

OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

MISSION

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) was established in 1998 to strengthen services and promote the well-being and safety of children and families.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

The Office of Children and Family Services is headquartered in Rensselaer with regional offices throughout the State. These offices provide operational support and policy direction to local social services districts and youth bureaus. The Office is also responsible for the operation of 37 residential and eight day-placement facilities statewide serving nearly 2,000 youth. The workforce for fiscal year 2005-06 is estimated at 3,754 positions.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Office of Children and Family Services receives 49 percent of its \$3.2 billion budget from State tax dollars and 51 percent from Federal and other funds. The State Operations budget of \$423 million supports the operation of juvenile justice facilities as well as OCFS oversight of child welfare, child care, adult protection and other related programs. The 2005-06 OCFS State Operations General Fund budget reflects the net impact of cost savings measures that include reducing vacant beds at juvenile justice facilities and maximizing the use of Federal and other funds, and negotiated salary and fixed cost increases.

The Local Assistance budget of \$2.76 billion provides payments to local governments and not-for-profit providers for programs such as foster care, adoption, child protective services, delinquency prevention and child care.

Capital projects appropriations of \$23.9 million support the maintenance of State-operated juvenile justice facilities in order to provide a safe living environment, appropriate education, recreation and vocational program space; and an appropriate level of security for youth while they are in residential care.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

The Executive Budget provides more than \$1.4 billion in State and Federal funding to support New York's child welfare programs. These programs are structured to encourage local governments to invest in preventive services necessary to reduce out-of-home placement of children. Specific program elements include:

- **Open-ended Funding for Child Welfare Services:** The centerpiece of the child welfare financing system is the provision of 65 percent State reimbursement for community-based preventive services that avert the placement of children in foster care or juvenile justice facilities. State funding at a 65 percent level is also available for child protective services, aftercare services, independent living activities, and local administration costs related to adoptions. The Budget includes an increase of \$4.5 million in 2005-06, from \$347.3 million to \$351.8 million, to support this child welfare funding source.
- **Investments in Child Welfare Quality Enhancement:** OCFS will distribute \$1.9 million in State funding to counties and not-for-profit groups in 2005-06 to promote the development of innovative child welfare service delivery models.
- **Improve Access to Mental Health Services:** The Executive Budget includes \$2.34 million in new State 65 percent reimbursement to expand the Office of Mental Health's home and community based waiver by 245 slots to meet the mental health needs of children in foster care or at risk of institutional placement.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

- **Flexible Fund for Family Services:** As part of an overall effort to increase the effectiveness of Federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding provided to local government for a range of services to support Federal and State Welfare reform, recommendations restructure the distribution of \$1 billion in TANF funds into a new Flexible Fund for Family Services. This fund provides significant local flexibility that can be used to support child welfare and child care services and to continue contracts, at local option, such as the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Services Program.
- **Adoption Subsidies:** The Executive Budget includes \$184 million for the State's share of subsidies provided to families who adopt children with special needs. These funds will support approximately 46,000 children in adoptive homes.
- **A Foster Care Block Grant:** The Executive Budget continues funding for a \$373.5 million Foster Care Block Grant that provides counties with a clear incentive to reduce the number of children in foster care. Under the Block Grant, savings resulting from reduced use of foster care can be reinvested in locally-designed child welfare initiatives that strengthen preventive services or better serve high-needs children.

CHILD CARE

The Executive Budget allows districts the flexibility to transfer funds from the \$1 billion TANF-funded Flexible Fund for Family Services to the State Child Care Block Grant. Using the TANF transfer funding and a combination of Federal, State, and local funding, the Child Care Block Grant supports child care subsidies for public assistance and low-income families. Subsidized child care is guaranteed for public assistance recipients with children up to age 13, when such care is required for the parent/guardian to engage in work activities. Families transitioning from welfare to work are guaranteed subsidized child care for up to 12 months after leaving public assistance. The State also provides subsidized child care to families at risk of becoming dependent on Family Assistance. The State Child Care Block Grant and funds transferred from the TANF-funded Flexible Fund for Family Services will enable districts to tailor expenditures to meet local needs and to comply with mandated work participation requirements for public assistance.

The Budget maintains funding for Advantage After-School programs at \$20.2 million. This program offers educational and recreational after-school activities for approximately 29,000 elementary, middle and high school students and funds community-based organizations demonstrating the ability to work collaboratively with schools, child care providers and other community providers of after-school programming. In 2005-06, Advantage Schools will be fully supported by the General Fund.

YOUTH FACILITIES

The Youth Facilities Program includes the Office's 37 residential facilities and eight day-placement centers serving youth placed by the Family Courts or directed by the Criminal Courts. Through a broad array of programs, the Office provides rehabilitative services that include counseling, education and vocational training designed to promote positive youth development and foster a youth's return to the community as a law-abiding, productive citizen.

The 2005-06 Executive Budget reduces facility capacity by 115 beds reflecting a continued population decline and the operation of Evidence-based Community Initiative (EbCI) programs that divert some youth from facility placement and reduce the length of time other youth spend in facilities. EbCI uses local non-profit agencies to provide services ranging from family-based counseling to specialized after-school programs. In 2005-06, OCFS will invest \$7.3 million in EbCI programs.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

SYSTEMS

The Executive Budget includes approximately \$54 million in State and Federal funding to operate and continue development of CONNECTIONS, the State's child welfare information system. Once completed, CONNECTIONS will enhance case and fiscal management of child welfare services while providing greater access to preventive and protective services for children and families.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Office of Children and Family Services supervises the State's system of family support and child welfare services to help families live independently. County departments of social services and, in many cases, community-based local organizations administer most programs that identify and protect abused and neglected children; provide counseling and other services to strengthen families and avoid foster care; place children in foster care as needed; reunite children and families; find permanent adoptive parents for children who cannot be reunited with birth families; prepare teens for independent living; and protect vulnerable adults from family violence.

The Office also provides funding to counties and municipalities, and community-based not-for-profit agencies for the provision of youth development and delinquency prevention programs. The 2005-06 Budget continues nearly \$38 million for these programs including more than \$36 million in General Fund support and \$1.5 million in Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) dollars.

The State Child Abuse Hotline receives more than 330,000 calls each year reporting alleged child maltreatment or abuse through a toll-free 800 telephone number. As a result, the State initiates investigations of these allegations, which are conducted by county protective services staff and/or local law enforcement agencies. The Register maintains a master database of those found culpable of child abuse so that employers, such as day care centers, can screen out potential employees with a history of familial child abuse.

OCFS also oversees a variety of programs serving the State's most needy and vulnerable adult residents. Programs include oversight of locally administered adult protective services and programs providing services to victims of domestic violence, including emergency shelters and community-based crisis intervention.

OCFS and local governments share equally in the cost of local detention facilities that care for youth while their cases are pending in Family Court. Legislation accompanying the 2005-06 Executive Budget seeks to reduce the placement of persons-in-need of supervision (PINS) in detention facilities and provide comprehensive services to these youth through community-based programs. This legislation would generate projected State and local government savings of \$3 million each in 2005-06. In support of this proposal, the Executive Budget provides \$5.2 million, including the reinvestment of \$1 million in State share savings, for community-based programs to serve PINS. Counties and New York City could also reinvest local share savings from this legislation into community-based programs.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2004-05	Appropriations Recommended 2005-06	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2005-06
State Operations	429,319,500	423,046,000	(6,273,500)	272,172,600
Aid To Localities	2,728,706,000	2,760,488,000	31,782,000	2,765,793,400
Capital Projects	20,025,000	23,927,000	3,902,000	79,680,000
Total	<u>3,178,050,500</u>	<u>3,207,461,000</u>	<u>29,410,500</u>	<u>3,117,646,000</u>

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		
	2004-05	2005-06	FTE Change
	Estimated FTEs 03/31/05	Estimated FTEs 03/31/06	
Central Administration			
General Fund	357	346	(11)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	6	6	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	79	79	0
Capital Projects Funds - Other	0	7	7
Child Care			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	235	234	(1)
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped			
General Fund	11	11	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	163	167	4
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1	1	0
Employment and Disability Assistance Account			
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	11	11	0
Family and Children Services			
General Fund	410	408	(2)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	79	79	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	0	2	2
National and Community Service, Office of			
General Fund	4	3	(1)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	5	6	1
Systems Support			
General Fund	142	142	0
Training and Development			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	52	52	0
Youth Facilities			
General Fund	2,298	2,200	(98)
Total	3,853	3,754	(99)

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2004-05	Recommended 2005-06	Change
General Fund	217,477,500	221,947,000	4,469,500
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	78,182,000	81,478,000	3,296,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	133,060,000	119,021,000	(14,039,000)
Enterprise Funds	500,000	500,000	0
Internal Service Funds	100,000	100,000	0
Total	429,319,500	423,046,000	(6,273,500)

Adjustments:	
Transfer(s) From	
Special Pay Bill	
General Fund	(7,360,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	(1,422,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	(429,000)
Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of	
General Fund (Aid To Localities)	(12,950,000)
Appropriated 2004-05	407,158,500

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2004-05	Recommended 2005-06	Change
Central Administration			
General Fund	32,494,800	32,448,000	(46,800)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	528,000	528,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	18,126,000	18,126,000	0
Internal Service Funds	100,000	100,000	0
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped			
General Fund	8,339,500	8,114,000	(225,500)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	26,707,000	30,003,000	3,296,000
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,905,000	1,905,000	0
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement			
General Fund	(29,043,000)	(29,043,000)	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	47,543,000	35,543,000	(12,000,000)
Family and Children Services			
General Fund	30,573,600	30,691,000	117,400
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	20,354,000	20,354,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,546,000	2,207,000	661,000
Systems Support			
General Fund	27,559,100	32,032,000	4,472,900
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	30,593,000	30,593,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	10,000,000	10,000,000	0
Training and Development			
General Fund	7,514,000	7,514,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	53,940,000	51,240,000	(2,700,000)
Enterprise Funds	200,000	200,000	0
Youth Facilities			
General Fund	140,039,500	140,191,000	151,500
Enterprise Funds	300,000	300,000	0
Total	<u>429,319,500</u>	<u>423,046,000</u>	<u>(6,273,500)</u>

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL AND OFFSET FUNDS SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2005-06 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	21,113,000	(326,500)	19,743,000	(403,500)
Family and Children Services	21,914,000	103,100	20,976,300	53,700
Systems Support	7,575,000	1,128,100	7,445,000	1,119,100
Youth Facilities	109,868,000	(1,885,500)	99,125,000	(982,500)
Total	<u>160,470,000</u>	<u>(980,800)</u>	<u>147,289,300</u>	<u>(213,200)</u>

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	1,131,000	64,000	239,000	13,000
Family and Children Services	0	0	937,700	49,400
Systems Support	0	0	130,000	9,000
Youth Facilities	5,314,000	(425,000)	5,429,000	(478,000)
Total	<u>6,445,000</u>	<u>(361,000)</u>	<u>6,735,700</u>	<u>(406,600)</u>

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL AND OFFSET FUNDS
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2005-06 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	11,335,000	279,700	209,000	6,100
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	8,114,000	(225,500)	0	0
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement	12,000,000	0	0	0
Family and Children Services	8,777,000	14,300	838,600	56,300
Systems Support	24,457,000	3,344,800	233,000	0
Training and Development	7,514,000	0	0	0
Youth Facilities	30,323,000	2,037,000	9,889,000	20,000
Total	102,520,000	5,450,300	11,169,600	82,400

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	807,000	26,300	8,754,000	228,500
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	0	0	0	0
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement	0	0	0	0
Family and Children Services	389,800	26,200	7,517,300	(70,300)
Systems Support	52,000	0	10,242,000	47,800
Training and Development	0	0	0	0
Youth Facilities	878,000	29,000	12,323,000	(121,000)
Total	2,126,800	81,500	38,836,300	85,000

Program	Equipment		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	138,000	5,300	1,427,000	13,500
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	0	0	8,114,000	(225,500)
Departmental Administrative Reimbursement	0	0	12,000,000	0
Family and Children Services	31,300	2,100	0	0
Systems Support	233,000	0	13,697,000	3,297,000
Training and Development	0	0	7,514,000	0
Youth Facilities	1,118,000	30,000	6,115,000	2,079,000
Total	1,520,300	37,400	48,867,000	5,164,000

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND AND OFFSET FUNDS SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2005-06 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	18,754,000	0	0	0
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	31,908,000	3,296,000	0	0
Family and Children Services	22,561,000	661,000	0	0
Systems Support	40,593,000	0	0	0
Training and Development	51,440,000	(2,700,000)	1,954,000	0
Youth Facilities	300,000	0	0	0
Total	165,556,000	1,257,000	1,954,000	0

Program	Nonpersonal Service		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Central Administration	1,925,000	0	16,829,000	0
Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped	0	0	31,908,000	3,296,000
Family and Children Services	7,753,000	0	14,808,000	661,000
Systems Support	0	0	40,593,000	0
Training and Development	3,357,000	0	46,129,000	(2,700,000)
Youth Facilities	300,000	0	0	0
Total	13,335,000	0	150,267,000	1,257,000

AID TO LOCALITIES ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2004-05	Recommended 2005-06	Change
General Fund	1,305,588,000	1,346,589,000	41,001,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,407,338,000	1,398,119,000	(9,219,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	15,780,000	15,780,000	0
Total	2,728,706,000	2,760,488,000	31,782,000

Adjustments:

Transfer(s) From	
Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of General Fund	(74,329,000)
Transfer(s) To	
Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of Special Revenue Funds - Federal	537,199,000
Appropriated 2004-05	<u>3,191,576,000</u>

AID TO LOCALITIES ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2004-05	Recommended 2005-06	Change
Child Care			
General Fund	136,066,000	136,066,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	360,000,000	360,000,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	350,000	350,000	0
Family and Children Services			
General Fund	1,164,522,000	1,205,523,000	41,001,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,018,900,000	1,018,900,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	15,430,000	15,430,000	0
Training and Development			
General Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	28,438,000	19,219,000	(9,219,000)
Total	2,728,706,000	2,760,488,000	31,782,000

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

CAPITAL PROJECTS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available 2004-05	Recommended 2005-06	Change	Reappropriations 2005-06
Design and Construction Supervision				
Youth Facilities Improvement Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	5,772,000
Child Care Facilities Development Program				
Capital Projects Fund - Authority Bonds	0	0	0	8,724,000
Maintenance and Improvement of Facilities				
Capital Projects Fund	1,325,000	1,325,000	0	7,923,000
Youth Facilities Improvement Fund	13,700,000	15,602,000	1,902,000	42,464,000
Executive Direction and Administrative Services				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	261,000
Misc. Capital Projects	0	0	0	2,822,000
Program Improvement or Program Change				
Youth Facilities Improvement Fund	0	2,000,000	2,000,000	6,215,000
Youth Center				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	5,499,000
Total	<u>20,025,000</u>	<u>23,927,000</u>	<u>3,902,000</u>	<u>79,680,000</u>