funding provided for operations of West Park and Madison shelters. Also, reducing 1 authorized position.	\$1,062,008	\$0	\$1,062,008
Prevention and Intervention	Reducing funding for 22 positions in the Child Welfare Program	\$752,238	\$1,397,013	\$2,149,251

Community and Family Services	Reducing funding for 14 positions in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	\$503,663	\$503,663	\$1,007,326
Field Services	Reducing funding for 52 positions in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	\$1,682,091	\$1,682,091	\$3,364,182
TOTAL		\$4,000,000	\$3,582,767	\$7,582,767

Please note: a reduction in state general fund means a reduction in federal funds by as much as 50%.

DCFS' share of the debt payment: Statutory Dedications - \$31,603 and Fees and Self-Generated Revenue - \$582,292.

DCFS 2017 Budget: \$8.8 million Targeted Reduction by DOA

- **FY 2017 Budget:** The DCFS share of the \$600 million statewide revenue shortfall for 2016-2017 is \$8,829,591. The \$8.8M reduction in SGF will result in a total loss of revenue of approximately \$15.6M and the reduction of funding associated with a total of 125 positions. Additionally, as stated above, if the 2016 whole continues into 2017, it may further affect the 2017 budget in additional ways.

Specifically the \$8.8M shortfall for SFY 2017 will have the following impact:

- A reduction in funding associated with 105 SNAP field staff and 20 SNAP program staff (\$6.2M in SGF and an additional \$6.2M in federal funds for a total impact of \$12.5M),
- The elimination of training contracts with LSU for Child Support Enforcement (CSE) and Economic Stability (ES) programs (\$354K in SGF and an additional \$530K in federal funds for a total impact of \$884K),
- Non-payment to DHH for CSoc (Approximately \$1.8M in SGF)
- Elimination of accreditation from the Council on Accreditation (\$400K in SGF)

Because the department needs every position for service delivery, DCFS would continue to work with DOA to ensure layoffs could be avoided, if at all possible.

Since we had so many office closures in years past, we would not be looking further at office closures.

Compared to FY 16, what reductions, including services, staffing, and contracts, have been made in the department in FY 17?

The comparison between fiscal years indicates that the department did not reduce services, staffing or contracts. Management has continued to review processes for efficiencies and effective service delivery to our clients. The department has been successful in renegotiating contracts related to Emergency Preparedness and EBT cards (food stamp cards).

What reductions would the department make if there are mid-year reductions to the FY 17 budget?

DCFS does not recommend any mid-year reductions to its budget. Following multiple years of budget reductions, any additional reduction would be material at this point. DCFS' services would be negatively impacted and programs would be eliminated.

Provide a brief overview of the FY 18 budget request compared to FY 17 by budget unit.

The FY 18 budget request was submitted to the DOA on November 15, 2016. DCFS has not received any feedback from the DOA.

The FY 18 budget request will include the completion of the reorganization of the Department as it relates to House Bill 475 by Rep. Hoffmann.

The FY 18 budget request from DCFS will also include increases in funding and positions required for the Department to adequately serve the most vulnerable residents of the state.

What increases are requested in FY 18 and why are the increases necessary, including any new or expanded programs or services to additional populations?

Increases are necessary to stabilize staffing and improve outcomes for Child Welfare (CW) programs, to strengthen the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) program, and to preserve Economic Stability (ES) programs.

Increases requested for FY 18 include:

Merit increases since they have been over three since staff has had an increase in salary;

Funding to expand the Quality Parenting Initiative statewide;

Funding to restore the youth aging out of foster care program;

Funding to provide staff support to child welfare case worker;

Funding for an updated child welfare information System;

Funding for mandatory State Central registry;

Funding to adjust the caseload of Family Support case workers;

Funding to adjust the workload of the Office of Management and Finance staff;

Funding to replace 75 vehicles.

Are there any reductions in the FY 18 budget requests, including those as a result of annualizing reductions made in FY 17?

Currently, the only reductions cited in the budget requests are the carry forward BA-7s and any reduction to excess budget authority.

Has the department added any positions, including classified, unclassified, and other charges positions, in FY 17?

The Department has not added any positions as it relates to an increase in the T.O. The Department implemented House Bill No. 475 which changed position titles.

If so, how many and what positions? N/A

Did the department request additional positions in the FY 18 budget request? If so, how many and what positions.

Yes. 420 positions including:

11 positions to recruit, train, educate, and support foster and adoptive parents and legal guardians of abused, neglected, or special needs children for the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI);

28 positions to restore the youth aging out program, including 18 positions to prepare children to live independently after foster care and 10 positions to promote the safety, permanency and well-being of children and youth who are at risk;

60 Social Services Counselors for the Foster Care Program to conduct case work (\$1.3M Federal Funds);

12 positions to conduct clearance on all employees and volunteers of early learning centers and family day homes who receives funding from the Child Care and Development Fund (for the State Central Registry);

187 positions for the Office of Family Support Program to have sufficient staff for the Economic Security activity to provide efficient services to clients applying or enrolled in government sponsored programs;

72 positions for the Disability Determination Services Program (DDS). The Social Security Administration has granted DCFS permission to increase staff to meet case load demands. Funding is 100% Federal Funds and is in the existing operating budget;

35 positions in the Office of Management and Finance - 20 General Counsel; 7 Human Resources; 3 Fiscal Services; 3 Administrative Services; and 2 Budget.

Provide a summary of changes in salaries from FY 16 to FY 17, including performance adjustments, promotions, or any other changes in salaries. Provide a summary of requested changes in salaries from FY 17 to FY 18, including performance adjustments, promotions, or any other changes in salaries.

Pay Increase Report 07/01/2015-06/30/2016

Type of Pay Action/Increase	1000	2000	3000	4000	TOTALS
Detail with detail pay increase	3	4	9	40	56
Optional Pay - Additional Duties	1				1
LOA End	1			1	2

Promotion with prom pay increase	3		23	66	92
Reallocation with realloc pay increase	7	1	42	303	353
Rehires - classreentryw/obreak,Minimum,Reemployrate, SER, WAEPayAboveMin, XtraQuals/CredentialsPayrule/UNCL InitialContrAmt	7	2	6	30	45
Resign/Prob,Other Temp Appt - SER/MinHireRate/XtraQuals, StudentApptPayAboveMin	3	1	2	7	13
Transfer In-Reemployment Eligibility Rate,ClassReentryw/obreak,Min Hire Rate,Promo with pay increase, SER, XtraQuals/Credentials	2		1	14	17
UNCL - StudentApptPayAboveMin,initialContrAmt,Regular Pay Adjustment/Pay Change	2	1			3
Unclassified Salary Adjustment					0
XtraQuals/Credential				1	1
	29	9	83	462	583

What budget adjustments have been made since the initial appropriation to your department?

The adjustment was associated with the movement of HCM from the DOA to DCFS.

How much in each means of finance has been appropriated to each agency since the initial appropriation?

DCFS is one agency.

Do your spending and staffing levels match the priorities of your department?

The priorities of the Department are as follows:

1. To stabilize staffing and improve outcomes for the Child Welfare (CW) division.

CW consists of 4 main activities:

- a. Intake and investigations
- b. Family Services

- c. Foster Care
 - d. Adoption
2. To strengthen the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) program
CSE consists of 2 main activities:
 - a. Establishing child support order
 - b. Collecting child support payment
 3. To preserve Economic Stability (ES) programs
ES consists of 3 main activities:
 - a. SNAP
 - b. FITAP
 - c. KCSP

A large share of our budget is dedicated to CW related expenditures and the majority of our program and field staff works in CW. In this sense, our budget and staffing match our priorities.

The budget and staffing of CW are insufficient to meet our priorities though. Analyses of staffing we conducted in the last few months suggest DCSF is 700 to 1000 staff short of what would be needed to adequately serve our CW clients.

The exact need for additional staff depends to a large extent on the technology available to workers, especially case workers. The child welfare information systems of DCFS are antiquated and make CW activities more labor intensive than they should be. An updated CW information system would make case worker more productive. It would also allow DCFS to generate an additional \$5 to \$15 million in federal revenue per year.

Provide the top 5 performance measures that give the outcomes in your department. How do you rank nationally based on these priority measures?

1. Typical Caseload for Child Protection Services (CPS) Investigators
Typical caseload is average caseload for workers other than trainees.
As of September 30, 2015, typical caseload for CPS was 15.21 cases per worker. A standard caseload is 10 cases per worker.
2. Typical Caseload for Family Services Case Workers
Typical caseload is average caseload for workers other than trainees.

As of September 30, 2015, typical caseload for Family Services was 16.7 cases per worker. A standard caseload is 15 cases per worker.

3. Typical Caseload for Foster Care Case Workers

Typical caseload is average caseload for workers other than trainees.

As of September 30, 2015, typical caseload for CPS was 15.21 cases per worker. A standard caseload is 10 cases per worker.

4. IV-E Penetration Rates for foster care

For SFY 2016, average monthly penetration rate for foster care was XX percent.

The latest data available for states and nationwide are for 2014. They show the penetration rate for foster care for Louisiana was 45 percent, compared to 51 percent nationwide.

5. Percentage of Current Child Support Dues Collected

In SFY 2016, 53.9 percent of current child support dues were collected.

The latest data available for states and nationwide are for FFY 2015. They show DCSF collected 55.6 percent of current child support dues, compared to a weighted national average of 65.3 percent.

Provide a list of all sources of revenue that are not appropriated. These funds could include restricted or off budget accounts. Also, please provide the amount anticipated to be used in FY 17, the amount in FY 18, and any balance or reserve amount for each source or revenue.

According to the BR-7 for FY 17, all sources of revenue are appropriated.